

**Title:** I Still Do

**Text:** Hosea 1-3

**Target:** Our unfaithfulness to God has no bearing on God's love for us.

**The Problem:** Our unfaithfulness no longer makes us uncomfortable.

**Parallels of the story:**

**1. Just like Gomer, we are unfaithful to God.**

- a. *"For like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord."*  
Hosea 1:2b

**2. Just like Hosea, God has not stopped pursuing you.**

- a. Jesus is our "greater Hosea"
- a. *"Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her." (Vs. 2:14)*
- b. *"Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress." (Vs. 3:1)*
- c. New Testament reference: 1 Peter 2:10

**3. Just like Israel, God is pleading with you.**

- a. *"Return, Israel, to the Lord your God. Your sins have been your downfall. Take words with you and return to the Lord." (Hosea 14:1-2a)*

**Discussion Questions:** Go and read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. Take time to discuss what Paul is saying. In these verses Paul is giving correction and instruction to the church on how they should approach communion. In verse 26 Paul lets the church at Corinth know that the purpose for taking communion is to "proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." So Paul reminds them in verse 28 to "examine" themselves to make sure that when they are taking communion they are taking it in a way that is honoring and worthy of what Jesus did for us on the cross. It is really easy to look at other people and judge them for their missteps, and so much harder to look in a mirror and evaluate ourselves. But here is the beautiful part, regardless of what we see, Jesus never stops pursuing us. When in your life have you seen Jesus pursue you, answer your prayers, and move in your life in spite of your missteps?

Read 1 Peter 4:1-11 and discuss what it is Peter is saying. Peter echos Paul when he talks about the suffering that Jesus Christ went through, so that even in the midst of our sin we could find salvation. Do we see other people around us in the same way that Christ sees us? In verse 8 he tells us that we should keep loving others because "love covers a multitude of sins." Have you ever had to love someone else in the midst of their sin? Have you ever been on the wrong end of someone judging you because of your sin before loving you? How can we keep the mind of Jesus Christ as we approach the people in our world?