

# ADVENT 2016

Text: Matthew 2:9-15 and Hosea 11:1  
Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Read Matthew 2:9-15 and Hosea 11:1-11.
2. Matthew quotes from Hosea 11:1. What is Hosea talking about in this verse? Who is the son?
3. Matthew says Jesus fulfills this statement from Hosea. The word fulfill doesn't necessarily mean "the prediction came true", but rather "fills up" or "gives fuller meaning to." One of Matthew's main themes is that Jesus is the climax of all that God had done before Him. Everything in the Old Testament points to Jesus and is more clearly understood through Him.
4. What are some of the ways the Old Testament points to Jesus and is fulfilled in Him?
5. On Sunday, we discussed that the major problem in the Bible is "how do sinful people know their holy creator?" Out of that question come three major themes that are all throughout the Bible:
  - The sovereignty of God
  - The grace of God
  - The glory of GodDo you remember what each of these mean?  
(Sovereignty: God is in control and has a plan, Grace: God is providing for and saving His people, Glory: God is unique and greater than all, this is His story, not ours.)
6. How do these themes show up in Hosea 11:1-11?
7. Matthew records Jesus re-enacting the Exodus, the wilderness wanderings (Matt 4:1-11), and the giving of the law (Matt 5:17). What is Matthew trying to show about Jesus?
8. If God's people are the "son of God" in Hosea 11, how does Jesus give fuller meaning to this title in Matthew? What was different about Jesus as a human than any of the people of God before Him?
9. How are the major themes of the Bible (sovereignty, grace, and glory of God) filled up in Jesus?
10. How can you apply these truths/themes to your daily life to help you with your struggles and sins?
11. How does God's sovereignty encourage you?
12. How does God's grace give you hope?
13. How does God's glory change your perspective?