

# LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE: (60-minute session—11-10-19)

**New Message Series:** The Messiah in the Minor Prophets

Leading up to Christmas, we are going to be looking at several Old Testament passages from the Minor Prophets. Often people skip over these books because of the doom and gloom factor. It's true, they have more than their fair share of doom and gloom, but the dark clouds of doom and gloom are often tempered with rays of hope. The message of the Minor Prophets looks forward to the coming Messiah and his redeeming work.

Today's lesson sets the stage for study in the Minor Prophets...

**Read: Hosea 1:1-2:1**

**Let's Make Five Observations:**

**1. Great \_\_\_\_\_ on The Horizon: (Read Hosea 1:1)**

Looking at v1, we notice we notice that something was coming on the horizon for Israel. What was coming? Why did Hosea mention Jeroboam II?

**2. An Unusual \_\_\_\_\_: (Read Hosea 1:2)**

God begins Hosea's prophetic ministry with a command that confounds. God's command to Hosea doesn't seem to make good sense. Why does this command confound us so much? Has God ever called you to do something that doesn't "seemingly" make good sense to others? What does this passage teach us about God? What does this passage teach us about Hosea?

What did you learn about the people and the priest in the land? (Hint ch 4)

**3. An \_\_\_\_\_ to Israel's Senses: (Read Hosea 1:3-9)**

What were the names of Hosea's children?

What did you learn about the names of Hosea's children?

**4. \_\_\_\_\_ promises kept: (Read Hosea 1:10)**

Hosea message speaks of hope and promised blessings for God's people. When would those blessings be fulfilled? What is v10 connected to? Where do we find this passage quoted in the NT? What does that NT passage tell us? What does this tell us about God's love?

**5. An \_\_\_\_\_ to Hostilities: (Read Hosea 1:11-2:1)**

Hosea mentions a day when those considered Gentile (northern Kingdom) would come together with the Jews (southern Kingdom). How would this happen according to v11 and Ephesians 2?

**Hosea reminds us that God's \_\_\_\_\_ is greater than all our disgrace.**