



# AMAZE to amazing!

## Z- Zoom In On The Good Stuff In Your Life

(Lamentation 3: 19-26)

Sunday, March 24, 2019 AVBC 10:30 am

### Lamentations

- Written in 586 B.C. by the prophet, Jeremiah
- Jeremiah's lament over Babylon's utter destruction of the city of Jerusalem and the rebellion and sin of God's people that caused God's judgment to fall
- 5 chapters/5 funeral songs/poems/dirges
- Chapters 1, 2 and 4 are written as acrostics...22 vs begin with 22 letters/Heb. alphabet
- "The Book of Tears" / "The Book of Wailings"

-Ecclesiastes 3:1,4, Lam. 1:1-6a; 2:11-13; 4:9-13; 5:9-13

He has brought me into deep darkness, shutting out all light. He has buried me in a dark place, like a person long dead. He has walled me in, and I cannot escape. He has bound me in heavy chains. And though I cry and shout, he shuts out my prayers. He has blocked my path with a high stone wall. He has twisted the road before me with many detours. (Lam. 3:2,6-9)

A. BE \_\_\_\_\_ (3:19,20)

B. THINK B \_\_\_\_\_ (3:21-26)

1. It feels like this maze will go on \_\_\_\_\_; but God's love for me will outlast this situation. (v.22)

2. It feels like I am at the breaking-point; but God's \_\_\_\_\_ is always enough. (v.22) (Romans 8:32)

***\*If God permits the challenge He will also provide the \_\_\_\_\_.***

3. It feels like everything in my life is up in mid-air; but God's faithfulness is something I can \_\_\_\_\_ on. (v.23) (Ps. 61:1-4)

4. It feels like my resources are running \_\_\_\_\_; but I have all that I \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord. (v.24)

5. It feels like nothing is moving \_\_\_\_\_ enough; but God is at work while I'm in the "\_\_\_\_\_ room". (v.24-26)

C. CHOOSE TO SEE \_\_\_\_\_ (3:23a) (Joy-Tracker ☺)

1	15
2	16
3	17
4	18
5	19
6	20
7	21
8	22
9	23
10	24
11	25
12	26
13	27
14	28

(Come prepared to share on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> ☺)

### DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

- Q1: "Count your blessings...name then one by one". List and share 5 current blessings in your life.
- Q2: Take a moment to think about a "maze" that you used to be in or are currently in. If you dared to be totally honest, what specific words would you use to describe how you feel in the middle of the maze?
- Q3: Expectations are premeditated disappointments. How might your expectations be impacting your ability to navigate your maze? If your expectations needed to be adjusted a bit, what might that look like?
- Q4: Read John 1:14-16. In v. 16 the NIV says that "from the fullness of his grace we have received one blessing after another." The NASB states, "For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace." What do you think John had in mind when he talked about "grace upon grace"?
- Q5: Have you ever experienced God's "just in time" grace? In other words, have you ever noticed that when the way has gotten steeper God's grace has gotten deeper? If so, explain.
- Q6: Read II Cor. 4:1,7-9, 16-18. What are some of the current negative realities that Paul describes? In the midst of the "mess", what are some of the hidden jewels that reveal what the Lord is really up to?
- Q7: Pastor David mentioned five biblical truths that we need to stand upon in order to be able to see the good that God is up to in the midst of challenging circumstances. Of the five principles, which one applies most to you and your situation right now? Explain how.