

24 December 2023 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group

"Israel Is Called to Return to the LORD " -- Hosea 14:1-9

1. What did Hosea call and plead with Israel to do (v. 1)?
2. What is Israel to “take” should they do what Hosea called them to do? What does this mean (v. 2)?
3. If Israel did as Hosea bid, how could the nation have expected the LORD to respond (v. 3)?
4. What would the LORD do for Israel upon her repentance (v. 4)?
5. What would happen to Israel when she repents (vv. 5-7)?
6. In what kind of worship was Israel (Ephraim) currently engaged (v. 8a)?
7. What type of person understands what God does (v. 9a, b)?
8. What does the person do who does not understand the ways of the LORD (v. 9c, d)?
9. Where do you see the patience and long-suffering of God in the book of Hosea?
10. What is repentance (see WCF 15.1)?
11. With what is repentance usually joined as an aspect of salvation?
12. What is the broader aspect of salvation under which repentance is normally included?
13. How does one repent?
14. Is repentance a one-time act or continuous? Explain.
15. Are religious rituals and ceremonies detrimental to pure and sincere worship? Why or why not?

16. Why do you think Christians often seem to be unresponsive to incredible truths that God tells us in His Word? Is a calm outward demeanor evidence of a cold and callous heart? Is an animated and expressive manner positive evidence of being energized by the Spirit?
17. How should you guard against becoming thoughtless and unthinking when confessing the faith each week?
18. What have you found that aids you in keeping your heart warm and responsive to the Word of God and the gathering of His people?
19. Has God healed Israel's apostasy?
20. How does the New Testament view the restoration of Israel?