

Week 36 (9/2/2019 - 9/8/2019)

<p>Monday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 19</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 3</p>	<p>* The church at Corinth suffered from division, immorality, and lawsuits between believers. Paul contrasts two ways to try to solve church problems: the wisdom of man or the wisdom of God.</p> <p>? Why does the wisdom of God appear foolish to the world? In your life, what has happened when you have lived by man's wisdom alone? What was the result when you lived by God's wisdom?</p> <p>? According to 1 Cor 2:11-13, only the Holy Spirit can reveal to us the full truth of Scripture. Before reading the Bible each day, pray, "God, please open my eyes to your Word."</p> <p>* Paul's teaching in 1 Cor 2 is sometimes used to support an unthinking approach to Scripture. Some people have said, "Paul teaches that we should not study, but simply let the Holy Spirit teach us." Paul valued study (2 Tim 2:15). But, he knew the difference between true wisdom and worldly wisdom. The worldly wisdom of the Corinthians sought glory, prestige, and position. The godly wisdom of Paul was based on God's love shown through the cross.</p> <p>? Evaluate how you are spending your life. Look at your biggest accomplishments and ask, "What will be the impact of this in 100 years? Am I building with gold or with straw?" (3:10-15)</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 7</p>	<p>? As you read 1 Corinthians 3, I asked you to evaluate your life's accomplishments. Now do something even more difficult; ask, "How will <i>God</i> judge my life's accomplishments? Am I living by His will?" (4:4-5)</p> <p>? "And such were some of you. But you were washed..." (6:11). Think of your life before Christ. When you came to Christ, He washed you from those sins. Does your life show this transformation?</p> <p>* The principle of 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 should guide our daily lives. We do not belong to ourselves; we have been "bought" by God. Because of this, we must live in a way that brings glory and honor to God.</p> <p>* Paul's instruction in 1 Corinthians 7:25-26 has often caused confusion. Notice two limits that Paul puts on his advice to those who are unmarried.</p> <p>1) Paul specifies that this is his personal judgment, <i>not</i> a "command from the Lord."</p> <p>2) Paul's advice is limited to the "present distress." Apparently, there were problems in Corinth that caused Paul to discourage people from the extra responsibilities associated with marriage. Some scholars believe it was a time of famine; others believe that the "distress" was persecution by the Romans.</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 9</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 11</p>	<p>* 1 Corinthians 8:11-13 gives a vital principle for Christians. Because of <i>agape</i> love, a Christian will give up some freedoms to help a weaker brother. Read 1 Corinthians 9 to see how Paul applied this principle in his own life.</p> <p>? Meditate on the imagery of an athlete in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. Are you running the Christian race with faithfulness? Do you strive to follow God with the intensity of an athlete running a race?</p> <p>? Evaluate your daily life by 1 Cor 10:31: "Am I bringing glory to God with my talk, my attitudes, my business ethics, and my example in front of others?" Could you say to a young believer, "Follow me as I follow Christ"? (11:1)</p>

<p>Thursday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 12</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 13</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 14</p>	<p>? Every Christian is given a spiritual gift for serving the body of Christ. Do you know your spiritual gift? Are you using your gift to serve your local church? If not, please talk with your pastor to learn how you can serve your church.</p> <p>? Read 1 Corinthians 13 aloud, substituting your name for “love” or “it” in verses 4-7. Do these verses describe you? If not, pray that God will fill you with His love. We cannot create divine love in our own power; we must have God’s love working through us.</p> <p>* Though some of the Corinthian Christians were misusing their gifts, Paul does not forbid the use of spiritual gifts. Instead, he reminds his readers that the greatest gifts are those that serve the church and honor God (1 Cor 14). Spiritual gifts are not evidence of superior spiritual status, nor are they given for the benefit of the recipient. Spiritual gifts are given to build up the body of Christ.</p>
<p>Friday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 15</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 16</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 1</p>	<p>? One reason for meditating on our future resurrection and life in heaven is to encourage us to faithfulness now (15:58). Does the promise of eternal life encourage you to serve God more faithfully today?</p> <p>* After sending 1 Corinthians, Paul visited Corinth to address the church’s problems. Many of the members repented, but a few continued to reject Paul’s message. In response, Paul wrote 2 Corinthians to defend the legitimacy of his ministry and to bring the rebellious members to repentance.</p> <p>? Paul says that God comforted him so he could comfort the Corinthians (1:4). Do you bless others with the blessings that God sends you?</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 7</p>	<p>? Meditate on 2 Corinthians 2:15-16. Do you carry the “aroma of Christ”? Do others see Jesus in you?</p> <p>? God’s purpose is to transform His people into His image (3:18). Review God’s work in your life during the past year. Do you look more like Him now than you did one year ago? Are you growing in His image?</p> <p>* As he defended his ministry, Paul rejoiced that God has chosen to work through a weak vessel. Because we are mere “jars of clay,” God receives glory for what He does through us. This is the biblical model for effective ministry.</p> <p>* As you think of the difficulties of life, meditate on 2 Cor 4:16-18. Our affliction is “momentary”; the glory is “eternal.”</p> <p>? Paul contrasted “godly grief” that produces repentance with “worldly sorrow” that brings only regret and death (7:10). Repentance is more than sorrow for the results of our sin; repentance brings a change in how we live. Have you truly repented of your sins?</p>
<p>Weekly Summary</p>	<p>Summarize one practical application of this week’s readings. Each day next week, review this lesson and ask God to help you to apply the lesson in your daily life.</p> <p>? Each day this week you prayed, “God, please open my eyes to your Word.” Did God answer your prayer? Did you find new insights in Scripture?</p>

