



What is God Saying to Us?: About Our Loyalties

Small group discussion guide for the sermon on Sunday, September 14.

Scripture:

Jeremiah 2:1-13

Sermon:

Pastor Jim Bradford

Key Takeaways

1. There are various reasons people turn away from God, but He remains faithful and offers restoration.
2. The pathway back is to 1) realize that you are powerless to save yourself 2) Repent and trust God to restore you and 3) Set your heart on Jesus and don't look back
3. God desires to bless you and give you a beautiful inheritance as His child.

Discussion

1. There are several reasons people might turn away from God (pain, wandering affections, disappointments, etc.). Which of these resonates most with you or challenges you? Why?
2. What are some modern-day 'idols' or distractions that can lead people away from their relationship with God, and how can we guard against them?
3. How can you cultivate and maintain your 'first love' for God, especially when faced with the busyness and distractions of daily life?
4. How does the concept of God's faithfulness, even in the face of our unfaithfulness, impact your understanding of His character and your relationship with Him?
5. What does it mean to you personally that God wants to treat us as His children and give us 'the most beautiful inheritance'?
6. How can you help those who have strayed from their faith to 'return' to God, as Jeremiah calls for, without being judgmental or pushy?

Practical Applications

1. Spend time in prayer asking God to reveal any areas where your loyalties have shifted away from Him. Journal about what He shows you.
2. If you've been struggling with feeling distant from God, reach out to a trusted friend or mentor to pray with you and encourage you in your faith journey.
3. Make a list of ways you've experienced God as a "spring of living water" in your life. Share one of these with the group or with someone who needs encouragement this week.