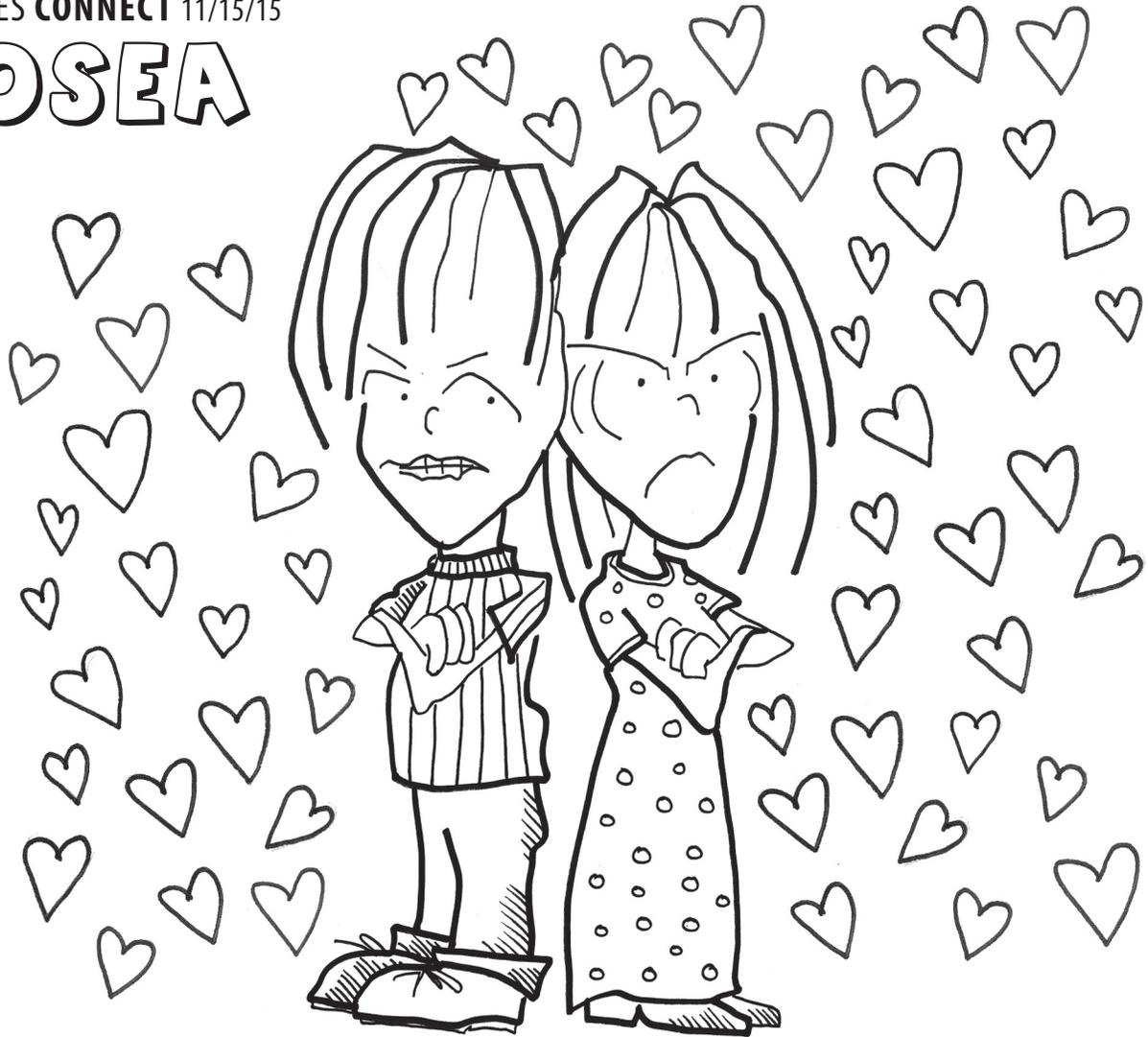


HOSEA



HOSEA 11:1-9

The Israelites have become unfaithful to God. It's Hosea's job to warn the people about God's anger. The religious leaders are called out for leading the people away from God, and the political leaders are called out for political partnerships with military powers instead of trusting in God. The people have done a lot of bad things.

But in today's story Hosea also uses images of a loving parent to describe God's unending love. The Israelites, like belligerent children, continually push God away. And God responds like a parent with patient, unconditional love.

TALK ABOUT THIS ...

From Pastor Paul Gauche's sermon: *"Love wins. God loves you. There's nothing you have done or will do that could make God love you any more or any less than right now. There is nowhere you have been or will go that is too far away for God to pursue you with love and grace. Nothing will change that. No matter what."*

What do you think of these words? Are they true? For some people or for all people? If they're true for some people, which ones? If they're true for all people, why are some people still considered outsiders in our churches, communities and homes? What does unconditional love really look like?

THIS WEEK'S THEMES:



LOVE:
What is judgment? What is it for?
Is judgment only hurtful? Is it only helpful?
What is God's judgment like?



PROGRESS:
Can God get angry? Is God about anger or love?



LOVE:
Does living with gratitude, and being thankful for the world and your family and friends, change you? Does living with gratitude help you handle all the love you get from God?

FAITH⁵ ... A BEDTIME ROUTINE FOR FAMILIES

SHARE your highs and lows from the day. READ the Bible story. TALK about how the Bible story relates to your highs and lows. PRAY for one another's highs and lows, and BLESS one another.

MORE INFORMATION: faith5.org