Week 37 (9/9/2019 - 9/15/2019)

<p>Monday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 9</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 11</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 12</p>	<p>* Rejoice in the promise of 2 Cor 8:9. John Calvin wrote: “This is the wonderful exchange which he has made with us; that, becoming Son of man with us, he has made us sons of God with him; by taking on our mortality, he has conferred his immortality upon us; accepting our weakness, he has strengthened us by his power; receiving our poverty unto himself, he has transferred his wealth to us; taking the weight of our iniquity upon himself, he has clothed us with his righteousness.”</p> <p>? In the early church, many Jewish Christians opposed the Gentile Christians. By sending an offering to Jewish Christians who were suffering in Jerusalem, Gentile Christians could demonstrate the unity of the church. This offering showed that there is “no Jew or Gentile” in the body of Christ. Would you give money to help someone who opposed you as Jewish Christians had opposed the Gentiles?</p> <p>* Notice Paul’s “boast” in 2 Cor 11:16-33. While his opponents boasted in their achievements, Paul boasted in his weakness. Why? So that God would receive the glory for Paul’s ministry.</p> <p>? Paul prayed three times for deliverance from a “thorn in the flesh” (some physical or emotional issue that caused him pain). God did not remove the thorn. Instead, God gave Paul grace to endure the pain. Will you trust God if He denies your request for deliverance?</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 13</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Romans 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 3</p>	<p>* While in Corinth, Paul wrote the letter to the church in Rome as preparation for a visit to this city. The theme of Romans is the righteousness of God. Paul shows -how a righteous God judges sin (1-3) -how a righteous God justifies and transforms sinners (4-8) -how a righteous God has created the church out of both Jew and Gentiles (9-11) -how the righteousness of God guides the attitudes and behavior of believers (12-15)</p> <p>? Romans 1:18-32 shows that visible sins are the result of the deeper sin of refusing to honor God as God (1:21). Three times, Paul says that God’s judgment on those who “exchanged the truth about God for a lie” was to “give them up” to vile sins. Which causes you greater pain – inner rebellion against God’s authority or the visible sins in Rom 1:26-31?</p> <p>? Our world calls sin “mistakes,” “weaknesses,” or even “free choice.” God calls it “sin.” Paul’s conclusion is clear; every human being is guilty of sin (3:10-11). We cannot be justified and made righteous until we confess our sin. Have you confessed and forsaken your sins? No salvation is possible without confession.</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 7</p>	<p>* Thank God for His incredible gift of salvation (Rom 4-5). Although we deserved judgment as the just “wage” for our sins, God gave us the free gift of eternal life. Although we were at war with God, He gave us “peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Every blessing we enjoy as God’s children is a gift of God.</p> <p>? As you read Romans 6, ask Paul’s questions of yourself. For example, “Can I continue in sin that grace may abound?” Then read Paul’s answer. Allow Paul to speak to you personally.</p> <p>* Early Christian commentators read Romans 7 as a description of an “awakened sinner,” a person who knows he is a sinner and has tried to conquer sin in his own power. No matter how hard we try, we cannot defeat sin in our own power. In our own strength, we will cry out, “Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?” (7:24)</p>

