I want to KNOW YOU: the Attributes of God LOVE

LESSON 15 questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

- 1. What truth, verse, or insight has helped you know Him better as a God of Wrath?
- 2. Pray and ask for God's power to grasp His love as portrayed in the book of Hosea.
 - a) Before we begin to plumb the depths of the lavish **love** of God, how is **love** often portrayed in popular culture?
 - b) Which person is or has been a good model of **love** to you and why?

<u>Note</u>: The book of Hosea is a real **love** story between Hosea and Gomer that also symbolizes the real **love** story between God and His people.

3. What were the Lord's instructions to Hosea in **Hosea 1:1-3**, and why did the Lord give them?

- 4. a) How did Gomer respond to Hosea's marital love?
 - 2:4-5
 - 2:7-8, 13b
 - b) How did Hosea continue to **love** her in **2:14**?
- 5. Read about Hosea's reconciliation with his wife in **3:1-5**.
 - a) What did God ask of Hosea in V1?
 - b) Why do you think he had to buy her in **V2**? (Use your imagination to describe how Gomer might have gotten to that place.)

- 6. a) What were the parameters of Hosea's arrangement with Gomer (V3)?
 - b) Put yourself in Hosea's shoes thus far. How would you feel? Comment on whether you think you could follow God's instructions in showing **love** like that.
- 7. According to **V4**, what would be the consequences of Israel's unfaithfulness to God? How is the restoration of Israel pictured in **V5**?
- 8. Who lives like Gomer in your sphere of influence? Do you long to see him or her come trembling to the Lord? How might you extend **love** to that person?
- 9. In **Hosea 11**, we see a shift from God's **love** expressed as a Husband to that of a Father. From **Hosea 11:1-4** what terms of endearment reflect His affection for Israel?
- 10. a) Sadly, Israel did not respond to God's Fatherly **love**. How did Israel behave according to **Hosea 11:2-7**?
 - b) How do you see the Father's love despite Israel's stubbornness in V8-9?
 - c) None of us lives out a perfect commitment to the Lord. Over the course of your spiritual journey, in what subtle or overt ways have you behaved like a wayward child?
- 11. How was restoration depicted in **V10-11**?

12. What is most remarkable to you about the **love** of God expressed in:

- Jeremiah 31:3
- Romans 5:7-8
- Romans 8:38-39
- 1 John 3:1a
- 13. Grab hold of one truth about the love of God from this Lesson and proclaim it here.
- 14. How can knowing better the depth and fullness of God's **love** influence how you handle challenging situations or relationships?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 1. We love because He first loved us from Romans 5:5b. Reflect how we can love with His kind of love.
- 2. Jesus raises the bar on showing **love** in **Matthew 5:43-47**. Provide your thoughts on what He tells us to do and why it must be so?
- 3. Read **1 Corinthians 13:4-8a** as God's expression of the ways He **loves** you. Which of these expressions of **love** does someone in your life need from you? Explain.
- 4. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: 1 John 3:1a
 - b) Let Ephesians 3:17b-19 lead you to into prayer.

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST