GENESIS TO REVELATION | PROPHETIC LESSON

Love That Calls a People Home

Hosea 11:1-9



YOUR BIBLE READING

The prophetic message remembers tender care and refuses to let fierce anger be the final word.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

God Remembers Caring for Israel

Hosea 11:1-9



Hosea brings a prophetic message in which God speaks of Israel as a child he loved. Calling that child out of Egypt recalls the people's earlier rescue. This is a picture for the history of a nation, not a new story about a single unnamed baby. The loving relationship is described before the passage turns toward Israel's refusal to listen. Memory of care stands at the opening of the message.

The people had turned toward the Baals and made offerings to images. The prophetic words describe them moving away instead of responding to the calls they received. The message does not treat worship as an unimportant matter within Israel's relationship with God. Its criticism concerns a community's choices. A reader should not turn the image into a claim that any child who asks a question or struggles with obedience is repeating the same national situation.

God recalls teaching Ephraim to walk and supporting them by the arms. Ephraim is another name used here for the people being addressed. The image is tender and practical: someone learning to walk needs support. The people did not recognize the healing and care they received. The words look back at help already given, making their turning away more serious without describing the nation's worth as dependent on its ability to stand without assistance.

The next picture uses ties of love and humane care. God is compared with one who eases a yoke and bends down to feed. This is not a command to bind a child or to treat control as kindness. The images show support, relief, and provision. Teaching, carrying, and feeding make the remembered love concrete, and they prepare the reader for the tension between the warning that follows and the compassion that remains.

Remember: Care can be seen in patient support, relief from burdens, and help with real needs.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Compassion Beside a Serious Warning

Hosea 11:1-9



The message warns that Assyria will rule over the people because they have refused to turn back. Their cities and gates face violence. These are serious national consequences in the prophetic account, not a harmless pretend problem. A gentle reading can name war and destruction without describing injuries. It should not use this ancient warning to tell a child that every illness, family difficulty, or frightening news event is punishment for something they personally did.

The people are described as set on turning away. The message has not said that the relationship is troubled only because God failed to care. It has recalled patient help and then named choices that reject it. Yet the next words do not simply abandon the people. God asks how he can give up Ephraim or hand over Israel. He names Admah and Zeboiim, places associated in the warning with overwhelming destruction.

The words then speak of compassion stirring. God says he will not carry out the full heat of anger or return to destroy Ephraim. The message identifies him as God, not a human being, the Holy One among the people. Its movement is not from wrongdoing to a denial that wrongdoing matters. It is from remembered love, through real warning, toward compassion that refuses to make fierce anger the only word spoken over the relationship.

This prophetic picture requires care when applied today. Human caregivers are not given permission to excuse cruelty by saying their control is like God's love. The images of teaching a child to walk and bending to feed point toward attentive care. A present-day example might be an adult helping a learner patiently while maintaining safe boundaries. That example is not another event from Hosea. It helps keep love's practical character visible without claiming that a human adult has unlimited authority over another person.

Pause and think: What practical actions help you recognize care that supports rather than controls someone?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Notice Care in Small Actions



Think of someone learning a skill, such as tying a knot or finding a new classroom. What help would be useful without taking away every choice? A person might explain, demonstrate, offer support, and allow time. The walking image in Hosea can help you notice that learning often happens with another person's care. Needing support is not a reason to be treated as less valuable.

An apology and a changed action can answer a real wrong. Choose an ordinary, imaginary example, such as repeatedly interrupting a group. What would returning to a better way involve? It might include listening, repairing the interruption, and practicing a signal for taking turns. The example is not a prediction about a nation. It simply helps distinguish a real response from words that leave the same harmful habit unchanged.

Love should not be used as a label that makes harm impossible to question. If someone hurts or frightens you and calls it care, tell a trusted adult. People can set safe limits without cruelty. You may receive support, ask questions, and seek protection. Hosea's national imagery must not take those needs away from children reading it today.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Hosea recalls God’s tender care for Israel and brings compassion beside a serious warning about the people’s turning away.

What practical actions help you recognize care that supports rather than controls someone?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Who is pictured as a loved child in this message?

2. What is one practical picture of God's remembered care?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Notice the words of compassion that follow.
- ☐ Read the warning about the people’s refusal to return.
- ☐ Hear God remember love and practical care for Israel.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw gentle symbols of learning to walk, a lifted burden, and a shared meal, labeled as prophetic pictures.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Care can be seen in patient support, relief from burdens, and help with real needs.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Hosea 11:1-9

A thoughtful conversation

Explain Israel and Ephraim as the people addressed through national child imagery. The passage includes Assyrian rule and war warnings, then compassion; it does not promise the absence of consequences. Do not apply national judgment to children's illnesses or ordinary questions. Human caregivers cannot use divine imagery to justify coercion, violence, or unlimited authority.

Activity answers

1. Israel, also called Ephraim, is pictured as the child.
2. Teaching to walk, supporting by the arms, easing a yoke, or bending to feed.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, help me recognize patient care and choose actions that repair harm.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Hosea 11:1-9. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original symbolic vector artwork by DigiPick.store; a learning aid, not an additional Bible event.
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