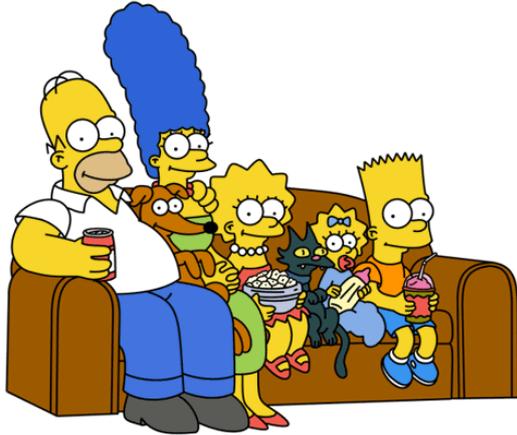


Every Sunday evening at [Bible Explorer](#) we will explore the question

**'What does this book from the Bible mean for us today?'**

**Hosea – lessons from a dysfunctional family!** <http://vimeo.com/14871869>



### 1 Hosea: Introduction:

- The first of the 12 Minor Prophets - book of the 12 prophets - a single scroll
- Based in Israel in 8<sup>th</sup> century BC.
- Time of moral and spiritual decline.
- Hosea concerned with the decline in spiritual values – the 'pollution' of faith.
- A prophet of doom par excellence?  
*"the dark gloom of judgement is frequently brightened by an insight of irrepressible love"*  
 Peter Craigie

**Two Dominant Themes - Two faces of the same coin - God's Judgement and Love**

### 2 Hosea : The Family Man !

**Wife:** Gomer . not a virgin, involved with the temple cults 1:1-3

**Children:** Jezreel place of bloodshed (Omri) 1:4-5

Lo – Ruhamah not pitied 1:6-7

Lo – Ammi not my people 1:8-9

Yet still Hope for the future! – 1:10-2:1

**Divorce:** Due to Gomer's unfaithfulness 2:2-15



Week 25

Hosea

**Reconciliation:** Peace Restored 2:16-23

**Remarriage:** Hosea an older man, divorced with grown up children remarries Gomer

- Comes across as a man with remarkable perception and sensitivity!
- Hosea and his dysfunctional family set before Israel as a living and permanent message of Judgement and love – a living sermon!
- God spoke through **him** not just his words!

**Despite "I will love them no more" 9:16 Love Wins! 11:1-11 God still loves !**

***'What does this book from the Bible mean for us today?***

- Two sides of a coin - Love and Judgement
- Decline in spiritual values – the 'pollution' of faith
- Yet still Hope for the future!
- Being Living sermons !
- Love always wins?