<p>Thursday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 9</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 11</p>	<p>* Thankfully, Paul does not stop at Romans 7. Romans 8:1-2 is the answer to the cry of despair in Romans 7:24. The “law of the Spirit of life” has done what we cannot do in our own power. Through the Holy Spirit, we can be “free from the law of sin and death.”</p> <p>? There are only two ways to attempt the Christian life: the power of the flesh or the power of the Spirit (8:5-8). The power of the flesh will fail; the power of the Spirit will prevail over sin. Are you relying on the Holy Spirit to give you daily victory over sin?</p> <p>? God’s goal is to transform each of us into the image of Christ (Rom 8:29). Think of three character qualities the gospels demonstrate in Jesus’s earthly life. Pray that God will conform you to the image of Jesus in those areas.</p> <p>? If you struggle with insecurity in your walk with God, memorize Romans 8:38-39. What can separate you from “the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord?” Absolutely nothing!</p> <p>* The Roman church included both Jewish and Gentile Christians. Paul assured this church that this had always been God’s purpose for the church (Rom 9-11). God has “grafted” the Gentiles into His family. We are now one body in Christ.</p>
<p>Friday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 12</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 13</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 14</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 15</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rom 16</p>	<p>? In Romans 1-11, Paul shows what God has done to justify sinners and make us righteous in His eyes. In Romans 12-15, Paul shows how we will live as righteous people. God does more than “count” us righteous; He transforms us to live in a new way. This transformation begins with a willing sacrifice of ourselves to God (12:1-2). Have you “presented” yourself as a “living sacrifice” to God? Are you being “transformed by the renewal of your mind?” This is God’s purpose for every believer.</p> <p>? The life of the Christian is more than a list of rules; it is a life of love (13:8-14). When we love one another, we willingly fulfill God’s commands. Do you obey God out of love or out of obligation?</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 20</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 21</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 22</p>	<p>? If you are a church leader, ask, “Do I serve the church as Paul served? Is Acts 20:17-35 a picture of my leadership?” If you are a church member, ask, “Do I respect my church leaders who carry this heavy weight of responsibility? Do I support them with my love and prayers?”</p> <p>? Because he was following God’s call, Paul went to Jerusalem even though he knew he would be arrested. Would you obey God in the face of arrest and death?</p>
<p>Weekly Summary</p>	<p>Summarize one practical application of this week’s readings. Each day next week, review this lesson and ask God to help you to apply the lesson in your daily life.</p>

Week 38 (9/16/2019 - 9/22/2019)

<p>Monday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 23</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 24</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 25</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 26</p>	<p>* As Paul defends himself before the Sanhedrin, Felix and Agrippa, he always returns to the message of the gospel. Proclaiming Christ is more important to Paul than defending his own personal cause. As you read these chapters, notice how much space is given to the gospel.</p> <p>? Do you share Paul's passion for the gospel? Read his final statement to Agrippa, "I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me might become such as I am...." Paul's overriding passion in life was to win others to Christ.</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 27</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Acts 28</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 1</p>	<p>* In Romans, Paul stated his desire to visit Rome. At the end of Acts, God brought Paul to Rome - as a prisoner. God sometimes works in ways that we do not understand. Even through Paul's arrest, God was accomplishing His purpose. At the end of Acts, under house arrest, Paul was "proclaiming the kingdom of God... without hindrance." God often achieves His purposes in ways that are beyond our understanding.</p> <p>* The next four books we will read are called the Prison Epistles. They were written during Paul's house arrest in Rome. As you read these letters, remember that they were written while Paul was chained to a Roman guard and facing a possible death sentence.</p> <p>? Paul wrote that he toils and struggles with "all his energy that he (God) powerfully works within me" (Col 1:29). There are two errors that we can make in the Christian life:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Putting forth no effort to practice the spiritual disciplines necessary for spiritual growth. 2) Attempting to live the Christian life in our own power. <p>Paul shows the proper balance. He works to grow as a disciple, but his efforts are based on the spiritual energy God provides. Are you attempting to live the Christian life in your own strength, or do you live in the strength God provides?</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Col 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Col 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Col 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Philemon</p>	<p>? Colossians 3 gives a practical model for the Christian life. We are to "put to death" everything that is sinful (3:5) and "put on" the qualities of godliness (3:12-13). We are to "do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus" (3:17). This means to do everything under His authority and for His glory. What would this look like in your life?</p> <p>? Both Demas and Luke were with Paul when he wrote Colossians. In 2 Timothy, we learn that Demas later abandoned Paul while Luke remained faithful as a disciple. If Demas is at one end of the discipleship spectrum and Luke at the other (4:14), where are you as a disciple?</p> <p>* Onesimus was a runaway slave who was converted through Paul's ministry. Paul wrote this letter to appeal to the owner, Philemon. Although Roman law allowed Philemon to execute Onesimus for his escape, Paul appealed for mercy. Let me tell you the "rest of the story." According to early church tradition, Philemon released Onesimus, who then returned to Paul. Onesimus later became pastor of the church at Ephesus. The gospel of reconciliation restored Onesimus to "more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother" (1:16).</p>
<p>Thursday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Eph 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Eph 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Eph 4</p>	<p>* As you read Ephesians 1, highlight the phrases "in Christ," "in him," or related words. The blessings we receive as believers come because we are part of Christ's body. In the new birth, we become part of Christ and receive the blessings that belong to Him.</p> <p>? According to Ephesians 2:3, we committed sinful acts because of our sinful nature. We "lived in the passions of our flesh." Now that you are made alive in Christ, does your sinful nature continue to rule your life?</p> <p>? What will your life look like if you are "rooted and grounded in love"? (3:17)</p> <p>? Compare your speech from the previous week to Paul's description in Eph 4:25-32. Does your speech build up those around you?</p>

