



The Tenderness of Jesus

Hosea 11

Sunday, July 25, 2021

3. Despite their continual rebellion, God's compassion grows _____ and _____ toward His people.

What is the response of God toward a believer who sins? Our answer to that question can tell us how well we understand His heart. We continue our Heart of Jesus series today with a look at Hosea 11, which provides another window into the heart of God, and therefore, the heart of Jesus.

1. God's relationship with His people is a _____ / _____ relationship.

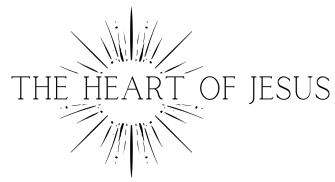
4. Because of His _____, God's compassion grows and He will not come in wrath to destroy His people.

2. God's people are bent on _____ from Him.

NEXT STEPS to help us process and apply God's Word

- In light of this text and message, sit in the question: *How do you REALLY think God responds when you sin?* What difference would it make if you could really believe God moves toward you in compassion and tenderness when you sin?
- What can you do to access and express your own deep compassion and tenderness the next time someone you care about blows it or sins?

NEXT WEEK: *The Absoluteness of Jesus | Hebrews 7*



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Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

Our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.

CONNECT *(ask these questions to check-in with your group)*

Share life together by sharing highs and lows from the last week.

DISCUSS *(use some of these questions to process God's Word together)*

1. Read Hosea 11:1-9 together as a group. How did you "come under" God's Word in the text/message this week? What was new, fresh, or challenging?
2. What do you do with Hosea 11? What is your visceral reaction to this text? What does this text do IN you?
3. "We BOTH underestimate the wrath of God toward sinners apart from Christ AND we underestimate the compassion of God toward daughters/sons in Christ who sin." Do you agree or disagree? Why or why not?

4. Does the fact that God's compassion "grows warm and tender" in response to His people's sin mean that He overlooks our sin or neglects to discipline His people? Where do we see indications of God's discipline in Hosea 11?
5. Why does Hosea 11:9 imply that God's holiness is what causes His compassion to grow warm and tender when we sin? How do we make sense of this?
6. What difference would it make if you could really believe God moves toward you in compassion and tenderness when you sin?

PRAY *(use these prompts to pray in response to God's Word)*

- Using Hosea 11, thank God for His warm and tender compassion when we sin and ask Him to help us believe it.
- Share and pray for one another's needs.