



Look Back

- Group check in...Next week, there is no SGL Guide for the group. Plan a fun night...whatever that looks like for you group (bowling, eat out, stay in and play games, movie night with popcorn, etc.)
- Last week, we discussed God's heart was wounded because of the relationship that was broken between him and his people...they didn't know him. What practices did you engage in this past week to get to know God better? Did you grow closer to God through this?
- Did anyone have any "Jesus" conversations with people this past week?

Look Up

Andy Stanley wrote a small book titled *The Principle of the Path*. In it he describes the principle like this:

Direction, not intention, determines destination.

Again....direction, not intention determines destination.

Simply put, what he's saying is that it's not where we *intend* to go that get's us somewhere, it's where we actually go! It's the *direction* we take. It's the steps in a certain direction that determine where we wind up. The people of Israel had been making decisions and taking steps in a certain direction for a while. This is what makes the reading of the story of God's people hard at times. They had been walking away from God and toward sin and evil. Sometimes, self-awareness is required to assess where you are at in your relationship with God. Maybe it's your community that helps with that. Either way, taking time to ask what direction you're heading is important. That's what we want to do through this reading.

Read Jeremiah 17:1-18

- What do you learn about God?
- What do you learn about people (and yourself)?
- What do you find difficult or challenging?

Look Foward

- Where, in the past, have you deceived yourself ('the heart is deceitful above all things') and believe things about yourself that aren't true? Is this sinful to do this?
- In what ways do you see our culture participate in the deceit of how we view our relationship with God?
- There's a lot of talk about *justice* in this book...and this reading today. What does *justice* mean today? Is God's *justice* different than man's justice?
- Do you need to repent of any recent small steps you've taken in a wrong direction? If so, what needs to happen for you to start leaning in toward God again?
- What things can you praise God for, in your life, that affirm the direction you heading?