

**Go and Equip**  
**Episode 202**  
**Knowledge: It's Not All In Your Head**

[This transcript is 'rough' and largely unedited to match the verbal and video podcasts. It is not to be a polished, edit piece of work.] 😊

Chandalee

Welcome back to week two with Hosea and da'at Elohim.

Jenn

I love that ... da'at Elohim. So that's right?

Chandalee

Yes, it is. It's poetic. I love Hebrew, it just kind of rolls off your tongue. Sometimes it's that guttural sound, but it just rolls off your tongue.

Jenn

Yes. That's good.

Chandalee

This week we are going to dive into a couple of verses—actually three different verses in Hosea that show us da'at Elohim and Yada and what it means to know God and what knowledge about him looks like.

Jenn

Yes, you talked a lot about that on our last the last time we were together. So if you need to go back and listen to that, we encourage you to do that because that will give you a background of da'at Elohim and yada with knowing God and knowing about God. Absolutely.

Chandalee

Well, let's dive in. The Bible is created with a bunch of little micro stories. I finished last week with that—of how the micro stories illustrate the macro story of the entire theme of the Bible of redemption and restoration. From the very beginning to the very end, God is painting a picture of how He is redeeming and restoring His creation.

Jenn

In every story, it points to Jesus. It does from the beginning to the end. It's all pointing to him.

Chandalee

Yes. And we just have to learn how to reframe our reading. It isn't just a story to go read, but it's to ask the questions of what does this teach me about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit because they are all three present throughout the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Jenn

Yes, they are.

Chandalee

So we're going to see in Hosea how knowing God looks for a people that have completely turned away from the Living God and have chosen to pursue idolatry and prostitute themselves.

Jenn

Which is a huge theme also throughout Hosea that God addresses over and over again.

Chandalee

So we know that Hosea is set in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Remember last time we got to the point where Solomon died, the kingdom divided because there was just a lot of feuding and they didn't want to

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support his son. And so they chose another leader. And because of that division, the Northern Kingdom of Israel was evil and it was just evil all the way until the Assyrians conquered all them.

Jenn  
Evil all of them. Northern Kings. Not good.

Chandalee  
They were not good.

Hosea was from the Northern Kingdom, and so he was familiar with what was going on. He was a local boy. He was one that many probably knew. A bunch of people knew who he was. Because when a prophet rose up, people paid attention. They knew who he was. They knew that he was speaking. And they knew that his words came from the Lord.

Jenn  
He was a good guy.

Chandalee  
He was a good guy. And God told Hosea in this to go choose a not so good girl.

Jenn  
Hmm. Okay. Not so good girl. What does that mean?

Chandalee  
It's, well, it's debated by scholars whether she was a prostitute to begin with or she cheated on him after marriage was unfaithful.

It's debated. Scholars have debated that for years. It doesn't really matter which way it happened. The point was she was unfaithful, which God is using as an illustration of how the nation of Israel and how we are today aren't faithful to him as the Living God. How we can continually pursue other idols, pursue other pursuits, other things that take the place of him in our lives.

Jenn  
So let me get this straight. So, Hosea, who God rose up and brought him up as a prophet. And he said, hey, go, go, marry. I want you go marry this girl who is either a prostitute already or will prostitute herself after you get married. That's what he wanted to do. Okay.

Chandalee  
That had to be really hard.

Jenn  
That doesn't sound like something I would be excited about if I were to say desire.

Chandalee  
I'm sure he wasn't excited about it, but Hosea loved the Lord.

Jenn  
And he obeyed.

Chandalee

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And he obeyed. We've been talking in Sunday school, and we've been going through the Book of Genesis. And the last couple weeks we've talked about Abraham and how Abraham had blind obedience. God told him to go and he went. He didn't know where he was going. He told him

Jenn  
He picked up and went.

Chandalee  
Yeah. He said, I'll show you when you get there. And I mean just the faith to have and know that, okay, I'm going to trust you and I'm going to step no matter what. And is just astounding to me. We see it again here with Hosea because Hosea did it and he did it without question.

Jenn  
Right. Right. And without knowing what the what the future would hold and what that was going to look like.

Chandalee  
Other than that, it was going to be heartbreak.

Jenn  
Oh, sure. Oh, yeah.

Chandalee  
That he was going to be disappointed and he was going to be heartbroken because he had someone who can consistent.

Jenn  
He chose some to be something, but besides him.