<p>Friday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eph 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Eph 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Phil 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? The key to Ephesians 5:21-6:9 is 5:21. As the body of Christ, we “submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” In your marriage, family and job, how will this submission look? Are you treating your family and work colleagues as Christ treats you? ? As you read Ephesians 6:10-18, ask, “Am I missing pieces of this armor? Am I fighting spiritual battles without the full armor of God?” Ask God to equip you for effective Christian living. * A main theme of Philippians is “joy.” Each chapter shows something about Paul’s joy. In Philippians 1, Paul testifies that he rejoices even in prison. In Philippians 2, he testifies that he finds joy in humility. As you read Philippians, highlight the words “joy” and “rejoice.” ? What does it mean to have the mind of Christ? What would the mind of Christ look like in your closest relationships this week? Who can you serve as Christ has served you?
<p>Saturday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Phil 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Phil 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Timothy 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Tim 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Tim 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Tim 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Philippians 3 shows Paul’s joy as he “strains to the goal” of God’s calling (3:14). Philippians 4 shows that one secret to Paul’s joy is a disciplined mind that thinks on the right things (4:8). ? How will it affect your daily life if you realize that your “citizenship is in heaven” (Phil 3:20)? How does your heavenly citizenship guide your daily decisions? * The secret to obeying Paul’s command to “not be anxious about anything” is letting “the peace of God ... guard your mind.” Read the list in Philippians 4:8. As you go through the day, allow this list to guide your thoughts and to change your perspective on life (4:6-8). * After writing Philippians, Paul was released from prison (probably around A.D. 62). He made another missionary journey before again being arrested. 1 Timothy was probably written during this fourth missionary journey. Paul wrote to young Timothy, whom he had appointed pastor at Ephesus. In this letter, Paul warned of the danger of false teachers and gave a list of qualifications for church leaders. ? Write your own testimony based on 1 Timothy 1:13-17. “Formerly, I was But I received mercy because....” Like Paul, end with praise “to the King of the ages.” ? Paul taught that the Christian life is a race, a fight, or a battle. It requires discipline. He commanded Timothy to “train yourself for godliness.” Are you training for godliness through Scripture reading and memorization, prayer, church attendance, and obedience to God’s commands?
<p>Weekly Summary</p>	<p>Summarize one practical application of this week’s readings. Each day next week, review this lesson and ask God to help you to apply the lesson in your daily life.</p>

Week 39 (9/23/2019 - 9/29/2019)

