

Wednesday

Read: Matthew 9:18-19 *A leader's request*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why do you think the man came to Jesus for help?*
2. *What does it say about Jesus that he doesn't hesitate but goes at once to help the leader's daughter?*

Prayer Focus Holy God, help us this day to reach out with the faith of this man. We know your love is the answering touch that will heal.

Thursday

Read: Matthew 9:20-22 *A woman's belief*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why didn't the woman speak directly to Jesus?*
2. *This woman was outside of society because she was ill. Who are the outsiders in our community today?*

Prayer Focus This story shows us that we can trust that your response to our pain will be immediate and positive. We're so thankful that you're the God who heals and provides what we truly need, no matter what.

Friday

Read: Matthew 9:23-26 *A child is healed*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why was there a crowd making noise in the leader's house? Why did they laugh at Jesus?*
2. *How can we see more clearly where healing is needed around us?*

Prayer Focus Even when all seems lost and we're in despair, you offer your word and your touch as the balm we need. Show us how we can serve your purpose in healing our world, as well as how to act with your kindness and hope.

Healing

Pastor's message: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1;
and Matthew 9:18-26

Message Notes:



Small Group Format

Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Briefly, would you say you're an optimist or a pessimist? Why?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Jeremiah 8:18-9:1**; and **Matthew 9:18-26**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)

HEALING

November 19, 2023

Monday

Read: Jeremiah 8:18-21 *The present grief*
Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Have you ever looked at a tragic situation and asked "Where is God? Why doesn't God do something about this?" Did it affect how you see God?*
2. *Why do you think God and Jeremiah are so angry over images and foreign idols? What are images or idols we have today?*

Prayer Focus Help us face the truth of our world, our lives today, and be clear-eyed as to where we've turned from you. We acknowledge that we have created pain, embraced emptiness, and failed to see others who are suffering, our God. Help us to honestly grieve over what grieves you.

Tuesday

Read: Jeremiah 8:22-9:1 *Searching for healing*
Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Jeremiah sees the suffering that the people have brought on themselves. What is his response?*
2. *Why do you think the people were waiting for healing?*

Prayer Focus Hear our cries. We know we need you, listening God, to find hope and healing, to know abundant life. Help us mourn, and help us rise up to walk with you.