

THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

AS YOU READ CHAPTER 17

Journal your answers to these questions as you read through the chapter this week. You may wish to read one day and journal the next, or spread the questions over the whole week.

1. Where did Manasseh set up his altars and Asherah poles? According to 1 Cor. 6:19-20, where is the temple of God now? What are the implications for you personally?
2. What does Manasseh's redemption tell you about God? What does Manasseh's redemption tell you about how God responds to people?
3. Look up 2 Chronicles 33:14-20, 23. What was Manasseh's response to the grace of God? What do you think led Manasseh to change his ways? Have you ever been misguided in your actions and had to turn around (repent), or change your ways?
4. God told Ezekiel, "You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious," (p. 236). Have you ever been fearful to speak the truth, but felt compelled to do so? Did you follow through? What were the results?
5. After the fall of Jerusalem, Jeremiah grieved for his beloved city (p. 243-245). What did Jeremiah believe was God's saving plan for humans in the midst of all of the devastation? What can you glean from seeing Jeremiah's lament and praise all mixed together in the midst of troubling circumstances?
6. List the specific promises that God says he will do for Israel (p. 246). According to the text, what is the result of God's Spirit "in you"? How does it affect your life to have the Spirit in you?

PRAYER

God,
When Israel and Judah were destroyed, the people thought all was lost, but instead You entered their emptiness to discipline them and bring them back to You. Enter the adversity of my life, oh Lord, that I may not be lost, but instead drawn straight into Your own heart. Your love for your children, and even me, a sinner, is simply amazing. Thank you, Jesus. Amen.