

Dig Deeper @Home – "Mighty One" Complement to sermon on November 19, 2017 – All the More Eager

MEMORIZE – Zephaniah 3: 16-18

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

READ Zephaniah 2:15 – 3:8

Questions to ponder/discuss:

- 1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
- 2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
- 3. Verse 1 refers to the Israelites as "rebellious and defiled."
 - a. The idea of God's people being rebellious is not something new. Read Psalm 106:42-43.
 - i. What does it mean to be "rebellious in purpose?"
 - ii. What are ways people are rebellious in purpose in 2017?
 - iii. What are ways you personally have been rebellious in purpose?
 - b. What does it mean to be defiled? How does being defiled impact a person's relationship with God?
- 4. Read 3:5 again. Compare and contrast this with Lamentations 3: 22-23.

Bottom Line – Summarize Zephaniah 2:15-3:8 in your own words



EXPERIENTIAL

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of Zephaniah 2:15 - 3:8

Be Not Fickle

In Zephaniah 3:4, the Lord declares that the prophets of Jerusalem are fickle. Fickle means "likely to change, especially due to caprice, irresolution or instability." The opposite would be stable and intentional. To experience this, you can play two games which rely on being stable and intentional: Dutch Blitz or Spit (uses a normal 52 card deck). Play a couple rounds with one to three other people. After playing, read verse 4 again.

- 1. In what ways have you been fickle spiritually?
- 2. In what ways have you done violence to the law?
- 3. What things from Dutch Blitz or Spit can you apply to your life to help you be more stable and intentional in your walk with Jesus?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

<u>His Mercy is More</u> - Matt Papa and Matt Boswell

This song reminds of how far we fall short of the glory of God because of our sin, but God is rich in mercy and grace and His mercy is much more than our sins.

Lord, I am Fondly, Earnestly – Mennonite Hymnal #585 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less – Mennonite Hymnal #558 Let us be eager to seek Christ this week.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. It is a time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Heavenly Father, we confess that we can be fickle, that even when we are eager for righteousness, we can walk astray. Help us this week to wait on you and to trust in you more than we trust in ourselves. May you be glorified and we be transformed as we do. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.