



Hosea 2:1-13 confronts us with some of the hardest words in Scripture, but they are the words of a faithful God whose covenant love is strong enough to oppose the idols destroying his people. Israel had forgotten that every good gift came from Yahweh, and in mercy God promised to hedge up her way so she might return to him. This passage teaches us that God's tough love is not meant to drive his children away, but to awaken them, discipline them, and bring them back to the only One who truly loves and provides for their souls.

- The words of this passage illustrate the _____ love of a _____ God.
- We should hear these tough words as loving words because they affirm a _____.
- God instructs Hosea to _____ with Israel. (v. 2)
- If they would not return, God _____ them of what he would do. (v. 3)
- God's tough love has repercussions, not only for the present nation of Israel, but also for the _____. (vv. 4-5)
- God's tough love is loving because it aims at what is _____ while exposing what is _____. (vv. 6-11)

- Yahweh alone is God and he gives the gift of _____ to all who seek his company in a house in which he does not reside. (vv. 12-13)
- The Applications for Us:
 - The tough love of God is only demonstrated towards _____. (Pro 3:11-12)
 - Before God _____, he always _____. (Ex 34:6-7)
 - Don't misunderstand who puts _____ on your _____.
 - Don't _____ God's gracious gifts by making them the means of worshipping _____.