

New Song Learning Communities, August 13-16, 2026

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth and 2. Stronger "iron sharpening iron" relationships

Ephesians 4:12-16 (ESV)

Bible Recap, August 6-12, Days 218-224, pages 1215-1268, circa 638- 609 B.C.

HISTORY COVERED – Israel is conquered and led into captivity.

Judah, 6 kings incl final 3 good kings. About 50 years left before being conquered.

BIBLE RECAP COVERED – Zephaniah, Jeremiah 1-22

Zeph 1 Coming Judgment on Judah, Day of Lord Is Near

Zeph 2 Judgment on Judah's Enemies

Zeph 3 Judgment on Jerusalem and the Nations, The

Conversion of the Nations, Israel's Joy and Restoration

Jer. 1 The Call of Jeremiah

Jer 2 - 3:5 Israel Forsakes the Lord

Jer 3:6-4:4 Faithless Israel Called to Repentance

Jer 4:5-4:31 Disaster from North, Anguish - Judah's Desolation

Jer 5 Jerusalem Refused to Repent, Lord Proclaims Judgment

Jer 6 Impending Disaster for Jerusalem

Jer 7 - 8:3 Evil in the Land, The Valley of Slaughter

Jer 8:4 - 9:26 Sin & Treachery, Jeremiah Grieves for His People

Jer 10 Idols and the Living God

Jer 11 The Broken Covenant

Jer 12 Jeremiah's Complaint, The Lord Answers Jeremiah

Jer 13 Ruined Loincloth, jars Filled w/ Wine, Exile Threatened

Jer 14 Famine, Sword, and Pestilence, Lying Prophets

Jer 15 The Lord Will Not Relent, Jeremiah's Complaint

Jer 16 Famine, Sword, and Death, The Lord Will Restore Israel

Jer 17 Sin of Judah, Jeremiah Prays Deliverance, Keep Sabbath

Jer 18 The Potter and the Clay

Jer 19 The Broken Flask

Jer 20 Jeremiah Persecuted by Pashhur

Jer 21 - 22:10 Jerusalem Will Fall to Nebuchadnezzar, Message to the House of David

Jer 22:11 - 33 Message to the Sons of Josiah

➔ What is God wrestling with you about? repeated topics that you pray Surrender Prayer about?

† Theology. All theology is foundation and application for living in daily relationship and partnership with God and others – Life is lived *in the daily*!

The word "theology" comes from two Greek words that combined mean "the study of God." Christian theology is simply the attempt to understand what God has revealed about Himself in the Bible. It is knowing ABOUT God and KNOWING God.

God's purpose is relationship & partnership according to His design that results in Abundant Life satisfaction.

God's pattern is 1. get to know Him, 2. learn to love Him, 3. desire to obey Him, 4. SLO lifestyle of love for God and love for people.

† "The Surrender Prayer:" Lord, I love You more than _____, I give _____ to You.
Do whatever You want in me and through me.

† How do we hear God and/or recognize that we are hearing God?

What have we learned about the prophets and others hearing God – examples?

What examples can you think of in the New Testament?

† Ordinary living is the context of vast majority of life

† Key themes in Zephaniah as a representative of Old Testament – which stuck out to you?

- ✓ God's character – Love, which drives everything.

1 John 4:7–8 (ESV) ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

- ✓ God requires exclusivity – analogy of a jealous husband

Religious syncretism - the blending of different religious beliefs and practices.

- ✓ God loves and invites all people

2 Peter 3:9 (ESV) ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

- ➔ Repent to make God exclusive
- ➔ Obey in relationship and partnership to live love in action as God instructs and Jesus modeled

- ✓ “**The Day of the Lord**” – God judges all people, **both WARNING and HOPE, JUSTICE and LOVE**

God won't forever tolerate human cruelty but God's ultimate justice will be to restore – justice and love

Followers receive God's Presence and rewards. Refusers receive God's absence and punishment

Matthew 25:31-46 – one of many times Jesus speaks of final judgement which is The Day of the Lord

1 Thessalonians 5:2 (ESV) For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

1 Corinthians 5:5 (ESV) you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

2 Peter 3:10 (ESV) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

- ✓ The offer of tender love by the Lord

Zephaniah 3:14-20 (ESV)

Chronological Guide: pages 88-89, 102-104

Takeaways:

