

By Pastor Ron Shires

My thoughts about our continuation of this project of spiritual warfare are centered on Jeremiah 9 with His grieving over the social and personal situation of Judah. Note particularly verses 23-24. The wise, the strong and the rich have nothing to glory or rejoice or boast in. The one who has something to rejoice in is the one who KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS GOD. That sits like a cannon ball in my brain! I would never presume to understand God!

Then He gives the way we can do it - it is to recognize what He delights in. That's the way we get to know anyone we have a relationship with. People become associated over what they take delight in by all kinds of clubs and social interaction. We can understand God by sharing His delights!

This is not to say we will be able to wrap our finite, sin-pocked, culturally bound-up minds around all the infinite aspects of God. But - it is to say we can relate to His character and do the things He would do if He were here by the power of the Holy Spirit which He has given us!

Between now and Saturday spend some time meditating on these three words: **loving-kindness, justice and righteousness** (NASB). Don't look it up in the original language. Let the Holy Spirit enrich your mind with the richness of what God's will is through you to Salinas! Think of what that could mean as we pray all over this city! (Sorry about all the exclamation marks - I just can't think about this in ordinary declarative sentences.)

I look forward to meeting a lot of you in the parking lot behind 1st Pres. by 9:00 a.m. Saturday, February 20. Bring some stuff for coffee or snacks that you think would be useful or delightful to others. This is warfare that builds righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.