**“Reshaped” - Week 3**

***Jeremiah 18:1-4 (NKJV) The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying: 2 “Arise and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will cause you to hear My words.” 3 Then I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was, making something at the wheel. 4 And the vessel that he made of clay was [c]marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.***

1. **God is the POTTER!**

“I want you to see the POTTER as a prophetic representation of the Father. He not only had a desire to create you, but He also has a desire to re-create you.”

* Everyone in town would have understood the story of the potter.
* He was skilled and everyone visited him often and depended on him daily.
* He was the center of commerce and there was a potter in every town.
* He spent more time preparing the clay for the wheel than after it was placed there.
* He had a gift of knowing exactly how much pressure the clay needed.
* The process wasn’t comfortable to the potter or the clay.
* The quality of the clay determined the outcome of the vessel.

**II.        The seven-step process of pottery:**

1. Selection of the clay – many grades were available. (God chose YOU!)
2. Trodden under foot – to take the air out.
3. Washed with water – to soften it.
4. Kneading – to remove small rocky pieces until there was a cohesive yielding.
5. Sun drying – 30% of the water content is lost.
6. Kiln drying – Different temperatures expose the quality of each individual clay.
7. Marked – each vessel bore the potter’s trademark.

“He will soften you, shape and form you according to His good pleasure. He will dry you in the sunshine of His love and ready you for the fires of affliction. But be of good courage for you will come out a durable vessel that is beautiful and serviceable.”

“When we pray for God to make us into the image of Christ, we are asking Him to take us to the wheel to re-create us into useful vessels.”