

Focus passage: Jeremiah 18:1-11

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: 2 “Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.” 3 So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. 4 And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do. 5 Then the word of the Lord came to me: 6 “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the Lord. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. 7 If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, 8 and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. 9 And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, 10 and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. 11 Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: ‘Thus says the Lord, Behold, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your deeds.’

What stands out to you from this passage?

Why do you think God called for Jeremiah to actually go to a potter's house rather than just tell him about pottery?

What does this say about the way we should learn about God? Should we only meet in churches, read books, and study on our own?

Once at the potter's house what does Jeremiah see? What does God teach him through that?

Have you ever thought that God has been working in your life to remake and reshape, like clay thrown back on the wheel? How does that feel?

What relation does the clay have to the potter? Who has the control, the vision, the wisdom?

*Knowing that we are the clay in the hands of the potter should help make us humble, but also take pride being crafted with a purpose by God. **Read Isaiah 64:8 and 2 Corinthians 4:5-7.***

Is it hard to yield to the purposes God may intend for you when they are not always the same as the desires you have? How can we learn to better submit to the potter?

How can you apply this Scripture to your life?

