

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Jeremiah 33:1-16. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging?
2. While Jeremiah remained in prison, how did God continue to encourage him? How do you see this dialogue between God & Jeremiah taking place in your mind's eye? Has anything like that ever happened to you? What would you do if it did?
3. Scholars refer to Jeremiah 31-33 as a "book of consolation" within the wider theme of God punishing his people for their rebellion. How do you see that being played out in these verses?
4. Jerusalem is under a prolonged siege & the prospects of survival are slim. Read Jer 33:4-5. What would be happening to the people's sense of hope & blessedness as God's people? Do you think God would do something similar in cities around the world today for the same reason? Discuss the possible answers.
5. In the context of Q #4, read Jer 33:6-8. What does God promise?
6. For what purpose does God say he plans to restore his people to himself & their land? How does that reflect what you know of your role as a disciple of Jesus?
7. Describe the visual & audible elements the restored people & city of God will display when God fulfills his promise? (see verses 10-11)
8. The last verses (14-16) point to the promise of the Messiah. How would those have sounded in Jeremiah's day? Do you, like the Jewish people, ever wonder why it seems that God "takes so long" to fulfill his promises & make all things right & new? When you do, what do you do?
9. Israel needed constant reassurance in the midst of their failures. What do you do to keep God's promises constantly before you? Which promise would be most helpful at this moment in your life?
10. What does this text call you to do?

Remember:

Prayer is God's invitation to see the world his way:
full of promise & abundant in hope.

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.***

Living Water Fellowship

16th Sunday in Pentecost

8TH SEPTEMBER 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 33:1-16

¹ While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the Lord gave him this second message: ² "This is what the Lord says—the Lord who made the earth, who formed & established it, whose name is the Lord: ³ Call to me & I will answer you. I will tell you great & incomprehensible things you do not know about things to come. ⁴ For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: You have torn down the houses of this city & even the king's palace to get materials to strengthen the walls against the siege ramps & swords of the enemy. ⁵ You expect to fight the Babylonians, but the men of this city are already as good as dead, for I have determined to destroy them in my terrible anger. I have abandoned them because of all their wickedness.

⁶ Nevertheless, the time will come when I will heal Jerusalem's wounds & give it prosperity & true peace. ⁷ I will restore the fortunes of Judah & Israel & rebuild their towns. ⁸ I will cleanse them of their sins against me & forgive all their sins of rebellion. ⁹ Then this city will bring me joy, glory, & honour before all the nations of the earth! The people of the world will see all the good I do for my people, & they will tremble with awe at the peace & prosperity I provide.

¹⁰ "This is what the Lord says: You have said, 'This is a desolate land where people & animals have all disappeared.' Yet in the empty streets of Jerusalem & Judah's other towns, there will be heard once more ¹¹ the sounds of joy & laughter. The joyful voices of bridegrooms & brides will be heard again, along with the joyous songs of people bringing thanksgiving offerings to the Lord. They will sing,

'Give thanks to the Lord of Heaven's Armies, for the Lord is good.
His faithful love endures forever!'

For I will restore the prosperity of this land to what it was in the past, says the Lord.

¹² "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: This land—though it is now desolate & has no people & animals—will once more have pastures where shepherds can lead their flocks.

¹³ Once again shepherds will count their flocks in the towns of the hill country, the foothills of Judah, the Negev, the land of Benjamin, the vicinity of Jerusalem, & all the towns of Judah. I, the Lord, have spoken! ¹⁴ "The day will come, says the Lord, when I will do for Israel & Judah all the good things I have promised them.

¹⁵ "In those days & at that time I will raise up a righteous descendant from King David's line.

He will do what is just & right throughout the land.

¹⁶ In that day Judah will be saved, & Jerusalem will live in safety.

And this will be its name: 'The Lord Is Our Righteousness.'

CHILDREN'S TIME:

SONG: *Rest My Soul*

FAITH CHAT:

1. If you could ask God one question today, what would you ask?
2. I would describe my current prayer life as _____.

THE MESSAGE: *FULLY ENGAGED: WITH GOD'S PROMISE*
Special Guest – Mark Woodhouse (our mission partners AFES @ CSU)

OFFERING SONG: *The Wonderful Cross*

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

Since we have been raised with Christ Jesus, let us set our minds on heavenly things, not on the things that are on earth. Let's pray together...

Gracious God, sinful & broken we are. We too often neglect fellowship with our loved ones; we disregard our communion with you, & we excuse ourselves from worship & witness. In a world of plenty, we have much but share little. Free us from such bondage, that we may truly reveal the presence of Christ in our lives. Amen.

Christ gave to the church the bread of heaven, his flesh & blood, for our forgiveness, life & salvation. Paul records that gracious gift with these words:

I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread & gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces saying, "This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, he took the cup of wine saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God & his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you drink it." For every time you eat this bread & drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

Where is another God like you, who pardons the guilt of the remnant, overlooking the sins of his special people?

Once again you will have compassion on us.

You trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean! (Micah 7:18-19)

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,
In Christ, God's promises are true for you. -- Amen.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: *Blessed be Your Name*

SHOW HIS LOVE

All songs & music in worship used under the licensing agreement of CCL Licence 384660