

# *Living Water Fellowship*

*12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Pentecost*

*11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024*

*COME TO JESUS*

**SONGS:**

*All Creatures of Our God and King  
Love Divine All Loves Excelling*

**WELCOME & PRAYER:**

*GROW IN HIS GRACE*

**BIBLE READING:**

Jeremiah 20:7-18

<sup>7</sup> O Lord, you misled me, & I allowed myself to be misled.

You are stronger than I am, & you overpowered me.

Now I am mocked every day; everyone laughs at me.

<sup>8</sup> When I speak, the words burst out. "Violence & destruction!" I shout.

So these messages from the Lord have made me a household joke.

<sup>9</sup> But if I say I'll never mention the Lord or speak in his name,  
his word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones!

I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it!

<sup>10</sup> I have heard the many rumours about me. They call me "The Man Who Lives in Terror."  
They threaten, "If you say anything, we will report it."

Even my old friends are watching me, waiting for a fatal slip.

"He will trap himself," they say, & then we will get our revenge on him."

<sup>11</sup> But the Lord stands beside me like a great warrior.

Before him my persecutors will stumble. They cannot defeat me.

They will fail & be thoroughly humiliated. Their dishonour will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup> O Lord of Heaven's Armies, you test those who are righteous;  
you examine the deepest thoughts & secrets.

Let me see your vengeance against them, for I have committed my cause to you.

<sup>13</sup> Sing to the Lord! Praise the Lord!

For though I was poor and needy, he rescued me from my oppressors.

<sup>14</sup> Yet I curse the day I was born! May no one celebrate the day of my birth.

<sup>15</sup> I curse the messenger who told my father, "Good news—you have a son!"

<sup>16</sup> Let him be destroyed like the cities of old that the Lord overthrew without mercy.

Terrify him all day long with battle shouts, <sup>17</sup> because he did not kill me at birth.

Oh, that I had died in my mother's womb, that her body had been my grave!

<sup>18</sup> Why was I ever born? My entire life has been filled with trouble, sorrow, & shame.

**CHILDREN'S TIME:**

**SONG:** *Rest My Soul*

**FAITH CHAT:**

1. What currently in your life is leading you to feel discouraged?
2. When have you ever felt like you were "between a rock & a hard place"?

**THE MESSAGE:** *FULLY ENGAGED: IN THE STRUGGLE*

**OFFERING SONG:** *The Wonderful Cross*

**PRAYERS:**

**THE COMMUNION:**

*Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Worship Video during Communion: All I Need*

*GO IN HIS POWER*

**THE BLESSING:**

**(Name), † child of God,  
God is with you like a mighty warrior.  
-- Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SONG:** *Blessed be Your Name*

*SHOW HIS LOVE*

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**Group Bible Study/Discussion:**

1. Read Jeremiah 20:7-18. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging?
2. Why did Jeremiah accuse God of deception? Do you think Jeremiah expected the people of Jerusalem to actually repent of their persistent idolatry & return to faithfulness to Yahweh?
3. What happened to Jeremiah as he carried out his call to speak for God to the people around him? Do you think he expected the abuse he suffered?
4. What would motivate even Jeremiah's friends to try to silence him? How would you react to similar mockery & threats or to being ignored despite your best efforts? What did Jeremiah do? How does that encourage you?
5. What happened when Jeremiah said he would not make mention of the Lord or speak any more in His name? What must that have been like, knowing he was specifically called by God & commissioned by God to speak God's word of judgment & promise?
6. What value is there in the fact that the Bible records Jeremiah's profound discouragement & heartbreak? What does this conversation Jeremiah has with God say about your ability to share your deep disappointment & hurt with the Father?
7. What would cause someone to wonder, like Jeremiah, why they were born? How does Jeremiah's deep hurt find some comfort & resolution?
8. Take some time to re-read Jeremiah 1:4-10. How would that very specific intentional call & commission from God be a source of strength & encouragement to Jeremiah? How could reflecting on your baptismal call & commissioning & the on-going call of God to you through his church strengthen, equip & encourage you to speak God's word & offer his assurance of love & salvation in spite of opposition & discouragement?
9. In Jeremiah 1:8 & 1:19, as well as in 20:11, God promises to protect Jeremiah & assures him of his success over against his enemies' failure. What would such an assurance do for your boldness, confidence & persistence in sharing the good news of Jesus with others?
10. What does this text call you to do?

**Remember:**

In every discouragement and struggle, God's grace and call will sustain you, and lead you to his victory.

Continue praying through the week:

***Father prepare me for whatever you require today  
and lead me in faith wherever you call me to go.  
In Jesus' Name...Amen.***