



## Study Guide

### Spiritual Devotion - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Jeremiah 6.16** *This is what the Lord says: 'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.'*

1. In what ways does this extended period of Lockdown feel like a 'crossroads' period for you?

**As we begin to ponder the questions, 'What are the ancient paths?' 'What is the good way?', God points the way in Jeremiah 2. 1 The word of the Lord came to me: 2 'Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem: 'This is what the Lord says: "I remember the devotion of your youth, how as a bride you loved me and followed me through the wilderness, through a land not sown. 3 Israel was holy to the Lord."**

2. Sometimes we need to look back in order to see the best way forward. Can you share of times in your past where your devotion or love for the Lord, or your willing obedience to his leading, or your desire to live 'set-apart' for him, was more vibrant and strong and real?
3. How does the story Katharine shared about the NHS worker also help here?

**Jeremiah 2.5** *This is what the Lord says: 'What fault did your ancestors find in me, that they strayed so far from me?*

4. What sorts of things may have caused them to stray from the Lord? What sorts of things have caused you to stray from the Lord during Lockdown?

**Jeremiah 2. 13** *'My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.'*

5. They were still conforming to some of the religious ritual but their heart had gone out of it. How might we tell if we are in danger of beginning to 'forsake God' in our lives?
6. The alternative human-made structure they made to get the water they needed was so inferior – liable to stagnation and leaking. What human-made alternatives have you put your time and hope in during lockdown to catch some water for your life?

**Please read Jeremiah 6.16; Isaiah 55.1; Matthew 11.28-29**

7. Where is the 'good way' for us, and how might we start moving on from the crossroads and walking in it?
8. How might you specifically encourage each other in walking in the good way in your small groups each week?