

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: November 20, 2019
Jeremiah 12

1. How does Jeremiah begin this text in the beginning of 12:1? _____

2. What problem does Jeremiah have with God's justice in this case, according to the second part of 12:1 through 12:4? _____

3. Who is Jeremiah worried about in this complaint?
 - a. All the lost people in the nations surrounding Israel and Judah.
 - b. The people of Judah who were plotting against him even though he is only doing the will of God.
4. Have you ever complained to God about God's justice?
 - a. Yes, life doesn't seem fair.
 - b. No, I'm really spiritual and I don't care if it's fair.
5. How did God respond to Jeremiah's prayers, according to 12:5-13?
 - a. God didn't respond to Jeremiah's stupid whiney complaints.
 - b. God responded directly. He hears our cries, even when we are struggling to understand his ways.
 - c. God noted that struggling with easy things is a sure sign that you won't last when things get hard.
 - d. He assured Jeremiah that he knew what was going on.
 - e. He pronounced judgment on the people.
 - f. God is just and just because we don't see his justice doesn't mean that he doesn't have things under control.
6. Wait, wasn't Jeremiah the one pleading the case of "his people" just a few chapters ago? Does it seem weird that Jeremiah, the weeping prophet who had a heart for his own people, would complain that they are not being punished for their deeds?
 - a. Yes, I would have thought that he would be praying for mercy on them.
 - b. No, Jeremiah has the heart of God which is a heart for his people, but a heart of justice desiring a relationship with the people unhindered by sin.
 - c. No, he was human and needed God to help him work through these issues.
7. What does God say, according to 12:14-16, he will do after the punishment is over?
 - a. He will uproot all of the "wicked neighbors" who sieze the inheritance of His people.
 - b. He will uproot the people of Judah from the places that they have been taken.
 - c. He will give Judah back their inheritance.
 - d. If they learn the ways of his people, he will establish them among his people.
8. What is God's ultimate desire in his justice?
 - a. He wants to reconcile them to himself.
 - b. Sometimes punishment leads us to repentance and that is what he really wants.
9. What, according to 12:17, could happen if we don't repent when God gives us the opportunity?