

Group Study Guide February 24-25, 2024 Return to Me: Lesson of the Potter Kurt Bjorklund

MESSAGE NOTES: Jeremiah 18-19

- 1. You were created in the image of God.
- 2. God's anger is justifiable love.

Jeremiah 19:4-5 "⁴ For they have forsaken me and made this a place of foreign gods; they have burned incense in it to gods that neither they nor their ancestors nor the kings of Judah ever knew, and they have filled this place with the blood of the innocent. ⁵ They have built the high places of Baal to burn their children in the fire as offerings to Baal–something I did not command or mention, nor did it enter my mind."

Psalm 7:11 "God is a righteous judge, a God who displays his wrath every day."

Romans 1:24, 26, 28 "²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁸ Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done."

Galatians 6:7-10 "⁷ Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸ Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. ⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

- 3. Just because God's wrath hasn't been seen doesn't mean it will not be seen.
- 4. The time between is a chance to Return to God.

Jeremiah 18:8 "and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned."

Joel 2:13 "Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity."

Galatians 6:8 "Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

STUDY GUIDE:

STEP ONE: Icebreaker (Optional)

• Where is your favorite place in the entire world and why?

STEP TWO: Prayer & Scripture Reading

- Ask someone in your group to pray to open your time together.
- Ask another person to read **Jeremiah 18 19.**

STEP THREE: Discuss Questions

- 1. What was challenging, encouraging, confusing, or stood out most to you from this past weekend's teaching?
- 2. How did God liken His power over the nations to the decisions of the potter?
- 3. What did God say He would do because Israel worshiped idols?
- 4. Jeremiah 18-19 describes Israel's idol worship. What does idol worship look like in your life?
- 5. What is significant to you about the image of God as a potter?
- 6. Is it hard for you to put yourself in Israel's shoes and see yourself as 'an idol worshipper' deserving of God's wrath and anger? Jesus took God's anger and wrath upon himself, on your behalf, at the cross. How does this change things?

STEP FOUR: Prayer

• Ask someone in your group to close in prayer.