

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

Hosea 1:1-11

Sunday, January 17, 2016

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. How did the LORD want Hosea to express His word to the people of Israel and their leaders?

By speaking God’s word and by taking symbolic actions to portray the sins of the people through his wife and her children.

2. How did Gomer’s behavior illustrate the sins of the Israelites?

She was faithless to Hosea and demonstrated the spiritual faithlessness (or unfaithfulness) of the Israelites to God. Her spiritual unfaithfulness through idolatry led to immorality, as did the unfaithfulness of the Israelites.

3. What did God say He would do when He justly judged Israel for their sins and unrepentance?

God said He would put an end to the kingdom of Israel.

4. What names did God tell Hosea to give to the children Gomer conceived and bore and what did these names mean?

Jezreel – God would punish Israel – means “to sow.” That they would reap what they sowed?

Lo-Ruhamah – “not loved” or “no mercy”

Lo-Ammi – “not my people”

5. What hope did God give to the Israelites?

See Hosea 1:10, 11. They would again be a great number of people someday. They would again be called “children of the living God” someday. The people of Israel would come

together under the same leader someday and God would justly judge his enemies someday.

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