



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE—YOUTH

Lesson 2: God's Warning For Israel—Ezekiel 1-3

ENCOUNTER—Community Discussion

After reading the passage, take time to journal through the questions below. Don't feel like you have to answer all these questions. Wrestle with the text, and be prepared to share with your community.

How is this God's story?
How is this others' story?

How is this my story?
How is this the world's story?

PRAYER

*By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept
when we remembered Zion.
There on the poplars
we hung our harps,
for there our captors asked us for songs,
our tormentors demanded songs of joy;
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"*

*How can we sing the songs of the Lord
while in a foreign land?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
may my right hand forget its skill.
May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth
if I do not remember you,*

*if I do not consider Jerusalem
my highest joy.*

*Remember, Lord, what the Edomites did
on the day Jerusalem fell.
"Tear it down," they cried,
"tear it down to its foundations!"
Daughter Babylon, doomed to destruction,
happy is the one who repays you
according to what you have done to us.
Happy is the one who seizes your infants
and dashes them against the rocks.*
(Psalm 137)

WEEKLY PRACTICE

You're likely well aware of an area of your life or character that needs to change. It's also likely that you may not have felt a whole lot of progress in certain areas like this because you put off change. Overcoming our current patterns can be a challenge, especially in areas we develop routines in. You may need to take the following steps to move forward:

- Write down a specific short-term or long-term goal.
- Make your goal measurable, even if it's just to you.
- Find others who will journey toward the goal with you.
- Celebrate any success you have.

Pray over this opportunity to find the things God wants you to most work on. Should you struggle or fail, don't let yourself take on the attitude "I tried, so I'm done." Instead, create space to change by committing to a goal and starting on it right away. This type of practice will help you become less inclined to whine when God puts something large in front of you that he says you're capable of accomplishing.

BECOMING MY STORY

Daniel 9

Mark 11

Spend time this week reading and journaling through the above Scriptures. In the context of Ezekiel 1-3, consider the following questions:

How do I feel when God uses my life for something that others may not respond well to?

What are some of the hard things God is asking me to do to specifically reveal him to others?

Consider other passages you might know related to Ezekiel 1-3 and read them this week, journaling as you go.