

RIVERSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCHES
QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND STUDY
Lamentations 1:1-22

“What have I done to deserve this?!” Discuss whether you’ve ever said something like this, and why?

Read all of Lamentations 1

1. How does reading this make you feel? Why? Does the fact that this is poetry help or hinder these emotions?
2. What has happened to Jerusalem?
3. Why has this happened? (Discuss first and then read Deuteronomy 28:15-30 and Jeremiah 52:1-11)
4. Does Psalm 46 help to explain why the events were a surprise to some?
5. How do you think this is different from what happened to Job? Why?
6. What role does God have in the events described by Lamentations 1?
7. What aspects of God’s character are portrayed by Lamentations 1?
8. In verses 11-16 and 18-22, Jerusalem speaks. Does she think the judgment of God is unfair or justified?
9. How is this situation different to when things go wrong for us? How is it the same?
10. What are we able to learn about God’s judgment from this chapter?
11. How does this contribute to your understanding of Jesus’ behaviour in the garden of Gethsemane and his crucifixion? (see Luke 22:39-46)
12. Has God changed between the Old and New Testament?
13. Verse 15 speaks about God treading Judah down as though they were grapes in a winepress. How do you think God feels about sin?
14. The winepress imagery makes a return in Revelation 14:20 and 19:15. Has it become gentler or more severe? What should our attitude be towards sin?