

Focal Passages: Jeremiah 1, 2:9 ,11-13 19, 22, 34-36
Life Question: Why should I worry about God judging me?
Biblical Truth: God expects His people to be faithful and obedient to Him and warns of His judgment if they turn to false gods.

When you think of a judge, what are some words that come to mind?
Why don't we often view judges as fair and just?

There's a big difference between the kind of judgment that we hand out to each other here on earth and God's judgment - which is absolutely fair.

Psalm 9:7-8 says But Jehovah sitteth as king forever: He hath prepared his throne for judgment; And he will judge the world in righteousness, He will minister judgment to the peoples in uprightness.

Jeremiah 2:9, 11-13. My people have committed two evils:
(1st evil) They have forsaken me (God) - the fountain of living waters.

Can we use the word unfaithful? How can we be unfaithful to God?

In what ways is marital unfaithfulness similar to spiritual unfaithfulness to God?

Do you think idols are obvious to most people or do they tend to creep in unnoticed? What are some ways you can guard against having idols?

(2nd evil) Hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water

What are some examples of "broken cisterns" today? What is wrong with worshipping a few other gods as long as the Lord is included with them?

Jeremiah 2:19, 22.

The big truth in this passage is that there are always consequences for our sin. When we turn our backs on God and His truth, we are in danger of suffering. God's forgiveness and mercy are boundless, yet we live in a world where our actions (or lack of action) will bear consequences.

How does society's treatment of sin affect how you think God views sin?

How does our culture attempt to downplay, ignore, or deny sin? Is it politically correct to speak of God's judgment today?

According to verse 19, what is the source of our discipline? (our own wickedness)

Jeremiah 2:34-36

We should seek a right relationship with God by allowing His authority in all areas of their lives.

This means that our relationship with God is always disjointed when we hold back an area in disobedience. We will not walk straight because we're not wholly submitted to God's judgment.

Does God have authority in all these aspects of your life?

Friendships and family

My life as a student

While I'm at work

My calendar

The ways that I relate with strangers

Sexual thoughts and actions

My attitude (24/7)

My life as a disciple

The goals that I am setting for my future

Another of the learning goals for this study involves the act of repentance.

The reason that God asked Jeremiah to proclaim the truth to the people of Jerusalem was that He was always seeking repentance from His people.

God still seeks repentance from us-He still offers us His mercy.

Repentance means change. It means changing your mind and your direction.

It's not the same thing as slowing down when you see the police with the radar gun aimed at your car. Doing the right thing because you are afraid of getting caught is not the same thing as repentance. Repentance is walking in one direction, then turning around and walking in the opposite direction. It means turning away from sin and turning to God.

What ideas, values, beliefs, and thoughts need to be confronted with God's truth?

God is a God of love but He is also our judge.