Chandalee  
Yeah, yeah, yeah. Well, Hosea is the first of the minor prophets. And the reason he starts is because this is just longer than the rest. And he was prophesying to this nation. He was rejecting God. I remember all knowledge comes from God. We don't have any ability to have knowledge of God outside of God himself, which is another mind blowing thing to wrap your thoughts around that we can't know God unless he reveals himself to us.

Jenn  
It all goes back to the fact that he is the creator. And I think that's one of the biggest things we struggle with as humans is remembering our creator. Right? We are not the creator, right? We are the created. Yeah. And he's he's the one who gives us the ability to think or no to begin with.

Chandalee  
Absolutely.

Jenn  
You know, without him, we can't know anything.

Chandalee  
Mm hmm. So in this, Hosea, is 14 chapters long, and the first three chapters are the story of Hosea and Gomer. And the rest is going to be an illustration of Israel. It's going to be judgment, and it's going to be returning and judgment and return. There are actually five cycles of that in chapters four through fourteen. But in these first three chapters, they're unified by the theme of adultery or prostitution.

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And those are words that we don't really want to talk about in nice Christian circles. I want to just kind of gloss over and we just kind of talk about it in a whisper or we want to just not talk about it at all. But that's exactly what the nation was doing. They were prostituting themselves, giving themselves to idols, to anything that was in place of the Living God.

We still do that today. We prostitute ourselves and choose anything and everything above God.

Jenn

We do. Yes, it's it's much easier. I think I mentioned this earlier either in the last podcast or earlier today, that it's much easier to to prioritize other things about God instead of making sure that we make it a priority to spend time with him and to know him in the way that we're talking about in.

Chandalee

A relationship and not just the 34 gigabytes of information like we talked about last week that we're inundated every single day with. Right. Right. Can you imagine how much life would change if we were inundated with 34 gigabytes about God every day instead of everything else in the world?

Jenn

Mm hmm.

Chandalee

How that would change our perception of what's going on in life. How that would change our reactions to what's going on in life. How that would change how we interact with unbelievers, how we share Christ with those in our circles of influence.

Jenn

We would be so much more like him. Because we would know him. Yeah. More? Yeah. Mm hmm.

Chandalee

So in chapter one and I'm sorry, I keep saying so a lot today, I'm not sure why I keep doing them, and I keep saying so a lot. Anyway, I'll throw a different word in. In Hosier one, the narrator describes his area as being commanded to marry. Go, Mark Gomer. This was the sign of unfaithfulness between Israel and Yahweh.

And I can't imagine. Let's just read that for a second. In his a one, one says, this is the Lord's message that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the time of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the time of Jeroboam, son of Joash, king of Israel. Verse two When the Lord first spoke through Hezekiah, he said to him, Go marry a prostitute who will bear illegitimate children conceived through prostitution because the nation continually commits spiritual prostitution by turning away from the Lord.

So Hosea married Gomer, the daughter of Did LAMB, and she conceived and gave birth to a son for him. I just can't imagine her daily when I'm teaching through a passage or a scripture. I always want to think, okay, these are real people. This isn't just some story, some allegory that's been created. These are real people with real emotions and real thoughts.

Mm hmm. And I cannot imagine what was going through Hosea's mind.

Jenn

Yeah. I mean, just put yourself in his shoes for a minute. Yeah. And. And imagine that God told you to do something like this and that, you know. Hey. Yeah. And by the way, you're going to have children. He said you're going to have that as well to deal with. Oh, yeah.

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So the suffering that Hosea is going to have to endure, God was telling him, I'm going to use your suffering to point to me. That's something that we can all relate to because we all suffer. There's always something in life that hits us, whether it's unexpected, whether it's someone else, whether it's something we do. There's always consequences. And those consequences are always if we allow them going to point to God.

Chandalee

Mm hmm. But we have to say, I'm going to choose you in that suffering instead of everything else that we want to spiral to. Mm hmm. And we see that Hosea chose. I'm going to choose you instead of spiraling out of all the what ifs.

Jenn

Right? Right.

Chandalee

Yeah. So in Hosea two, God uses the the. The this illustration of their their marriage. So I'm going to say a metaphor of their marriage, but it's also a metonymy, because it actually happened. These were actually people. So a metaphor is something that is representative of an Americanism is something that is a representative but actually happened. So using that this story is a metaphor, animated nim of how the nation was choosing to turn back from the Living God to her lovers with false promises, with anything that they couldn't give them, and turning away from the true giver the lot, the life giver, the creator creator and say, we're not going to choose you.

We're going to continue. Time after time after time to pursue.

Jenn

Other guys.

Chandalee

Or gods. Mm hmm. And it's just. It's just such a the picture here that Hosea paints through his words is just heart wrenching. It just breaks my heart that there just continually saying, I am not going to do this no matter how much God pleads with them, how much God pursues them, they're going to continue to turn their back on him.

