

THE UNFATHOMABLE LOVE OF GOD

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

God's love is immeasurable and beyond our understanding. His timeless love for us exists even before our birth (Jeremiah 31:3). God wants us to grasp this love which remains steadfast despite our flaws, and we can see this love in action in the book of Hosea. The story of Hosea and his wife symbolizes Israel's infidelity through idolatry and God's enduring love despite their betrayal. From this narrative, we can learn about the unconditional and unchanging love of God for all of us.

GOD'S LOVE IS UNDESERVED

Hosea 1:1-2 introduces Hosea, whose name signifies salvation, as a prophet to the Northern Kingdom (known then as Israel) after the division of Solomon's kingdom. Despite Israel's complacency, God calls for them to repent to prevent their own destruction. Hosea's mission is to relay this warning to the people — but first, he must deeply understand God's heart.

God instructed Hosea to marry a woman named Gomer (v.2), but also revealed to him that she would commit adultery someday and cause Hosea significant problems. In the Old Testament, adultery was equivalent to idolatry, which is loving anything more than we love God. An idol is anything that we place in a position that rightfully belongs to God in our lives. The New Testament continues this metaphor: 2 Corinthians 11:2-3 and James 4:4 likens our relationship with God to a marriage, where choosing worldly desires over God amounts to spiritual adultery, which deeply wounds and hurts God.

Despite knowing this, Hosea obeyed God's command (v.3). The names of his children with Gomer are Jezreel ("God sows"), Lo-ruhamah ("no pity"), and Lo-ammi ("not my people") — prophetic names that foreshadow the trouble the entire nation of Israel will go through as they eventually betrayed God and turned to idols. Just like the nation of Israel, we do not deserve God's love, yet even in our unfaithfulness, He still loves us. Romans 5:8 reminds us that God loved us even while we were yet sinners. Hosea's marriage to Gomer serves as a powerful reminder of this enduring love God has for His people.

GOD'S LOVE IS PERSEVERING

God's love pursues us relentlessly! In Hosea 2:2, we learn that Hosea's wife will choose to leave him and stay with another "lover" (v.5). However, God

still commands Hosea to run toward his wife and continue supporting her, even financially. This act is unfathomable to us, but it beautifully displays God's pursuing love. He loves us as we are, and it is because of this love that He refuses to let us remain unchanged. Hosea 2:5-7 displays this as it describes what God was about to do with Israel to make them realize their wrongdoing, how they had turned away from Him to consider other gods despite His unwavering support during their affliction.

God relentlessly pursues us. He runs after us because of His unfathomable love. Hosea 2:19-20 contains a beautiful promise: even when we run away from God, His holy and pure love continues to pursue us, leading us back to Him in faithfulness.

GOD'S LOVE IS REDEMPTIVE

Gomer's life deteriorated to such an extent that her lover decided to sell her into slavery. In Hosea 3:1-3, God instructs Hosea to redeem Gomer once more. Her value had been equated to a mere 15 shekels, and upon purchasing her freedom, Hosea welcomed her back as his wife and committed to care for her again. This act of redemption, even at Gomer's lowest point, mirrors God's love for us: He extends His grace to transform and redeem us at our lowest.

After this, we are warned that a lack of knowledge can lead to destruction (Hosea 4:6). It's crucial for us to understand what pleases God and to follow His guiding principles by engaging with His Word. Hosea 11:1-3 reflects on Israel's historical ignorance, dating back to their time in Egypt, yet we see God's compassionate heart in verse 8: despite His grief, He declares His unwillingness to abandon them completely. We may also tend to forget God when we prosper (Hosea 13:6), but likewise, God redeems us by awakening us to His power and draws us back to Him. We are called to return to God and repent of our sins (Hosea 14:1-2), for restoration is impossible without repentance.

Let us reflect on Ephesians 3:18 and pray that we may truly grasp the unfathomable love of God for us and respond with a heart full of gratitude and a life committed to His service. May we embody this divine love in our actions and relationships, extending grace and forgiveness as we have been graciously forgiven.

LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, In favor and in compassion, And I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know the Lord.

HOSEA 2:19-20

DISCUSS THIS MESSAGE

Are there people in your life whom you find difficult to love? Why?

Based on the message, how does God love us?

If God loves us this way, how can we love others in the same manner?

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CHRONICLE ONLINE!

ccf.org.ph/chronicle/

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Who is Jesus to you?

Let's talk about it in the Welcome Center!

STEP INTO THE COMMUNITY

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN

ALL WOMEN

LIVE LOVE: LIVE WITH A GOD-SIZED LOVE (1 JOHN 4)

with Tiffany del Rosario

April 25, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfwomen2women

 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

B1G MINISTRY

SINGLES

CONFESSIONS OF A WORKAHOLIC: GETTING THE JOB DONE

April 26, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

  B1GMinistry

 beonewithgod

NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

THE SUPER WONDERFUL GOD

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

ONSITE: G/F CCF Center for ages 4-12

LIVESTREAM: YouTube & Facebook

(ccfnxtgen) for ages 4 to 12

ZOOM: for ages 7-12, message us to sign-up

Reach us via [facebook.com/ccfnxtgen](https://www.facebook.com/ccfnxtgen)

STEP UP AND VOLUNTEER

There's no better way to serve God than to serve His people!

NXTGEN

 ccfnxtgen

BIG

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ACROSS

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GLC LEVEL 1

Book 1: One by One

Book 3: The Holy Spirit

Book 4: CCF DNA

COMING ON

ONSITE: May 19, Sunday, 10:30 AM and 1:00 PM, Room 2A

ZOOM: May 22, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

GLC LEVEL 2

Book 6: Basic Doctrines

ONSITE: April 21, Sunday

1:00 PM, Room 3A

ZOOM: April 25, Thursday, 7:30 PM

GLC LEVEL 3

Module 4: Spiritual Warfare

ONSITE: April 21, Sunday

1:00 PM, Room 4A

ZOOM: April 25, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Enroll now: bit.ly/GLCTrainings2024

GLC TRAINING IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING PLATFORMS:

GLC Online (Self-Paced)

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Can't attend F2F or on Zoom? Use the self-paced online format or do GLC in your DGroups!

Register: bit.ly/GLCinDGroupsSignUp

Enroll Here: glc.ccf.org.ph/online

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YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments – Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your help, I will turn away from my sins. Please come into my life and be my Savior and my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal life. Make me the kind of new person You want me to be. Thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13



SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER

SATURDAY NIGHTS

5:00 PM

SUNDAYS

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,
and 3:00 PM

ONLINE LIVESTREAM

 [ccf.org.ph](https://www.ccf.org.ph)  [ccfmain](https://www.facebook.com/ccfmain)  [ccfmainTV](https://www.youtube.com/ccfmainTV)

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

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