



KNOWING GOD

God's Holy Love

Pastor Caroline, July 20, 2025

"For I am sure that neither death nor life... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38

Reflection Guide: God's Holy Love

Theme: *"Relentless Love in the Face of Rebellion"*

Opening Thought:

God's love is not soft or sentimental — it is **holy**, **faithful**, and **redeeming**. Through the story of Hosea, God shows us what His love looks like when it's poured out on people who don't deserve it — yet still receive it. His love does not ignore sin but overcomes it with mercy. This is the kind of love that transforms hearts.

Part 1: The Depth of God's Holy Love

Read: Hosea 1:2-9; Hosea 3:1-5

Context Summary:

God commands the prophet Hosea to marry a woman, Gomer, who will be unfaithful. This marriage becomes a living parable of God's relationship with Israel — His chosen people who repeatedly chase other "lovers" (idols), yet whom He refuses to abandon.

Reflect:

- What does Hosea's marriage reveal about the nature of God's love?
- How does it feel to consider that **we** are often the unfaithful ones in the story — and yet God still pursues us?
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Discussion or Journal Prompts:

1. How is God's love different from human love when it comes to betrayal or rejection?
2. In what ways have you experienced God's love pursuing you even when you were distant or rebellious?
3. Why is it important that God's love is **holy** — that is, set apart, perfect, and pure — rather than permissive or conditional?

Part 2: Nothing Can Separate Us

Read: Romans 8:31-39

Paul affirms that, because of Christ, **nothing can separate us from God's love** — not our past, not our failures, not suffering, not even death. God's holy love has been secured through Jesus.

Connect the Dots:

- Hosea is a picture of the love of God that **pursues**, even when undeserved.
- Romans 8 is the promise that, because of Jesus, God's holy love will **never** let go.

Discussion or Journal Prompts:

1. What lies or fears most often make you feel separated from God's love?
2. How does the cross of Jesus display both God's **holiness** and **love**?
3. How should knowing that nothing can separate you from God's love change how you live each day?

Life Application: Living in and Reflecting God's Holy Love

Reflect & Apply:

1. **Receiving Love:**
Are there areas of your life where you resist God's love — perhaps out of shame or self-condemnation? Ask God to show you His heart for you in those places.
2. **Extending Love:**
Who in your life needs to experience love that is both holy and merciful — not permissive, but gracious and committed? How can you reflect God's love to them this week?
3. **Walking in Assurance:**
What is one practical way you can remind yourself daily that nothing can separate you from God's love? (e.g., Scripture memorization, journaling, prayer)

Prayer Focus:

Spend time thanking God for His holy, pursuing love. Confess areas where you've doubted or resisted His love. Ask Him to help you live in the fullness of His love — and reflect it to others.