Mm hmm. And it it it brings to mind the times in my own life where I've said that to God.

Jenn

Oh, yeah.

Chandalee

And where I'm not going to choose you. I'm going to choose to spiral out. I'm going to choose to embrace excellence in life. Yeah. Anything that. That we could choose, we do choose differently. And it's just it's heartbreaking. It's eye opening to realize that things aren't much different now than they were then.

Jenn

No, no. And even in continuing on in Hosea, too, then the the latter part of it talks about the Lord's love for again and faithful Israelites. And and that's again, we see that over and over again through Scripture, where it doesn't matter how unfaithful we are, he continues to be faithful.

Chandalee

Chapter two, verse 14 says. However, in the future, I will allure her. I will lead her back into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. From there, I will give back her vineyards to her and turn the valley of trouble into an opportunity of hope. So it's is pointing to the Gospel that no matter what they did, God was still providing a way for redemption and restoration.

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Jenn  
Yes, you have to love it.

Chandalee  
It's real love. It really, really is not this this image that culture today has as love. This is love where no matter how much he was wrong is wrong, he still perceives us and he desires repentance from us. He desires us to repent and turn back from him. Turn back from our. Our idolatry, idolatrous ways. Mm hmm. In Hosea, a three.

Again, this is another command. It's just reiterating again, God is saying in verse one, the Lord said to me, Go show love to your wife again, even though she loves another man and continually commit adultery. Likewise, the Lord loves the Israelites, although they turn to other gods and love to offer raisin cakes to idols.

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I mean, it's just a picture of sin. Repeated and repeated and repeated and repeated over and over again. And God calls us to something different. He calls us to step away from that, to embrace who he is, and embrace the salvation that he has provided through his son in the New Testament. Repentance, repentance. And the way that we do that is by loving other people.

We love him. And because we love him, we love other people. First John. First John, five one says Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone that loves the Father, loves His children to and when we love his children, when we love those around us, when we display the kind of AHAVA that we're going to talk about in a few weeks of loving people and and loving and action, we love God.

That's how we bear this out. But we can't know him. We get the Elohim and in relationship with him unless we're pursuing him. Chapter six Verse three says John, can you read that?

Jenn  
Verse 6:3 says, Oh, that we might know the Lord. Let us press on to know Him. He will respond to us. And surely, as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains and early spring.

Chandalee  
That just it just gives us a very clear do this, now, do this. I'm going to back up a verse. Verse two says, that's the back up to one. Come on, let's return to the Lord. He himself is torn is to pieces, but he will heal us. He has injured us, but he will bandage our wounds. He will restore us in a very short time.

He will heal us in a little while so that we may live in his presence. And that's the point. When we're reading Scripture, we need to look for those connecting words so that he will heal us. He's going to allow us to go through the struggle, to go through the pain, to go through the shame, to go through these things.

He's not causing it. He's allowing it for his glory in his good. But he's doing that so that we can be in his presence and that we can know him because it tells us on in in verse three, let us search for him. Let us seek to know the Lord. He will come to our rescue. And the word here for seeking to know the Lord is yada got to know Him.

That's the verb to live out. And so we have to we have to seek him. We have to be intentional about that. Instead of just going through life looking for what's the next big thing, the next shiny thing that is going to get me excited, what's the next thing that I'm going to bounce to instead of living in concerted, disciplined effort of pursuing God?

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Jenn

And I love the the second part of verse three there where it says, in my version here in uliti, he will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains and early spring. When we intentionally pursue him, he responds, As surely as there's rain in the spring, which we know there's rain in the spring and that in the arrival of dawn.

Jenn

I mean, the every day the sun comes up and we know that's going to happen.

Chandalee

So that's a promise, that's a prominence in this, that when we intentionally seek to know him, he's going to show up and he's going to do it because he's promised that he's going to do it. And he never breaks a promise.

Jenn

That's right. Yes. He keeps his promise.

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Chandalee

Yes, he absolutely does. Continuing on in chapter six, verse six says, For I delight in faithfulness, not simply in sacrifice, I delight in acknowledging God, not simply in whole burnt offerings. What is your emergency, Jan?

Jenn

It says, I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know me more than I want burnt offerings.

Chandalee

In that word. No, there is the Elohim. That's the one that is knowledge about or knowledge of God. And so these these passages are connected because they're there. The words are flowing from each other. You've got your da and and to know him. And when we we live out to know him, when we pursue to know him, the knowledge of him comes from that.

