

LIFE IN THE WORD

SERIES:

DRINKING FROM

BROKEN CISTERNS

SCRIPTURE

LESSON:

JEREMIAH 2:11-13

JEREMIAH 2:11-13, HAS ANY NATION EVER EXCHANGED GODS? (THEIR GODS AREN'T REALLY GODS.) YET, MY PEOPLE HAVE EXCHANGED THEIR GLORY FOR SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T HELP THEM. BE HORRIFIED OVER THIS, HEAVEN. BE TERRIBLY AFRAID," DECLARES THE LORD. "MY PEOPLE HAVE DONE TWO THINGS WRONG. THEY HAVE ABANDONED ME, THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE-GIVING WATER. THEY HAVE ALSO DUG THEIR OWN CISTERNS, BROKEN CISTERNS THAT CAN'T HOLD WATER.

**JEREMIAH 2:13 (NKJV), FOR MY PEOPLE HAVE
COMMITTED TWO EVILS: THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME,
THE FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS, AND HEWN
THEMSELVES CISTERNS—BROKEN CISTERNS THAT
CAN HOLD NO WATER.**

**LESSON FOUR:
LIVING A FOCUSED LIFE**

THREE PURPOSES FOR CISTERNS:

1. PROVISION

2. PRISON

3. GRAVES

**JEREMIAH 2:13, FOR MY PEOPLE HAVE COMMITTED
TWO EVILS; THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME THE
FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS, AND HEWED THEM
OUT CISTERNS, BROKEN CISTERNS, THAT CAN HOLD
NO WATER.**

**JEREMIAH 17:13, LORD, YOU ARE ISRAEL'S HOPE;
ALL WHO ABANDON YOU WILL BE PUT TO SHAME.
THEY WILL DISAPPEAR LIKE NAMES WRITTEN IN THE
DUST, BECAUSE THEY HAVE ABANDONED YOU, THE
LORD, THE SPRING OF FRESH WATER.**

**HEBREWS 12:2, LET US FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS,
THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH, WHO
FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE
CROSS, SCORNING ITS SHAME, AND SAT DOWN AT
THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.**

**FOCUS MEANS A POINT OF CONCENTRATION,
DIRECTED ATTENTION, A CLEAR PERCEPTION OR
UNDERSTANDING.**

SIX WAYS TO LEAD A FOCUSED LIFE:

1. ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES

EPHESIANS 5:16, MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR TIME [ON EARTH, RECOGNIZING AND TAKING ADVANTAGE OF EACH OPPORTUNITY AND USING IT WITH WISDOM AND DILIGENCE], BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE [FILLED WITH] EVIL. BUY UP YOUR OPPORTUNITIES, FOR THESE ARE EVIL TIMES.

**THERE ARE ONLY TWO THINGS ON THIS EARTH THAT
ARE ETERNAL – GOD’S WORD AND PEOPLE.**

**PROVERBS 11:28, A LIFE DEVOTED TO THINGS IS A
DEAD LIFE, A STUMP; A GOD-SHAPED LIFE IS A
FLOURISHING TREE.**

2. UNDERSTANDING YOUR TRUE PURPOSE IN LIFE

WE GET MORE OUT OF LIFE BY DOING LESS.

**PSALM 32:8, I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU
IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO; I WILL COUNSEL YOU
WITH MY LOVING EYE ON YOU.**

3. TRUSTING GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

**PROVERBS 19:21, MANY ARE THE PLANS IN THE
MIND OF A MAN, BUT IT IS THE PURPOSE OF
THE LORD THAT WILL STAND.**

F- FAITH AND FAMILY FIRST
O- OTHERS BEFORE YOURSELF
C- CUT OUT THE DISTRACTIONS
U- UNPLUG AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN
S- SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE.

**JEREMIAH 17:7-8, BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO TRUST
IN THE LORD AND HAVE MADE THE LORD THEIR
HOPE AND CONFIDENCE. THEY ARE LIKE TREES
PLANTED ALONG A RIVERBANK, WITH ROOTS THAT
REACH DEEP INTO THE WATER.**

**SUCH TREES ARE NOT BOTHERED BY THE HEAT OR
WORRIED BY LONG MONTHS OF DROUGHT. THEIR
LEAVES STAY GREEN, AND THEY NEVER STOP
PRODUCING FRUIT.**

4. EMBRACING YOUR FUTURE

**ISAIAH 45:9, THE CLAY DOESN'T ASK, WHY DID YOU
MAKE ME THIS WAY?**

5. BE TRANSFORMED FROM THE INSIDE OUT

**EZEKIEL 36:26, AND I WILL GIVE YOU A NEW HEART,
AND A NEW SPIRIT I WILL PUT WITHIN YOU. AND I
WILL REMOVE THE HEART OF STONE FROM YOUR
FLESH AND GIVE YOU A HEART OF FLESH.**

GALATIANS 2:20, I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST. IT IS NO LONGER I WHO LIVE, BUT CHRIST WHO LIVES IN ME. AND THE LIFE I NOW LIVE IN THE FLESH I LIVE BY FAITH IN THE SON OF GOD, WHO LOVED ME AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME.

6. KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE GOAL

**PSALM 16:8, I HAVE SET THE LORD ALWAYS BEFORE
ME; BECAUSE HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, I SHALL
NOT BE SHAKEN.**

**PROVERBS 4:25, LET YOUR EYES LOOK DIRECTLY
FORWARD, AND YOUR GAZE BE STRAIGHT BEFORE
YOU.**

“THE UNEXAMINED LIFE IS NOT WORTH LIVING.”

FOLLOW UP CHAT QUESTIONS:

- 1. EXPLAIN THE DOWNWARD SPIRAL WHEN YOU DRINK FROM BROKEN CISTERNS.**
- 2. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS WE NEGLECT GOD?**
- 3. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE ACRONYM F.O.C.U.S. DISCUSSED IN TODAY'S LESSON?**
- 4. LIST THE SIX WAYS TO LEAD A FOCUSED LIFE. EXPLAIN.**
- 5. "THE UNEXAMINED LIFE IS NOT WORTH LIVING" EXPLAIN.**
- 6. WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST TAKEAWAY FROM THIS SERIES?**