Hosea: Encountering a God Who Feels

Core Group Discussion Guide June 17, 2018

Message Overview:

This Sunday, we begin a series examining some of the prophets in the Old Testament. These prophets were folks who God used to issue a wakeup call to His people who were moving through life like spiritual zombies. The prophets saw a new reality for the people of God and pleaded with them to live in this reality. Hosea was one such prophet. From him we hear the voice of God calling His people to trust Him again. But Hosea shows us something else, through this prophet, God reveals his heart. For God, the trust of his people isn't an emotionless "facts only" issue. Rather, we see how the behavior of God's people affects God at the deepest levels of his heart. The prayer for this morning's message is that we see the heart of God in a fresh way this morning.

Text:

- Hosea 6:1-6

Questions for Discussion:

- 1. What stood out to you from this morning's message?
- 2. Part of Israel's problem was that it didn't quite trust God to come through for them and provide what they needed, whether that was protection or successful crops. And so they turned to powerful countries and different God's to ensure their survival. Why do you think it was hard for them to trust God?
- 3. What are the areas of our lives we are tempted to wonder if God is going to come through for us?
- 4. Are there instructions from God that seem unrealistic to us, making Him difficult to trust in that area?
- 5. What did the story of Hosea and Gomer tell us about who God is?
 - a. Did that surprise you?
- 6. How does this effect the way you think about trusting God?