Chandalee

And he wants that relationship more than he wants. At this point, it was sacrifices because they were still in a sacrificial system of offering that up today. What does that look like? What are our sacrifices? Look today that we we offer up to God, but it might just be lip service.

Jenn

I think he he desires us knowing him more than our busyness, more than our spiritual busyness of just trying to check off a.

Chandalee

List, fill in the blanks in the Bible study book.

Jenn

Yeah, yeah. There's more to it than just filling in the blanks. It's more of a relationship in pursuit of him knowing him in a in a very personal way.

Chandalee

Proverbs 18:15 says An intelligent heart acquires knowledge and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. If God is all knowing, it's in our best interest to get to know him, isn't it?

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Absolutely.

Chandalee

Because we're like we talked about earlier, we have no ability to know him outside of him, revealing himself to us, the spirit. Let us experience him in the New Testament. There's a word called ginosko. So that's what they use for knowledge, and it's an experiential knowledge of God. And it's that living life together, experiential knowledge that I might know the President of the United States. But I don't do life with him.

Jenn

No, we.

Chandalee

Do life together. So we know each other. It's a different type of relationship. And that experience, that experiential knowledge, is what God is wanting from us to submit and offer up as a sacrifice.

Jenn

It's a different level of intimacy. The difference in about, you know, 9% of my friends on Facebook compared to my friendships where I have a real relationship with them. Yeah.

Chandalee

Another way this is illustrated is in Psalm 139 verses one through six. Yahweh, you have searched me and known me. You know, when I sit down and when I get up, you understand my thoughts from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before there was a word on my tongue, Behold, Yahweh, you know it all.

Chandalee

You have encircled me in behind and in front and placed your hand upon me. Such knowledge. The art is too wonderful for me it is too high. I cannot comprehend it. God is showing here that the art and the art and yada are both ways. It isn't just us to know him, but he knows us already.

Jenn

I love that this the thought that God cares enough to know me. He knows my name. He perceives me even when I don't deserve to be pursued. As in the book of Isaiah that we see him pursuing Gomer now. She did not deserve to be pursued, but he pursued her relentlessly. Yeah. Yeah. And to the point of going after her and buying her back.

Jenn

Yeah.

Chandalee

Yeah. Well, Yahweh showed this same kind of pursuit and rescue in his of his people over and over throughout the Bible. But the ultimate rescue happened with his son, Jesus, when he sent him to Earth. And he died a horrible death and was buried and was raised again. And that was done so that we as humans can live in the presence of Yahweh forever.

Chandalee

When our time on earth is time, the Bible is all about relationship start to finish. It's about God pursuing a relationship with His creation and how He desires us to offer back our relationship as a sacrifice to him. He already knows us and he wants us to pursue him and to experi initially live with him. He wants our loyalty and our love.

Chandalee

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He wants us to devote our time to him, to get to know him as much as we can. He, like we talked about last week, we are inundated with 34 gigabytes of information every single day that a lot of input. Mm. It would be a life changer if we shifted the narrative from just everything that we take in to taking in things about God.

Chandalee

And it would completely change how we live that out because knowledge is power, but we need to be inputting the right kind of knowledge and the right kind of power. We have to seek out that right kind of knowledge because just walking down the street or driving down the road, we're going to be inundated with knowledge. Sure. And we need to be aware of what's coming in so that we can say, okay, this is what is going to come out of me.

Jenn

Right. And I mean, we are commanded to love the Lord, our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. That's part of what we've been called to do.

Chandalee

Absolutely.

Jenn

We're commanded that. So but the mind is important in what we're letting in there. I think of Philippians four. What things are we thinking on? Yeah.

Chandalee

Absolutely. We and if we don't seek those things that are pure, that are good, that are right, and that knowledge, that experience, your relationship of God, the devotion to God that we've seen, that that word to me is translated as an intimacy with him. We're not going to find it.

Jenn

Know it. We have to be intentional.

Chandalee

We have to be intentional about it. So what I've taken away from her over reading this for the past few weeks is that we have to seek him because when we seek him, we will find him, which is just beautiful, because he doesn't hide from us. He doesn't hide his presence. He wants us to come to him.

Jenn

He wants to be known and he wants to know us, right? Absolutely. He desires to know us as well.

Chandalee

Well, that's it for today. We are glad that you guys joined us for a few words on Hosea. We'll see you next time.

Jenn

Bye bye.

Chandalee

Thanks for joining us today. Curious about this week's theme and how it affects our lives today. Join us over it goandequip.com on the blog page to check out a short video that we've put together about each weekly theme.

Jenn

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