



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that **FORM** and **TRANSFORM**"

Sunday School Lessons Unit Two

"Four Weddings And A Funeral" January 2016



We are providing these notes from the Committee on Uniform Series that prepares associated Sunday School lesson outlines long in advance of their usage. Included in this Guide are thoughts that are reflected in the Lesson Development Guide for writers of Sunday school lessons and the recommended commentary of the Department of Christian Education, The New International Lesson Annual published by Abingdon Press Nashville, Tennessee.

The Winter Quarter's lessons are presented under the theme of "Sacred Gifts and Holy Gatherings." Unit Two is entitled "Four Weddings And A Funeral." The lessons during January like the lessons of the other two months focus on holy celebrations in the Jewish-tradition. Jesus participates in some of these traditions of the faith.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield
General Secretary



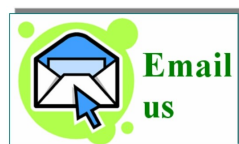
Unfaithfulness in covenant relationships leads to brokenness and alienation. How can brokenness and alienation be remedied? God uses Hosea and Gomer's marriage and the naming of their children as symbolic of Israel's alienation from God and God's plan for restoration.

Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To learn how God commanded Hosea to marry an unfaithful Gomer as a model for God's love for Israel despite the people's unfaithfulness.
- ✓ To reflect on the meaning of marriage and unfaithfulness and God's desire for the restoration of broken relationships.
- ✓ To demonstrate faithfulness to God through a commitment to maintain faithful friendships, relationships, and/or marriages.

Lesson Challenges for the Week

- Support someone whose marriage is failing. Refrain from offering advice, but be willing to listen without making judgments and let the person know that you are praying for God to guide him or her.
- Research the prophet Hosea and the political and social circumstances in Israel during the mid-eighth century B.C. How does this information help you better understand the rupture in the relationship between Israel and God?
- Pray that God will lead you to find ways to restore a broken relationship in your own life.



Send an email to:
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to receive this guide electronically each week.