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Central Congregational Church  
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"  
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## Honest to God

Jeremiah 15:10-21

Series: Run with the Horses: Faithful Living in a Fearful World

### Central Passage

**Jeremiah 15:18 (ESV)** — *18 Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail?*

**Central Thought:** To live faithfully in a fearful world we must learn to pray honestly – both in offering our requests and even complaints to God, and in listening to and responding to God's honest response and rebuke.

❖ God is not put off by anger, sorrow or confusion in our prayers.

**Psalms 44:23–26 (The Message)** — *23 Get up, GOD! Are you going to sleep all day? Wake up! Don't you care what happens to us? 24 Why do you bury your face in the pillow? Why pretend things are just fine with us? 25 And here we are—flat on our faces in the dirt, held down with a boot on our necks. 26 Get up and come to our rescue. If you love us so much, Help us!*

**Psalms 109:8–13 (ESV)** — *8 May his days be few; may another take his office! 9 May his children be fatherless and his wife a widow! 10 May his children wander about and beg, seeking food far from the ruins they inhabit! 11 May the creditor seize all that he has; may strangers plunder the fruits of his toil! 12 Let there be none to extend kindness to him, nor any to pity his fatherless children! 13 May his posterity be cut off; may his name be blotted out in the second generation!*

❖ God does not placate us in response to our prayers, rather, he repositions our perspective and reminds us of our responsibilities.

**Job 38:1–7 (ESV)** — *1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: 2 "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? 3 Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. 4 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? 6 On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, 7 when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy...?"*

**James 4:1–3 (ESV)** — *1 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? 2 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. **You do not have, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.***

❖ Jesus is our example and our help!

**Matthew 26:38–39 (ESV)** — *38 Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." 39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."*

**Hebrews 4:14–16 (NLT)** — *14 So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. 15 This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. 16 So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.*