

The Making of a Life

Scripture: Jeremiah 18:1-6

8 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 "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. NIV

The Truth: God is shaping our lives, fashioning them on the wheel of life's circumstances, so he may put His imprint on us.

Look at six truths that are obvious in these verses.

- I. What your life will be is not always apparent _____.
 - A. The potter was making something ... a work ... a vessel.
The potter devises a plan in his mind, forms the object and then destines it for the purpose for which it is made.
 - B. There is not a prototype ... except for us to be made in the image of Jesus Christ.

- II. The " _____ " is where we are being formed into something good.
 - A. James 1:2-3
2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. NIV
 - B. God uses the stones of life to apply pressure to mold us into the vessel of His purpose.

III. The making of your life is a _____.

A. Verse 4 = "was making"

B. It takes time and skill.

Romans 8:28 ... God is causing all things (the stones of life) to work together for good.

IV. Sometimes God finds _____ in the clay of our lives.

A. The Hebrew states it this way to indicate it was not the potter's fault.

B. God is at work to take out of us the things that destroy our lives.

V. God can remake your life even though it has been _____.

A. God is a master at remaking our lives as pleases Him.

B. God is trying to transfer ... impress His design into you. And He will keep remaking you until He succeeds and His highest purpose for you is complete.

VI. God can even use the _____ of our lives.

Matt 27:3-10

6 The chief priests picked up the coins and said, "It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money." 7 So they decided to use the money to buy the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners. 8 That is why it has been called the Field of Blood to this day. 9 Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "They took the thirty silver coins, the price set on him by the people of Israel, 10 and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me." NIV

Now Jesus' price purchased it in order that he could put our lives back together again. The point is that Jesus has bought the right to reclaim our lives from brokenness. He is the Great Ostrakeus. He can also use us in our brokenness. Even if we are not completely whole, (and who is), He can use our brokenness for His glory. We can ease someone's pain, carry a coal of love to someone in need, bring a drink of the water of life to the one who thirst, or be used for God to write his love on us so the world can see what God has done in us.

God is at work to make something good of our lives ... of our church.