Revive us again! – Turn back to God

Hos. 14: 1 -2

**Focal Truth: God’s people must go back to God from living in sin**

What is your spiritual condition as we return to routines?

Are you living in a close or distant relationship to God?

Are you aware of your closeness or distance to God?

Are you living in an unfaithful relationship with God?

**Observations**

1. **A Call to Return to God**

 *Return, O Israel, to the Lord Your God – 14:1 –* ***Israel was unfaithful to God***

1. God’s unfaithful people must go back to God – Heb. = go back or return

 Hos. 6:1 – come let us return to the Lord – Go back to the Lord

 Prodigal – so He got up and came to his father

1. God’s unfaithful people must turn back to God - Heb. = turn back

 Ezek. 33:11 – Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why will you die

1. God’s unfaithful people must come back to God – Heb = come back

 Hos. 12: 6 – return to your God

1. **A Reason to Return to God**

 *for you have stumbled because of your iniquity – 14:1 – stumbled = stagger, totter*

1. God’s unfaithful people turn their back on God - Heb = turn your back

 Zeph. 1:6 – and those who have turned back from following the Lord, and

 those who have not sought the Lord or inquired of Him –**They don’t talk to God**

 Rev. 2: 4 – that you have left your first love

1. God’s unfaithful people turn aside from God

 Ps. 53:3 – everyone who has turned aside, together they have become

 corrupt, there is no one who does good, not even one. –**They are corrupt in sin**

1. God’s unfaithful people turn away from God

 Isa. 1:4 – alas a sinful nation, people weighed down with iniquity, they have abandoned the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they

 have turned away form Him – **They despise God’s commands & ways**

 Jer. 18:12 – for we are going to follow our own plans, & each will act

 according to the stubbornness of his evil heart – **They are selfish, self sufficent**

1. **A Practice to Return to God**

 *Take words with you and return to the Lord. Say to Him Take away all iniquity & receive us graciously, that we may present you the fruit of our lips – 14:2*

 a. God’s unfaithful people return to God with confession

 1 John 1:9 – if we confess our sins…

 b. God’s unfaithful people return to God asking for grace

 c. God’s unfaithful people return to God with thanksgiving

**Things to Remember**

1. There is a sadness in the unawareness of spiritual unfaithfulness – Hos. 7:9 strangers have devoured his strength & he does not know it, gray hairs are here & there on him & yet he does not know it.
2. There is a shamefulness in unwillingness to admit to a life of spiritual unfaithfulness Jer. 49:4 how boastful you are about the valleys! Your valley is flowing away, O backsliding daughter, who trusts in her treasures saying, who will come against me?
3. There is great danger of spiritual presumption – Rev. 3: 17 – I have need of nothing
4. Unfaithfulness to God comes gradually over time – Pr. 6:10 a little sleep, a little slumber
5. Sincere words & acts of turning away from sin express a return to God

**Daily Use**

1. Search your heart – do you need to come back to God?
2. Consider the emptiness of turning away from God
3. Confess your sin of unfaithfulness to God & come back to Him