



MIND
session page

Woe To Us

Jeremiah 23:1-6 | Session 10.29

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Encourage your group to listen to the Faithelement podcast ahead of the next session (Share the link via email or social media).

Context

Start by asking:

- What is the most ill-advised thing you've ever talked someone else into doing?
- What's the craziest thing you've been talked into doing (so far)?
- What does our ability to be led astray say about us?
- How do we know when someone is leading us in the wrong direction?
- Why do you think some people may deliberately lead others in doing the wrong thing?

Content

Read [Jeremiah 23:1-6](#), and watch the Bible Background Video. Ask:

- Of what, specifically, do you think Jeremiah is accusing the leaders of his day?
- What does it mean to have "driven people away," versus "not attending to them," and what are some modern parallels to this behavior?
- How did God ultimately "deal with them for their evil doings" and what danger might that indicate for our present leadership?
- Since Jeremiah used a plural here, to whom was he likely referring as "shepherds" who would restore the people?
- What does it mean to be part of a "remnant" in the sense Jeremiah uses here?
- If this passage was written to our current context, what might it look like and why?

Closure

Continue by asking:

- What does the fact that we seem to accept questionable leadership, so long as that leadership caters to our personal agendas, say about us?
- When confronting questionable leaders, how does someone balance the necessity of speaking truth to power with the need to not validate them by adopting their methods?
- At what point has the church tried to address what it sees as a "social ill," only to hurt more than it helped, and what should we do about that?
- How can we minister to people who have turned away from faith due to abuse they feel they suffered from once-trusted leaders?

Close with prayer.

Writer: Jon Parks