

JEREMIAH

***Broken
Yet Bold***

Sunset Adult Education Study Guide

January 7 - April 7

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

*Broken
Yet Bold*

Describe the times in which Jeremiah lived. What comparisons can you make to our present circumstances?

January 7

Lesson 1

*“Get Yourself
Ready!”*

Describe the call of Jeremiah. How does Jeremiah’s call compare to that of other prophets of God?

Read

Jeremiah 1:1 - 19

Read Jeremiah 1:5 and Ephesians 2:10. What comfort do these two passages bring to you?

How does our mission of God mirror that of Jeremiah?

Lesson

**Jeremiah’s call
and commission;
impending
judgment**

Compare what God told Jeremiah in 1:9 with His promise to future generations in 31:33-34. What is the promise God gives to His people today? How is His promise fulfilled in us? What strength or confidence do you receive?

God told Jeremiah a second time, “I am with you and will rescue you” (v 19). Why did Jeremiah need to hear that? Why do we?

JEREMIAH

*Broken
Yet Bold*

January 14

Lesson 2

*“My people have
committed two
sins”*

Read

Jeremiah 2:1 - 4:31

Lesson

**Judah's
faithlessness to
God's faithfulness**

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

How does God describe His early relationship with His people?

Describe the change in God's relationship with His people? What happened to change their relationship?

What do you remember about your “honeymoon” with the Lord? What were your early days as a child of God like? What kind of affection and devotion did you have? How did God provide and protect you?

What are the enemies of our “honeymoon” with the Lord? How do believers today exchange the glorious for the worthless?

In what ways can believers offer themselves to other “lovers”? How can this happen without the believer being aware of or acknowledging that it is happening?

How would you describe your relationship with God at this time? What changes would you like to make to your relationship with God?

JEREMIAH

*Broken
Yet Bold*

January 21

Lesson 3

*“Terror on every
side”*

Read

Jeremiah

5:1 - 8:17

Lesson

**God’s work in
judgment; cause
and effect**

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

How did the people think of the temple during the time of Josiah? Read Jeremiah 7:4. How were the people of Israel using the temple of the Lord?

How is it possible for God’s people today to trust in “deceptive words”? In what ways have some substituted attendance in “worship” with faithful obedience to God’s will?

What does it look like to become “enamored with a place and not a Person” today?

How have some confused “worship” to be limited to what happens for an hour on Sundays instead of understanding our worship to be lives lived in glorifying God? What helps you move beyond the forms of worship into a life of worship?

What do you learn about the way they treated the word of God?

Why does there seem to be a tendency to turn a study of God’s word into a search for “form” and miss the more important purpose toward obedience and transformation? How does God’s word lead us more into relationship with Christ and less into ritual and routine?

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

***Broken
Yet Bold***

Define lament. Why is Jeremiah's preaching considered a lament?

January 28

Lesson 4

***“Teach one
another a lament.”***

What were the sins Jeremiah was lamenting about?

Read

Jeremiah

8:18 - 12:17

How does lament help you know God better? How does it help you love God more? And how does it lead you to glorify Him more completely?

What are some of the incomprehensible ways of God with which you struggle?

Lesson

**Lessons learned in
lament — learning
to listen to God**

It can be frightening to ask the Lord to discipline us. Have you experienced that? What causes us to turn from the Lord's discipline? How do we turn to it instead?

Write a lament to the Lord.

JEREMIAH

*Broken
Yet Bold*

February 4

Lesson 5

*“I will ruin the
pride of Judah”*

Read

Jeremiah

13:1 - 16:13

Lesson

Living that leads to
complete destruction,
and the heart that leads
to life

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

What illustration is used at the beginning of chapter 13? What did it symbolize and how did it relate to Judah?

What lessons can be drawn from the illustration of the wineskins?

How do you think Jeremiah felt delivering this kind of message again and again? Why didn't God just warn Judah once? What do these repeated warnings tell you about God?

