

Dig Deeper @Home – "Biblically Incorrect" Complement to lesson on 08/29/21 – "Just Follow Your Heart?"

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

- 1. Would you want the ability to see the desires of the heart of every person you meet? Why or why not? Would you want others to see the desires of your heart? Why or why not?
- 2. Share about a time you followed your heart and how it turned out.

MEMORIZE - 2 Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

READ – Jeremiah 17: 5-18

Questions to ponder/discuss:

- What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read these passages? What sticks out to you?
 a. What general observations can you make about the Christian life? Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
- 2. How do these passages point us to Jesus?
- 3. Compare and contrast the vegetation described in verse 6 and verse 8.
- 4. You cannot read these verses and conclude that our hearts are in good shape. In fact, our hearts are "desperately sick." What's the remedy according to the rest of the verses. (hint: the remedy is a person ... check out v14)
- 5. Jeremiah ends with a prayer calling for justice in verse 18. Through Jesus, God answers this prayer but not in a way that Jeremiah would have expected.
 - a. According to Jeremiah, who should be put to shame, dismayed and given to disaster?
 - b. In Jesus, how is this prayer answered?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY -

Activity #1 – An Idol Factory

John Calvin has famously written, "The human heart is a perpetual idol factory." What do you think? Is this true?

First, break down the sentence.

What does perpetual mean? What is an idol? What are examples of idols in 2021? What is a factory? What is a factory's main job? d, if this is true, what are we to do about it? What is our

Second, if this is true, what are we to do about it? What is our response to be? Read the passage from Jeremiah again as you form your answer

Activity #2 – A tale of two seeds

Get two planting pots. Put dry bad soil in one and rich soil in the other. Now plant a seed of your choice in each. Put the one with rich soil in the sun, water it and care for it. Take the other, with dry soil, and stick it in a dark area. Never water it. Never care for it. After several days compare the results. Now bring this back to the verses from Jeremiah. How do they relate and what does this tell us about our hearts and how we are to care for them?

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!) His Mercy is More - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5EUvOnQr4Y</u> Give us Clean Hands - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rv55qS7v2-c</u> Come Thou Fount – Mennonite Hymnal #310 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYrTqBioaZ4</u>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. 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 Philippians 4:7):

Father God,

As we go through this week, may we turn to you with thanks, with praise, with our concerns and with our cares. As we do, may your peace guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Holy Spirit, help us to fill our minds with what is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, admirable and praiseworthy.