

Verse of the Month Devotional

December

*It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed,
because his compassions fail not.
They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.
Lamentations 3:22-23*

Thoughts on the verse:

JEREMIAH THE PROPHET WROTE THESE WORDS IN ONE OF THE VERY DARKEST, HARDEST TIMES IN HIS LIFE. CALLED BY GOD TO PREACH REPENTANCE TO THE WAYWARD NATION OF ISRAEL, JEREMIAH WAS SHUNNED AND SCORNFUL FOR HIS TRUTH-SPEAKING. MORE THAN ONCE, JEREMIAH WAS JAILED AND LEFT ALONE IN THE MOST INHUMAN OF CONDITIONS... ALL FOR SPEAKING THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD AND BEING OBEIENT TO THE CALL OF GOD ON HIS LIFE. WHEN WE THINK OF HIS DECLARATION OF HOPE PROCLAIMED UNDER SUCH DEPRESSING CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CAN SET THE BAR HIGHER IN OUR LIVES AT THE REALIZATION THAT GOD USES HARD THINGS FOR HIS ULTIMATE GLORY AND PURPOSE. WHAT WOULD OUR LIVES LOOK LIKE IF WE FACED DARKNESS PROCLAIMING THAT GOD IN HIS MERCY HAS GIVEN US ANOTHER DAY AND NEW BREATH AND FRESH PURPOSE...AND THAT IS CALLED THE FAITHFULNESS OF OUR GOD.

Prayer:

FATHER WE THANK YOU THAT YOU ARE A GOOD FATHER WHO KNEW OUR PURPOSE ON THIS EARTH BEFORE WE WERE EVEN FORMED IN THE WOMB. WE THANK YOU THAT WE HAVE EXAMPLES LIKE JEREMIAH, AND SO MANY OTHERS AROUND US, WHO FACE HARD THINGS PROCLAIMING YOUR FAITHFULNESS. WE THANK YOU THAT IT IS YOUR MERCY AND COMPASSION THAT BRING US INTO YOUR FULLNESS AND GIVE US NEW DAYS TO LIVE OUT YOUR KINGDOM PURPOSE IN OUR LIVES. HELP US TO SEE WITH EYES THAT BELIEVE THAT WAKING UP IN THE MORNING IS A SIGN OF YOUR NEW MERCIES, THAT IT MEANS WE GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO LIVE OUT THE PLANS AND PURPOSES YOU HAVE DESIGNED FOR OUR LIVES, NO MATTER WHAT THAT MAY LOOK LIKE. WE THANK YOU FOR IT ALL, IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

Action:

WRITE DOWN ONE OF THE THINGS THAT YOU KNOW YOU ARE CALLED TO DO ON THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN. SIT FOR A MINUTE AND DECIDE IF YOU ARE DOING THAT THING TO YOUR VERY BEST ABILITY. IF YOU ARE NOT, ASK GOD FOR WISDOM, AND WRITE DOWN THE NEXT ACTIONABLE STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO GET YOU MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. SPEAK HIS NEW MERCIES EVERY DAY OVER YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU STRUGGLE TO FOLLOW THROUGH, AND HOLD YOUR FEET TO THE FIRE TO DO IT.

Notes: