

Rock Point Church Chris Hilken | 6.29.25

Jeremiah 18:1-6 (NIV)

¹ This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ² "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." ³ So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. ⁴ But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

⁵ Then the word of the Lord came to me. ⁶ He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel."

Psalm 103:7-8 (NIV)

- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:
- ⁸ The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.
 - 1. God's will for you is a rhythm, not a recital.
 - 2. God redeems when we rebel.

"I think that if God forgives us, we must forgive ourselves. Otherwise, it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than Him." – C.S. Lewis

- 1. God's will for you is a rhythm, not a recital.
- 2. God redeems when we rebel.
- 3. My scars aren't meant for shame or condemnation but to show His goodness and share His gospel.

"Jesus still bears scars in glory." - Unknown

"Because children have abounding vitality, because they are in spirit fierce and free, therefore they want things repeated and unchanged. They always say, "Do it again"; and the grown-up person does it again until he is nearly dead. For grown-up people are not strong enough to exult in monotony. But perhaps God is strong enough to exult in monotony. It is possible that God says every morning, "Do it again" to the sun; and every evening, "Do it again" to the moon. It may not be automatic necessity that makes all daisies alike; it may be that God makes every daisy separately, but has never got tired of making them. It may be that He has the eternal appetite of infancy; for we have sinned and grown old, and our Father is younger than we." - G.K. Chesterton

GROUPS QUESTIONS:

- 1. What are some ideas or expectations from our culture that have seeped into how we think about God's will or the Christian life? How do these distortions affect our faith or identity in Christ?
- 2. Have you ever believed that God's will is a perfect step-bystep plan and that one wrong move ruins everything? Where does this belief come from, and how does it affect your relationship with God?
- 3. What are some "repetitive" spiritual practices (prayer, Scripture, worship) that feel dry to you? Could they, instead, be ways to enter into God's rhythm if seen differently?
- **4.** What do you typically do when you "trip" in your walk with God—do you run from Him, try to fix yourself first, or turn back to Him? Why do you respond that way?
- **5.** Do you ever feel like your past disqualifies you from being used by God? How does the truth that "my scars aren't intended for shame" help you reframe your story?
- 6. How do the Scriptures about God's unchanging character encourage you, especially after messing up? How does this contrast with the way we sometimes imagine God reacting to us?
- 7. Instead of obsessing over specific life decisions (like a job or location), how does Micah 6:8 reframe what it means to walk

in God's will? How can you apply "do justice, love mercy, walk humbly" in your current season?

- **8.** What can we learn from children's joy in repetition about living in God's will daily? How might we recover that "eternal appetite of infancy"?
- **9.** If someone looked at your life this week, would they see a rhythm of grace, or a recital of religious performance? What changes might help you live more in God's rhythm?