

March 12, 2010

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 18:1-6

Is your clay moist?

It may seem like an odd question, but considering God's warning to Israel in Jeremiah 18, we might want to think about it for awhile. Like the potter at the wheel, God forming and reforming His people. Just as the spoiled pot is reworked by the master craftsman, human beings, spoiled by sin and self-centered distance from God, are reworked by God's love and grace.

Whether you've ever made pottery on a spinning wheel or not, think about happens when a lump of clay gets off-center. Play with that image in your relationship with God. What happens when you get off-center, when your life is not perfectly centered in God's hands? How easily can God form your life when you are *off-center*?

Think too about what happens when the clay gets dry and hard. It becomes brittle and nearly impossible to work. Both the Old and New Testaments refer to "stiff-necked" and "hard-hearted" people. Nothing is impossible for God, but how can your life be (trans)formed if you are "stiff-necked" and "hard-hearted" toward God?

So, is your clay moist? Are you centered in God's hands?

If not, moisten the clay of your life with prayer, Bible reading, worship, service, giving, and the other practices of Christian life. Center yourself in God.

In prayer, return to the center of God's potter's wheel. Let the clay of your life be moistened and pliant in God's hands. Watch, wait, and see what the master potter will do with you.