

Gentle and Lowly Study Guide

Lesson 8

My heart yearns for him, Jeremiah 31:20

1. What do you think people typically mean when they say, “God’s ways are not our ways?”
2. In the light of Isaiah 55:6-9, what is the specific meaning of the Bible when it says that God’s ways are not our ways? (pgs. 155-157)
3. We know intuitively that God is not like us. But what do we learn from Isaiah 55 and Psalm 103 about the deepest way in which God is not like us, and what does this tell us about the way we fallen humans are hardwired? (pgs. 157-158)
4. “He isn’t like you. Even the most intense of human love is but the faintest echo of heaven’s cascading abundance.” Do you believe this? How does this affect the way you live your Christian life today? (pg. 160)
5. Where are the two places God most loves to dwell, according to Isaiah 57:15? How does this connect with Matthew 11:29 and with your own life? (pgs. 161-162)

6. Since the first twenty-nine chapters of Jeremiah focus on the sinful rebellion of Israel, what would you expect God's response to be? What do we in fact discover in Chapters 30-33? (pgs. 163-165)

7. What does the Hebrew word for "heart" in Jeremiah 31-20 describe? How would you put into your own words what we are being told about who God is? (pg. 165)

8. Do you think of God as yearning for you? What does this do for you as you ponder this truth? (pgs. 165-167)

9. What is the point of Thomas Goodwin's statement on page 167? How would you put it into your own words?

10. Have you considered the possibility that one of the most grievous errors in your life is deflecting rather than letting in the vast love of God? Do you feel reluctant to let him love you? Why or why not? (pgs. 168-170)