



The Heart of God





## Hosea

Prophet to the Northern Kingdom of Israel

Prophesied during the reign of King Jeroboam II,  
who was militarily successful but did evil in God's eyes.

Hosea's broken marriage: A picture of Israel's unfaithfulness





## HOSEA 11

1 When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
and **out of Egypt** I called my son.

2 **But the more they were called,  
the more they went away from me.**  
They sacrificed to the Baals  
and they burned incense to images.

GOD'S LOVE  
FOR HIS CHILDREN



HOSEA 11

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GOD'S LOVE  
FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, but is **longsuffering** toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance ... Consider that the **longsuffering** of our Lord is our salvation.

**2 Peter 3:9 & 15**

GOD'S LOVE  
FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering

## HOSEA 11

**3** It was I who taught Ephraim to walk,  
taking them by the arms;  
but they did not realise  
it was I who healed them.

**4** I led them with cords  
of human kindness,  
with ties of love.  
To them I was like one  
who lifts a little child to the cheek,  
and I bent down to feed them.



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## GOD'S LOVE FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up

HOSEA 11

**5** Will they not **return to Egypt**  
and will not **Assyria rule over them**  
because they refuse to repent?

**6** A sword will flash in their cities;  
it will devour their false prophets  
and put an end to their plans.

**7** My people are determined  
to turn from me.  
Even though they call me  
God Most High,  
I will by no means exalt them.

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A map of the Middle East region, showing the outlines of the Assyrian and Babylonian empires. The Assyrian empire is highlighted in a darker pink color, and the Babylonian empire is highlighted in a lighter pink color. The map is set against a light blue background.

EXILED BY  
THE ASSYRIANS  
IN 722BC

EXILED BY  
THE BABYLONIANS  
IN 586BC

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GOD'S LOVE  
FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up
3. Lets you go

They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. **No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace** for those who have been trained by it.

**HEBREWS 12:10-11**

... Hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, **so that his spirit may be saved** on the day of the Lord.

**1 CORINTHIANS 5:5**

**GOD'S LOVE  
FOR HIS CHILDREN**

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up
3. Lets you go

## Parent sues school for refusing to return confiscated phone for three months

[Sign up now](#): Get tips on how to help your child succeed




GOD'S LOVE  
FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering
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## Caning for Singapore school bullies? Only as last resort, education minister says

Under Singapore's stricter framework for student misconduct, bullies can face suspension, caning and lowered conduct grades

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GOD'S LOVE  
FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up
3. Lets you go

## HOSEA 11

**8** How can I give you up, Ephraim?  
How can I hand you over, Israel?  
How can I treat you like **Admah**?  
How can I make you like **Zeboyim**?  
My heart is changed within me;  
all my compassion is aroused.

**9** I will not carry out my fierce anger,  
nor will I devastate Ephraim again.  
For I am God, and not a man—  
the Holy One among you.  
I will not come against their cities.

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The Lord rained  
down burning  
sulphur on Sodom  
and Gomorrah.  
Thus he overthrew  
those cities and the  
cities of the plain ...

**GEN 19:24-25**

It will be like  
the destruction  
of Sodom and  
Gomorrah, **Admah**  
**and Zeboyim**, which  
the LORD overthrew  
in fierce anger.

**DEUT 29:23**

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FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up
3. Lets you go
4. Longs for you

## HOSEA 11

- 10** They will follow the Lord;  
He will roar like a lion.  
When He roars,  
His children will come  
trembling from the west.
- 11** They will come from Egypt,  
trembling like sparrows,  
from Assyria, fluttering like doves.  
**I will settle them in their homes,**  
declares the Lord.

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● **750BC:** Time of Hosea

● **722BC:** Assyrian Exile

● **586BC:** Babylonian Exile

● **538BC:** Return from Exile  
*(1st wave: Zerubbabel/Joshua)*

● **458BC:** Return from Exile  
*(2nd wave: led by Ezra)*

● **445BC:** Return from Exile  
*(3rd wave: led by Nehemiah)*

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## GOD'S LOVE FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up
3. Lets you go
4. Longs for you
5. Leads you





4 Jan 1987  
 DIVINE CIRCUMCISIO  
 FOR BOBBY CHOW  
 We rejoice with the following parents who presented their child  
 Lord for dedication at our Christmas Service on 25 Dec. 1986. If  
 dedication was officed by Dr Benjamin Chew:  
 Cheryl Chai Jia Ai  
 Linda Chan  
 Kevin & Helen Chew  
 Neil Choo Li Tin  
 Cheryl Ho Wei Tin  
 Josephine Koh Mei Ling  
 Isabel Ong Tze Mei  
 Evelyn Pong Mei Shen  
 Nicole Rebecca Seah Kim Lip  
 Esther Tan Yung Eh  
 Daughter of Mr. Benjamin  
 son of Mr. Daniel Chan C  
 son of Mr. Henry Chew  
 son of Mr. Choo Hock Yee  
 daughter of Mr. James Ho  
 daughter of Mr. Nicholas  
 daughter of Mr. Michael T  
 daughter of Dr. Peng Chu  
 daughter of Mr. Seah Kim  
 daughter of Mr. Joseph T





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1. Longsuffering



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## GOD'S LOVE FOR HIS CHILDREN

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up







For I want you to know how great a **struggle**  
I have for you and for those at Laodicea and  
for all who have not seen me face to face...

**COLOSSIANS 2:1**

That their hearts may be encouraged, being  
knit together in love, to reach all the riches  
of full assurance of understanding and the  
knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,  
in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom  
and knowledge.

**COLOSSIANS 2:2-3**



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**HEBREWS 12:10-11**

Discipline should not be  
punitive and malicious,  
vindictive and mean.

It's disciplining  
for discipleship,  
undergirded by love.

HOSEA 11

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How can I hand you over, Israel?  
How can I treat you like Admah?  
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“Can we start over?”



This is God saying,

“How can I give you up?  
How can I hand you over?”

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5. Leads you



## Why this matters to us

### 1. He calls us all to be parents (!)

- *Some will be biological parents*
- *We should all be disciple-makers: Spiritual parents, mentors, leaders*
- *Whether biological or spiritual, we emulate God's love for His children*

### 2. He calls us all HIS children

- *Regardless of our relationship with our own parents, we should have the right picture of our Heavenly Father's love for us*









DO YOU KNOW HOW  
MUCH GOD LOVES YOU,  
HIS PRECIOUS CHILD?

1. Longsuffering
2. Lifts you up
3. Lets you go
4. Longs for you
5. Leads you