<p>Monday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Timothy 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Tim 6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Titus 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Titus 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Titus 3</p>	<p>* Paul ends his first letter to Timothy with a reminder that the Christian life is a “fight.” As you begin this week, ask God to strengthen you for godly living. Pledge to discipline yourself for godliness. Pledge to “fight the good fight of the faith” (6:12).</p> <p>* After preaching on the island of Crete, Paul appointed Titus as overseer for the churches. The people of this island were known for their bad character (1:12-13). Paul showed that Christians must live in a way that contrasts sharply with the sinful lifestyle of their neighbors. By doing this, they will make the gospel attractive. Read the qualities of the Christian life in Titus 2. Choose an area where you want to grow and ask God to guide you to maturity.</p> <p>? Notice the contrast of Titus 2:5 and 2:10. Does your life “revile the word of God” or does your life “adorn the doctrine of God”?</p> <p>* Rejoice in the contrast of Titus 3:3 and 3:4-7. In the past, we were foolish.... “But when the goodness of God appeared, he saved us!” Thank God for the transformation He has made in your life.</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Timothy 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Tim 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Tim 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Tim 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jeremiah 1</p>	<p>* 2 Timothy is Paul’s “Farewell Letter.” He probably wrote it shortly before his death in A.D. 68. Unlike his earlier house arrest, this time he was held in a prison cell facing a death sentence. Knowing that these are Paul’s “last words,” notice the themes that are important to this apostle as he faces death:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoiding false doctrine • Faithfulness as a soldier of Christ Jesus • The dangers of godless teachers • The authority of scripture <p>? Read Paul’s final testimony in 2 Timothy 4:6-8. Will this be your testimony? Will you begin now to prepare for the day when you finish the race?</p> <p>? God had a plan for Jeremiah “before I formed you in the womb.” In the same way, God had a plan for you before you were born. How will this truth affect your view of difficult circumstances in your life?</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jere 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 5</p>	<p>* Jeremiah is called the “Weeping Prophet” because of the difficulties of his life and ministry. He preached in Jerusalem until shortly after 586 B.C. During these years, the armies of Babylon repeatedly attacked Jerusalem. The book of Jeremiah warns of God’s judgment and tells the story of the fall of Jerusalem.</p> <p>? Judah sinned in two ways: by forsaking God and by trusting other gods (2:13). When we do not trust God, we trust something in God’s place. Before you were a believer, what did you trust in God’s place? What was the result?</p> <p>? What does it mean to be “wise in doing evil”? (4:22) What is the result of that false “wisdom”?</p>

<p>Thursday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 6</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 7</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 8</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 9</p>	<p>* Jeremiah 6-7 records God's repeated warnings to Judah, but she refused to heed the warnings. Jeremiah warned the people of Judah that they must not trust in the Temple for protection if they refused to live godly lives (7:1-4). Judah allowed Temple rituals to replace obedience.</p> <p>? Jeremiah 7:16-20 is difficult to understand. Why does God forbid Jeremiah from interceding for Judah?</p> <p>? Where do you boast (9:23-24)? Your wisdom, strength and riches, or your relationship with God?</p>
<p>Friday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 11</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 12</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 13</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 14</p>	<p>* If God has shown you an area of sin in your life, pray the prayer of Jeremiah 10:24. Then read the promise of Psalm 118:17-18. God is faithful to bring His children to repentance, but He is also faithful to forgive and restore us.</p> <p>? Have you ever felt like Jeremiah in 12:1-4? What was God's response to your complaint?</p> <p>* Linen was a symbol of purity in the Old Testament. The priests wore linen to represent their purity in God's eyes. Jeremiah shows that Judah's purity has been destroyed by her sin (13:1-11).</p> <p>? True change does not come from good intentions alone. True change comes only from God's grace in our life (13:23). Have you tried to change in your own power? What has been the result? Will you trust God to change you?</p> <p>? A sign of true repentance is confession (14:20). Have you confessed the sins of your past, or have you tried to hide your sin?</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 15</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 16</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 17</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 18</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 19</p>	<p>? Jeremiah did not want to bring God's message of judgment, but God turned Jeremiah's complaint into joy (15:16). Have you ever obeyed a difficult command from God and discovered joy in obedience?</p> <p>? Notice the contrasts in Jeremiah 17:5-8. Are you like the man in 17:5-6 who trusts in his own strength? Or do you trust in the Lord?</p> <p>* Because man's heart is deceitful, we often justify our sin. The answer to our heart's self-deception is openness to God's Word and its convicting power (Heb 4:12-13). Ask God to use His Word to reveal anything displeasing in your life.</p> <p>* Jeremiah 18 gives a beautiful promise. Even if God has prophesied judgment, He will be merciful to those who repent. The Potter will remold clay that is pliable in His hands.</p>
<p>Weekly Summary</p>	<p>Summarize one practical application of this week's readings. Each day next week, review this lesson and ask God to help you to apply the lesson in your daily life.</p>

Week 40 (9/30/2019 - 10/6/2019)

