

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 06/08/2023

Text(s): Jeremiah 18: 1-12

Sermon Title: Images of God - Potter

Preacher: Pastor Isaac Tan

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:

2 “Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear^[a] my words.”

3 So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel.

4 And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do.

5 Then the word of the LORD came to me:

6 “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

7 If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it,

8 and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it.

9 And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it,

10 and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it.

11 Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: ‘Thus says the LORD, Behold, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your deeds.’

12 “But they say, ‘That is in vain! We will follow our own plans, and will every one act according to the stubbornness of his evil heart.’

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

1. **The image of the potter and the clay depicts how God moulds and shapes the lives of those who have surrendered their lives to Him and follow His direction. However, we see in the passage that Israel has disappointed God countless of times. (i) Describe some of the sins of Israel. (ii) Suggest some ways we are like Israel in the way we worship Him as Christians.**
2. **God wanted to do good to Israel but due to her sin, God's plan was to destroy her. We can see that God is merciful and repeatedly calls for Israel to repent. God is willing to shape His people into His own image. What may be some reasons for the people's reluctance to repent and turn back to God?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God's word to our daily lives)

1. **What have we allowed into our lives that we have compromised our faith? (Take time to think about this and let God speak to you).**
2. **What are some ways we can turn back to God and pursue a more Christ-centered and God honoring life? Challenge yourself to set your paths straight before the Lord.**

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See **MyPMC > PRAY** for the monthly guide)

- Pray for faithfulness in walking uprightly and to walk away from sinful temptations.
- Pray for our church to move in the Spirit and allow the Lord to lead through our pastors and leaders.
- Pray for those who are struggling with a sinful lifestyle and need help to break away and return to God.
- Pray to be eyes and ears to those around us, that we may be a people of love in action.
- Pray for Christians in Singapore to be united in their stand for godliness and support policies that protect families.