SHOW YOUR LOVE AGAIN

"Go, show your love to your wife again, although she is loved by another and is an adulteress. Love her as the lord love His people though they turn to other gods."

(Hosea 3:1)

Everyday there is a new blessing. Every morning we receive God's grace and blessing as He promised, "*There will be showers of blessings.*" (Ezekiel 34:26)

For you the blessing might be a new dish to eat, a new friend to meet, or any good news that you receive, but this may not be available for others. The word of God that we read from the Bible is the only new blessing available for all. It gives us new hope, joy and peace, and teaches us how to live according to God's will. This is the new blessing that is God's word, but we assure you that through Bible reading, God will teach you how to live a joyful, peaceful, meaningful and abundant life.

The Bible demonstrates God's love to His people and that relationship is described as husband and wife. God's love has chosen and taken the sinful people for Himself. And God remains faithful, caring and loving to His people in spite of their unfaithfulness to Him. "If we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for He cannot disown Himself." (2 Timothy 2:13)

God spoke to the prophet Hosea: "Go and take for yourself an unfaithful wife." (Read Hosea Chapter 1-3) God was asking His prophet to do this extraordinary act because He wanted His people to follow His step and to be like Him in His love. God had accepted us even we were sinners. He chose us to be His in spite of all our shortcomings. Hosea obeyed God and married that woman, and she bore to him three children. After that she left Hosea and went and lived with another man. This story is the same as what people are doing to God. Although He is keen to satisfy them in all aspects still they fail Him in many ways. They go to other gods and always try to escape from the Lord's instruction. They run after position or profession, toward the love of money and immoral pleasures of the world.

For the Lord to heal the relationship between Hosea and his wife God said to him: "Go, show your love to your wife again, although she is loved by another and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord love His people though they turn to other gods." (Hosea 3:1) These words are not only for Hosea but also for us in dealing with the people around us.

- 1. <u>Go, show your love:</u> Don't wait for your spouse to come to you if you are separated, Go and reconcile with her. This is applied to your relationship with other people. God Himself did to us the same. While we were sinners and separated from Him He came down from heaven, became a man, He is Jesus; to deliver us from the hands of Satan and to bring us back to Himself. Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.' (John 10:10)
- 2. <u>Go, show your love again:</u> This is an expression of unconditional love. Jesus was despised and rejected by His own people, yet He continued to love them and

fulfilled His promise for them. While we are reconciled to God through Christ let us continue to love one another – to love with unfailing love as the LORD love His people.

- **Show respect:** The very urgent need of every human is to receive respect from others. Jesus showed attention and respect even to the most sinful people. He ate with them and addressed them with good works and gentle tongue.
- **b.** Willing to accept: It is not easy to deal with people who are away from God and it is not easy to mingle with people who keep harming us. But God will give us grace to love them if we are willing to accept them as Christ accepted us.
- c. Kind to forgive: The Lord has forgiven us our sins. Therefore, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you, "(Ephesians 4:32)
- d. Humble and obedient: We need to forget our position and prestige and to keep our pride away: "Do not be proud, but willing to associate with people of low position." (Romans 12:16a) "Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped. But made Himself nothing, taking the very appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death even death on the cross!" (Philippians 2:5-8) The Lord Jesus endured the cross because He loves His people. Jesus humbled Himself. Though He is God, He became man and willingly suffered because His motive is His love to men and obedience to God the Father. So then, if we say we love God we ought also to love the people whoever they are because this is His command. Jesus said, "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." (John 15:12)
- e. Willing to give: Love is first of all giving. Showing emotion is not effective unless it is accompanied by an act of giving. God showed His love to the world by giving His own son Jesus Christ. "For God so loved the world that He gave His One and Only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16) Hosea when he went to his wife He brought with him treasures and brought her back, and then he asked her to live with him again and be faithful to him. "Dear children, let us not love with words of tongue but with actions and in truth." (1 John 3:18) We ought to show our love by giving our time, effort, prayer, including material things to people especially to those who belong to the family of God.

My dear and beloved: Repeatedly we read that God came in the form of man to bring us back to Him. It is really a new blessing when we learn by God's word to love unlovable, and to show love to all people whom God put around us. This is a godly act: Go, show your love again!

"Father God in heaven, I thank You for your word that revives me and gives me new insight for living according to your will. Help me Lord to accept others and to love them as your love me. This is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen."