

“How can I pardon you? For even your children have turned from me. They have sworn by gods that are not gods at all! I fed my people until they were full. But they thanked me by committing adultery and lining up at the brothels. They are well-fed, lusty stallions, each neighing for his neighbor’s wife.” Jeremiah 5:7-8 NLT

[lectio] // JEREMIAH 5:1-18

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

[meditatio]

Wow! Again, Jeremiah has to deliver blistering news. News that apparently catches Israel off-guard. They even say to themselves “God would never...” to us. I am struck by the unfiltered words God tells Jeremiah to use, “lusty stallions.” I would love to do a message on “Lusty Studs!” Well fed and neighing for their neighbor! That’s catchy! True, but sad, these are the children of parents who once loved God, but now love another. The parents have all replaced God with a false, man-made idol. They now live in a false narrative, comfortable and ignorant that things are going to drastically change. They are going to lose ALL their freedom, and spend years being slaves in a foreign country - BABYLON.

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,
It hurts to think that I or anyone would leave your love after knowing you. Not just for all the things you’ve done or given, but because we knew you and loved you. I feel the question as I get older. I still remember James and I talking about following you all the days of our life and how many of our friends (even back then) had walked away. I don’t want to walk away, I want to walk with you. I certainly don’t want to be the lusty-stallion-guy whose well fed, but horny for the neighbor!

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root