What is God's purpose for using drought, famine and the sword? What do we learn about God from His use of drought, famine and sword?

Why is Jeremiah told not to pray for the people? What implications are there for us today?

Does God's patience wear out? At what point? Does patience have to have a time limit? What becomes of limitless patience?

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

***Broken
Yet Bold***

What lessons can you begin to make between the potter and the clay with God and His people?

February 11

Lesson 6

*“Like clay in the
hand of the
potter...”*

Why did the people of Judah say of themselves, “It’s no use”? Why did they say it was hopeless to call them to repentance and to follow God’s way? How did this attitude enable them to rationalize doing whatever they wanted? How do some do that even today?

Read

Jeremiah

16:14 - 19:15

The Scottish preacher Alexander Whyte used to say that the victorious Christian life was “a series of new beginnings.” How does Jeremiah 18 illustrate that truth?

Lesson

**God’s plans for a
people who rejected
Him and then turn to
Him**

Why did the people of Judah say of themselves, “It’s no use”? Why did they say it hopeless to call them to repentance and to follow God’s way? How did this attitude enable them to rationalize doing whatever they wanted? How do some do that even today?

Agree or disagree: “God can mold a person as many times as necessary until the human heart responds in willful apostasy and refuses God’s efforts.” Explain.

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

***Broken
Yet Bold***

Summarize the judgements Jeremiah has for the kings.

February 18

Lesson 7

*“the way of life
and the way of
death”*

What do you learn about choosing God’s “way of life” and turning from a “way of death”?

What are some important leadership lessons you are finding in the book of Jeremiah? How do these apply not only to leadership of nations but also to your own areas of leadership?

Read

Jeremiah

20:1 - 25:38

What are some lessons you learn about providing godly spiritual guidance where God has placed you?

How would you summarize the problem with the prophets?

Lesson

**Portraits of failed
leadership; God’s
way or our way**

What lessons do you learn about handling truth well?

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

***Broken
Yet Bold***

Deuteronomy 18:20 commanded the people to put false prophets to death. Interestingly, they ignored God's command when it came to the genuine false prophets among them, but applied it to God's true prophet among them. Why do you think this was?

February 25

Lesson 8

In what ways is it possible to become identified with the blessings of God or the symbols for God instead of keeping our faith deeply rooted in Jesus Christ? What happens when we allow that to happen in our lives?

*“Seek the Lord
with all your
heart.”*

What do you learn from Jeremiah about handling difficult situations and people in opposition to God and His word?

Read

Jeremiah

What lessons stand out to you from Jeremiah's experience in the temple courts?

26:1 - 30:24

Lesson

**Listening to the
authoritative word
of God**

God's word gives instructions to His people about ways we are to submit even today. What examples can you think of? What lies do some listen to and thereby choose not to submit? What are some of the consequences?

Where do you find yourself? Despairing from no hope, living in false hope, or trusting with true hope? What do you need to hear from Jeremiah's message? What can you share with someone else?

JEREMIAH

*Broken
Yet Bold*

March 3

Lesson 9

*“Is anything to
hard for me?”*

Read

Jeremiah

31:1 - 33:26

Lesson

**Finding hope
when all seems
hopeless**

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

Why is the purchase of the field significant during the Babylonian siege? How does this relate to our faith in God during turbulent times?

When have you, or someone who cares about you, been able to reframe circumstances as a blessing from God rather than as a hopeless situation? How can this be helpful?

What do we learn about the character of God from the prayer of Jeremiah?

What do you learn from Jeremiah's prayer about handling situations when all the evidence argues for a hopeless conclusion?

How does the promise of God in Jeremiah 33:14 - 26 inspire hope?

What would you tell others is the basis for your hope, especially when all evidence argues against it? What difference has it made for you – your hope, your obedience, your decisions about life – to know that God remains the same and is faithful in keeping His promises? How specific can you be?

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

Broken Yet Bold

What is your understanding of “covenant”? How does a covenant differ from contracts or other agreements you might enter? What covenants have you made and what do they mean to you?

March 10

Lesson 10

How can the broken covenant in Jeremiah 34 be related to the concept of commitments and promises in today’s world?

*“Will you not learn
a lesson and obey
my words?”*

What does this passage teach us about God’s justice and mercy? How does this reading challenge your understanding of God’s divine justice, mercy and the consequences of disobedience?

Read

Jeremiah

34:1 - 35:19

How can the example of the Rechabites help us understand our own commitments to God’s commands?

Lesson

How does the Rechabites’ steadfastness inspire your Christian walk?

**Significance
of covenant**

How does the story of the Rechabites provide an example for living out faith in the face of cultural and societal pressures?

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

***Broken
Yet Bold***

How does Jeremiah 36 illustrate the power of God's Word?

March 17

Lesson 11

*No one "paid any
attention to the
words of the Lord."*

How can we ensure that we are open and receptive to God's Word today, unlike King Jehoiakim?

How does Jeremiah 36 speak to the consequences of denying or altering God's Word in our contemporary context?

Read

Jeremiah

36:1 - 38:28a

How does Jeremiah's obedience to God's command inspire you in your personal faith journey?

What can we learn from Jeremiah's faithfulness in delivering God's message despite his circumstances?

Lesson

**Trials of God's
word and God's
prophet**

What can we learn from Jeremiah's courage and faith in God during his imprisonment that can help us in times of persecution or hardship?

JEREMIAH

*Broken
Yet Bold*

March 24

Lesson 12

*“You made a
fatal mistake.”*

Read

Jeremiah

38:28b - 43:7

Lesson

**Failure to learn
the lessons of the
past**

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

Imagine living in Jerusalem during the two-year Babylonian siege. How do you think you would spend your time? What would you fear the most? What do you think you would do for yourself, your family, and for those closest to you?

How does the promise to Ebed-Melech demonstrate God's faithfulness to those who serve Him?

How can the tragic events of Jeremiah 39 serve as a cautionary tale for societies today?

How does Jeremiah 40 reflect the theme of trust in God's plans?

What lessons can we learn from the way Johnanan responded to the evil deeds of Ishmael?

What does this section of scripture teach us about God's sovereignty amidst political and social unrest?

JEREMIAH

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

***Broken
Yet Bold***

Why do you think the people of Judah chose Egypt for their refuge? What does this tell us about their trust in God's promises?

March 31

Lesson 13

***“Why bring such
a great disaster?”***

In what ways do people seek their own “Egypt”, places of false security?

Reflect on Jeremiah's action of marking the entrance of Pharaoh's palace. What does this act represent?

Read

Jeremiah

43:8 - 45:5

Discuss the importance of seeking and obeying God's will, even in the face of fear or uncertainty.

How does Jeremiah 43 challenge you to rethink your understanding of trust and obedience to God?

Lesson

**Misreading and
misinterpreting
God's actions**

What are some modern forms of idolatry we need to be cautious of?

If God were to speak to our society as He did through Jeremiah, what might He say and how should we respond?

JEREMIAH

*Broken
Yet Bold*

April 7

Lesson 14

*“...freed him
from prison.”*

Read

Jeremiah

46:1 - 52:34

Lesson

**A new covenant
with a new people**

Summarize what you learned from the reading.

Going back to Jeremiah 30, how does Jeremiah 30 speak to the overarching theme of God's faithfulness and love?

How has the concept of restoration manifest in your personal life?

If you had been one of Jeremiah's original audience, or one of those who returned from the exile for whom these words were specifically intended, what would have been significant for you? What hope and assurance would these words have for you?

“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them” (Romans 8:28). How do stories like Jeremiah 52 help you with this promise from Scripture? In what ways might God have been working to accomplish His good purposes in you today? In what ways might He be working to accomplish His good purposes in the future -- for you or for those who may come after you?