How To Respond In Changing Times
(Jeremiah 29:4-14)

Sunday, January 5, 2020  AVBC  10:30 am

“The Lord almighty has sworn this oath: It will all happen as I have planned it. It will come about according to My purposes. I have a plan for the whole earth, for My mighty power reaches throughout the world. The Lord Almighty has spoken— who can change His plans? When His hand moves, who can stop Him?” (Isaiah 14: 24,26,27)

In 2020…____________________________

1. IN CHANGING TIMES…________ ___________. (vs. 4-7)
   
   A. Don’t live in the _____________
   
   B. Don’t live in the _____________

*Matthew 6:25-27, 34

___ spend most days looking in rear view mirror (1)
___ always dream about winning the lottery (5)
___ each day I soak up the sun or dance in the rain (10)

2. IN CHANGING TIMES…________ GOD’S PLAN. (vs. 8-10)

   “Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you your heart’s desires. Commit everything you do to the Lord, Trust Him, and He will help you.” (Psalm 37:4,5)

   ___ I won’t trust God until He answers my “why” questions (1)
   ___ I plan my own life and only consult God if necessary (5)
   ___ I prayerfully plan but chillax if God has other plans (10)

3. IN CHANGING TIMES…________ THE LORD. (vs. 12-13)

   Seek the Lord while He may be found. Call on Him now while He is near. (Isaiah 55:6)

   “The Lord is close to all who call on Him, yes, to all who call on Him sincerely. He fulfills the desires of those who fear Him; He hears the cries for help and rescues them.” (Psalm 145:18,19)

   -Philippians 3:10-14

   ___ in the midst of change I run/hide from God (1)
   ___ in the midst of change I dabble around religion, then walk away (5)
   ___ in the midst of change I keep on knocking, asking and seeking (10)

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

Q1: If you could change one thing in your life, what would it be?
Q2: It has been said that the only person who really likes change is a baby with a dirty diaper 😊 How do you normally respond…or react…to change? What is positive and healthy about your response? What may be not so affirmative or helpful?
Q3: What change are you looking forward to most when you think of eternity in heaven?
Q4: Read Joshua 1:1-9. What change was the nation of Israel facing? What change was coming in Joshua’s life? How do the Lord’s word to Joshua apply in your changing life situation?
Q5: Do you tend to live in the past, the future or the present? Explain.
Q6: Read II Corinthians 4:16-18. What changes occur as we age? What other kind of positive change is possible as our bodies decline? What does that positive change look like in your life?
Q7: Have you ever been through an experience when you questioned God’s plans and purpose for your life? If so, explain. How did you respond when God may not have answered all your “why” questions?
Q8: Read Psalm 61:1-4. In the midst of changing times, where does the psalmist find stability and safety? How can you apply these verses to your life?
Q9: What do you think of the following quotes?
   Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself. (Leo Tolstoy)
   Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything. (George Bernard Shaw)