



**purpose.**

A Small Group Series

## Part 4: What's My Only Hope?

Jeremiah 18:3-8

3So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. 4But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. 5Then the word of the Lord came to me. 6He said, "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. 7If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, 8and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned.

Romans 8:28-29

28And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose. 29For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Philippians 1:6

6being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

## Part 4: What's My Only Hope?

### Message notes:

If you become the person God's called you to be, you're going to have \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm not in \_\_\_\_\_. I'm not shaping me, but He is in charge and He's shaping me.

There's \_\_\_\_\_ in the re-forming, in the pain.

[Romans 8:28 is] not saying that God will turn bad things into good. What it's saying is God \_\_\_\_\_ within the darkness, the work, the suffering.

What [Romans 8:28] is giving us is the guarantee that evil can't \_\_\_\_\_.

It's more important to become more like Jesus than it is to see the \_\_\_\_\_ removed.

So often God wants to change me before He changes my \_\_\_\_\_.

Your only hope of redemption or restoration is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the potter.

### Additional notes:

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## Part 4: What's My Only Hope?

### Discussion Questions:

1. How does the promise that God's purposes cannot be eternally stopped, only hindered, give you hope in areas where you feel you've failed or missed His plan?
2. Pastor Jamie said "A person that has found God's purpose walks with a limp." What do you think this means?
3. Pastor Jamie outlines the promise of Romans 8:28. What's the difference between saying "all things are good" versus "God works in all things for good"?
4. The message emphasized that our job as clay is to remain "pliable, moldable, teachable, yieldable, surrendered." Which of these words resonates most with you right now?
5. Pastor Jamie suggests asking, "Will this decision help me become more like Jesus?" when making choices. How might this question change the way you approach current decisions you're facing?

### Ministry Time:

Many people will experience the fear that their sin has ruined God's purpose for them. Pray for those in your group who feel this way to surrender specific "marred" areas back to God. Ask God to reveal areas of their life where they have become "rigid" rather than pliable.

Romans 8:28 doesn't mean all things are good, but that God works within all things for good. Pray for group members who might be going through a dark or painful time. Ask for God to help them trust Him to work in all things for good as they pursue His purpose.