



HOSEA

The Illusion of Repentance | October 4, 2026

Hosea 5:1-6:3 | This sermon compares hollow religious activity versus genuine heart-change. Hosea shows how God desires steadfast love and knowledge of Him, not mere ritual, and how true repentance produces renewed devotion.

SERMON OUTLINE

Three Core Exposures of Hollow Repentance:

1. **The Presumption of the Heart (Hosea 5:1-7)**
 - a. We assume that God's mercy is an entitlement rather than unmerited grace.
 - b. Relevant Scripture: Romans 2:2-4; 2 Peter 3:9.
2. **The Perversion of Seeking Help (Hosea 5:8-15)**
 - a. When we suffer the consequences of our sin, hollow repentance looks for an escape hatch rather than divine restoration.
 - b. Relevant Scripture: Jeremiah 17:5; Psalm 146:3; Isaiah 2:22.
3. **The Performance of Superficial Return (Hosea 6:1-3)**
 - a. *Hollow repentance wants God's healing without God's holiness; it is the entitled child believing that Dad and Mom are going to get them out of trouble.*
 - b. Relevant Scripture: Psalm 51.

APPLICATION

1. **Trade Transactional Regret for Holy Grief.** *Genuine repentance does not bargain with God for relief from the consequences of sin; it mourns broken fellowship with the Creator and welcomes His discipline.*
2. **Dismantle Worldly Safety Nets.** *True repentance demands abandoning false harbors and casting yourself completely upon the mercy of Christ.*
3. **Pursue the Knowledge of God Over Religious Routine.** *Make space this week for unhurried scripture reading, quiet self-examination, and persistent prayer aimed at deepening relational devotion, not checking off devotional boxes.*