

August 20, 2023

Series: The Story, Ch. 7, Pt. 5

Sermon: What is True Love?

Text: Hosea 1-3

### **Sermon Outline:**

1. True love is selfless. (1:2; 3:1)
2. True love is honest. (2; 3:3)
3. True love is costly. (3:2)
4. True love is transformational. (3:3-5)

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Read Hosea 1:2-3 and Romans 5:8. Would you marry (or would you have married) if you knew your spouse would commit adultery?

Read Hosea 3:1-2, 1 Corinthians 6:20, and Galatians 3:13. Once your spouse cheats on you, how much would you invest to get him/her back, knowing that they will cheat again?

Discuss how this reveals God's love for us.

2. Read Hosea 3:3 and Galatians 6:1. Have you given and received correction as love? Have you done either when it's not love? What is the difference?
3. God loved you how you were. And He loves you how you are. What is true and what is not true about those statements? How would you more accurately describe God's love for sinners?
4. Read 1 John 4:7-11. God is love. What does that mean? What does it not mean? Focus in on v11. How are we supposed to love others? Do you love others in such a way that it reflects God's love for you? How good are you at loving others who continually don't love you back? How is it possible to do so?
5. On Sunday morning we heard regarding Jesus: "And I'm the One who selflessly left my Father's side, who loves you enough to be honest with you about your sin, who is willing to redeem you at the cost of my own life...so that I can transform you into all I planned for you to be." Discuss how there really is no greater love than the love that is displayed in the gospel. (John 15:13) How can the gospel transform how you feel about yourself? How can it transform how you relate to others?