<p>Monday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jeremiah 20</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 21</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 22</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 23</p>	<p>? Even a great prophet like Jeremiah grew discouraged when the people rejected his message. He even blamed God for his situation (20:7-8). Have you ever felt that God put you in an impossible situation? Jeremiah learned (and we must learn) that God is with us in those difficult times.</p> <p>* Read the praise in Jeremiah 20:13 and then the complaint of Jeremiah 20:14. Jeremiah knows that God deserves praise, but in his pain, he wishes for death. In such a time, our only hope is to turn to God.</p> <p>* Judah's leaders were unjust. King Jehoiakim built a palace while the people were suffering during Babylon's siege. He forced the people to work without pay. God said that the mark of a good king is justice and righteousness, not elaborate palaces (22:13-15).</p> <p>? Because of their sin, God's presence was a threat to Judah (23:23). Is God's presence a comfort to you or a threat? Why?</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 24</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 25</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 26</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 27</p>	<p>* Notice the irony of Jeremiah 24. We expect the "good figs" to be the people in Jerusalem and the "bad figs" to be those carried into captivity. Instead, God says that the "bad figs" will be the ones remaining in Jerusalem. Because of Israel's sin, God will no longer protect the city.</p> <p>* Even in judgment, God called His people to repentance. As you read Jeremiah 24:7, hear God's passionate love for His people.</p> <p>? As Judah prepared for exile, God reminded her that He had sent warnings for decades. When God has warned you against the wrong path, have you listened to His warnings?</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 28</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 29</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 30</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 31</p>	<p>? While Jeremiah prophesied doom, Hananiah prophesied peace and prosperity. Do you prefer a painful truth or a pleasing lie? Do you want your pastor to preach the truth, even when it is painful?</p> <p>* Many people read Jeremiah 29:11 without reading 29:10 and 29:12-14. The promise of 29:11 is this: <i>because</i> God has plans for Israel's good, He will send seventy years of judgment in Babylon. During those years, Israel will call on God, and He will hear her plea for mercy. God's plan is good, but it is painful.</p> <p>* Jeremiah 30-33 gives the promise of restoration. When Israel repents, God will bring her back to the land of promise. Highlight the promises in Jeremiah 31. Meditate on God's mercy in times of judgment.</p> <p>? The "new covenant" in Jeremiah 31:31 is written on the hearts of God's people instead of tablets of stone. God's wants us to obey from transformed hearts of love, rather than from obligation. Is God's law written on your heart? Do you obey Him out of love rather than obligation?</p>
<p>Thursday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 32</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 33</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 34</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 35</p>	<p>* Despite the imminent fall of Jerusalem, God commanded Jeremiah to buy a field. This purchase was a prophetic action that said, "The land will not always lie empty. God will bring His people back to Jerusalem."</p> <p>? Read the promise of Jeremiah 32:17. What are you facing today that seems too difficult? Give it to God.</p> <p>? Notice the praise of Jeremiah 33:9-11 in the midst of lament. The place of "waste" and desolation will someday be restored. In times of trouble, can you trust God's steadfast love?</p> <p>* Jeremiah 35 contrasts the faithful obedience of the Rechabites with the stubborn disobedience of God's chosen people, Israel.</p>

<p>Friday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 36</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 37</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 38</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 39</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 40</p>	<p>* You may wonder, “How could Judah be so determined in her sin?” Jeremiah has repeatedly warned of God’s judgment, but Judah’s leaders persist in rebellion. King Jehoiakim even burned the scroll containing Jeremiah’s prophecy.</p> <p>* Jeremiah 37-43 tells the story of Judah’s last days. After decades of warnings, God’s judgment fell on Jerusalem. Notice the terrible words of Jeremiah 39:16, “I will fulfill my words <i>for harm and not for good.</i>” Because of Judah’s rebellion, God turned His wrath against His own chosen people.</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 41</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 42</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 43</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 44</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 45</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jer 46</p>	<p>* After seeing God’s judgment on Jerusalem, the people asked Jeremiah to pray for a word from God. They wanted to flee Jerusalem and go to Egypt. Jeremiah brought God’s message, “Do not go to Egypt.” However, they once again refused to obey God. They fled to Egypt, taking Jeremiah as a hostage.</p> <p>? Highlight the warnings in Jeremiah 44. Because of the people’s idolatry, God “set my face against you for harm” (44:11). Have you been guilty, like Judah, of ignoring God’s warnings against your sin?</p> <p>? Baruch, Jeremiah’s secretary, suffered despite his faithful service. Do you ever feel that you suffer despite serving God faithfully? God reminded Baruch that He (God) had lost much more than Baruch. God had cared for Israel – and now the nation was destroyed. God hurts for the sins of His people far more than we hurt.</p>
<p>Weekly Summary</p>	<p>Summarize one practical application of this week’s readings. Each day next week, review this lesson and ask God to help you to apply the lesson in your daily life.</p>