The Lord's Mouthpiece

The prophets.

The place where we jump back into the narrative—one of hope and loss and family and faith and belonging. A narrative of love, justice, and forgiveness, yet, how do the prophets fit into this narrative?

How do the prophets fit into this narrative?

For so many of us, the prophets were future tellers, looking into the days ahead and warning Israel, or their enemies, of what was coming. Because they wouldn't have figured it out otherwise, right?

We've seen the prophets cherrypicked through to warn ourselves or those we saw as wrong or too "other" to correct their actions—or else!

Yet, after wrestling with the narrative arc of this Story with a different lens, and learning about the people and their successes and failures, the prophets begin to hit a bit different as we jump back into the story. Or, if you're like me, you at least begin to ask a few more questions.

Are these future prophecies telling what is unexpectedly to come? Does Israel, or do we, need someone to look into the future to realize what happens when the covenant with God has been broken? Are such prophets looking into the future, or are they just reminding Israel of what they've already been told but have forgotten?

If the prophets serve as the mouthpiece of God, we see the pattern that emerges in the prophets.

God showing His love for His people through warning.

God crying with His people as their choice not to heed His warning have led them, and generations to come, to suffering.

God rejoicing at the sight of a remnant rediscovering His covenant and searching to find the plot and purpose of the story once again.

God rejoicing at the sight of a remnant rediscovering His covenant…

Oh, how I long to be a part of such a remnant.

It's not so much a warning of the future, but perhaps it is a warning of the past. Of the Story. Of forgetting where they come from and the covenant they come from.

EPISODE 47 (SESSION 2)

So as we enter into the books of the prophets, what is most important for us to remember before moving forward?

What are the things that Israel should hold onto most tightly?

What has God already said would happen if they forget?

And where have we seen people pick up the mantle of their patriarchs and matriarchs to enter into the Promised Land, a covenant, or a relationship with God?

The prophets continue the Story. One of warning, woe, and hope. A cycle of redemption. A marriage covenant. A bow pointing upwards into the clouds. A God sewing together fig leaves and covering His children's nakedness. A hovering, whisper of peace in the nothingness of everything and eternity.

The prophets continue the Story.

PRAYER

May we learn from the prophets behind us.
May we hear the prophets standing with us
calling us to be active partners in your Kingdom.
Acting justly. Loving mercy. Walking humbly.
When things are good, when all seems lost,
from warning to woe,
we hold onto the promise
that Your story does not end with destruction,
but in hope.

Amen

EPISODE 47 (SESSION 2)

THE FOUR PILLARS



BEMA Discipleship is built on four pillars; a **Four-Pillared Perspective** to help us remember **to elevate the words of God** (not ours) and help us identify the principles that we see recurring in the story of God's people.

Here are some applications for this episode echoing the ideas of the four pillars:

I

TEXT

What stands out to you from the Text that you want to carry with you as you read the prophets? What could you meditate over or memorize?

II

COMMUNITY

How does your community see the prophets? How have they been studied before? What can you learn from one another before jumping into the books of the prophets?

III

DISCIPLESHIP

Who are you bringing alongside you as you walk with God? Who do you look to for guidance? How might you serve as part of a remnant?

IV

WRESTLING

What are you wrestling with in how the prophets are being organized and studied though their place in history? How else have you read these books?

Spotify

Are you a music listener?

Listen along to our BEMA Music Playlists on Spotify.

Song suggestions? Send them to bemabesorah@gmail.com.

BEMA SESSION 2

MEDITATION & PRAYER

REFLECTION, APPLICATION & IMPACT

There are three emphases that we are always thinking about in terms of application at BEMA. These may be stated explicitly at times, but often we will want you to do the work of finding ways to connect the dots to the things we are learning. Much of this is what makes the work of BEMA distinct as a ministry of Impact Campus Ministries.

CREATING A SPACE
SPIRITUAL FORMATION

True success is developing intimacy with God. In Session 1, we encountered the idea of "Creating Space for God" in our lives. We believe that ***if we do our part of creating that space, God will fill it*** *as He desires. You're already doing this as you dive into the Text and jump into a place to discuss. God will meet you in these places! Look for places the Holy Spirit can do work in and through you as you go about your everyday life.*

CONSIDERING CAMPUS
YOUNG PEOPLE FOCUS

We believe that young adults are shaping the future of this world. *Jesus modeled a ministry of discipling young adults, and that approach has and will work. If you are a college student who is listening, we want this material to be directly helpful to your pursuits. If you are not a college student, we want to challenge you to come alongside one and work together.*

SACRED STATION
THEOLOGY OF WORK

This isn't only for church or Bible study; this is about what we do every day. How we do our job and how it may take advantage of or bring life to others is something God says is central to our presence in the world. Justice is very much something God cares about. Does our physical work (our 9–5 job) bring shalom or chaos? Does it exploit creation? The way we manage our employees, interact with customers or coworkers, care for our children, or create products can provide relief to others. ***The work we do every day is sacred and matters!***

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