



Sermon-based Guide
Questions for Reflection and Discussion
Week of March 7

But this I call to mind: God's steadfast Love

Scripture: Lamentations 3:19-36 and Psalm 30:4-5

Summary

Here in the midst of all this sadness and of contending with God's disappointment and discipline, here in the midst of all the darkness, it is as if Jeremiah lifts his head and he remembers who God is and what God's essential and eternal character is. In the midst of the judgment, Jeremiah "calls to mind" his hope – "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases!" God's covenant love, his never-ending mercy are "new every morning" (Psalm 30:4-5). Jeremiah declares for himself and for his what he *knows* to be true of God: "great is your faithfulness."

Here is what is called upon for us as we contend with this passage:

That we put our hope on the LORD, and only on the LORD. No one else has made to us the covenant promises that God has. No one will – or could – fulfill those promises. God's love is God's final word (Lamentations 3:31-33). God will rescue us. It may be in God's time, which means we wait on him, but he will see our distress, hear our cries, and he will rescue us with his love and mercy.

Questions

1. Jeremiah says, "but this I call to mind."

What must we do in our own lives and spiritual practices that allows our minds to turn to God and his steadfast love? How do we discipline ourselves so that, even in the midst of crisis and pain, we turn our gaze and our minds to God?

2. Assurance of God's character can only come to be when we are living in his presence. We cannot know it if our relationship to God is tangential to our everyday lives. It must be cultivated. Thank God for the Advocate, Comforter, Holy Spirit that Jesus has given us. **How do we become disciples in such a deep way that we *know* the steadfast love of God, his never-ending mercies?**