

## **Grace for Getting Back in the Race**

Lesson Three • Hosea 14:1-4

### **Runners Returning, God Forgiving**

#### **Grace for Getting Back in the Race**

We are bent on backsliding from God, but God is always ready to FORGIVE us when we return to Him.

*“I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, for My anger has turned away from Me.”  
Hosea 14:4 NKJV*

#### **It's Your Move**

Will you RETURN to the Lord your God?

*O Israel, return to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.  
Hosea 14:1 NKJV*

*So you, by the help of your God, return. Hosea 12:6 NKJV*

#### **Runners Returning, God Forgiving**

## **1. How Do We Return to God? By REPENTING of Our Sin!**

*O Israel, return to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity; take words with you, and return to the Lord. Hosea 14:1-2a NKJV*

#### **Beware of Phony Repentance!**

Our repentance of sin must be AUTHENTIC because phony repentance will produce phony results.

*Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but He will heal us; He has injured us but He will bind up our wounds. After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will restore us, that we may live in His presence. Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge Him. As surely as the sun rises, He will appear; He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth. Hosea 6:1-3 NIV*

*“What can I do with you, Ephraim? What can I do with you, Judah?  
Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears.” Hosea 6:4 NIV*

## **2. How Do We Repent of Sin? By FOLLOWING God's Steps!**

*O Israel, return to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity; take words with you, and return to the Lord. Say to Him, “Take away all iniquity; receive us graciously, for we will offer the sacrifices of our lips. Assyria shall not save us, we will not on horses, nor will we say anymore to the work of our hands, ‘You are our gods.’ For in You the fatherless finds mercy.” Hosea 14:1-3 NKJV*

#### **God's Steps of Repentance:**

- Recognize your SIN against God.
  
- Receive FORGIVENESS by God's grace.
  
- Renounce your RELIANCE on false gods.
  
- Reaffirm your FAITH in God alone.

#### **Our Response to God's Grace & Mercy**

Don't DELAY, but today return to the Lord in repentance of sin.

*“I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, for My anger has turned away from him.”  
Hosea 14:4 NKJV*

#### **Remembering God's Grace through Communion**

Followers of Jesus Christ (those who trust Christ as Savior and commit to follow Christ as Lord) are invited to participate in Communion located at the four tables in the auditorium. You may take the bread and cup back to your seat. The bread and juice represent the body and blood of Jesus when He died on the Cross and reminds us who our Lord is, what He has done for us, is doing for us, and will yet do for us when He returns. Come, Lord Jesus, come!