



Hosea 11:1-4, *When Israel was a child, I loved him, and I called my son out of Egypt. ² But the more I called to him, the farther he moved from me, offering sacrifices to the images of Baal and burning incense to idols. ³ I myself taught Israel how to walk, leading him along by the hand. But he doesn't know or even care that it was I who took care of him. ⁴ I led Israel along with my ropes of kindness and love. I lifted the yoke from his neck, and I myself stooped to feed him.*

I. **God wants us to remember that he raised us like a tender Father.** [Hosea 11:1-4](#)

Hosea 11:2, *But the more I called to him, the farther he moved from me...*

Hosea 11:8-9b, *For my people are determined to desert me. They call me the Most High, but they don't truly honor me. ⁸ "Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? How can I let you go?..."*

II. **God reminds us that Everlasting Love refuses to quit.** [Hosea 11:8-9](#)

Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? ... My heart is torn within Me, and My compassion overflows.

Hosea 11:8, *"Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? How can I let you go?"*

Hosea 12:1-7, *The people of Israel feed on the wind; they chase after the east wind all day long. They pile up lies and violence; they are making an alliance with Assyria while sending olive oil to buy support from Egypt. ² Now the LORD is bringing charges against Judah. He is about to punish Jacob for all his deceitful ways, and pay him back for all he has done. ³ Even in the womb, Jacob struggled with his brother; when he became a man, he even fought with God. ⁴ Yes, he wrestled with the angel and won. He wept and pleaded for a blessing from him. There at Bethel he met God face to face, and God spoke to him ⁵ the LORD God of Heaven's Armies, the LORD is his name! ⁶ So now, come back to your God. Act with love and justice, and always depend on him.*

III. **God's Everlasting Love calls us to return to Him when we wander.** [Hosea 12](#)

Hosea 12:6, *Return to your God. Act with love and justice, and always depend on Him.*

Hosea 11:1, *When Israel was a child, I loved him, and I called my son out of Egypt.*

IV. God gives us the perfect picture of Everlasting Love through Jesus. Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:13-15

Matthew 2:13-15, *After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother,” the angel said. “Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”¹⁴ That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother,¹⁵ and they stayed there until Herod’s death. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: “I called my Son out of Egypt.”*

Romans 5:8, *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*