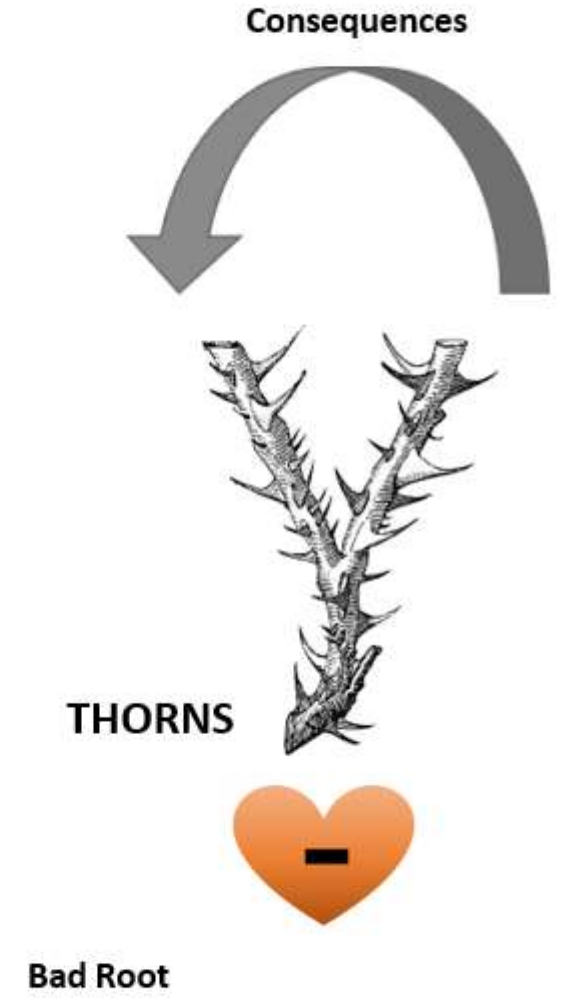
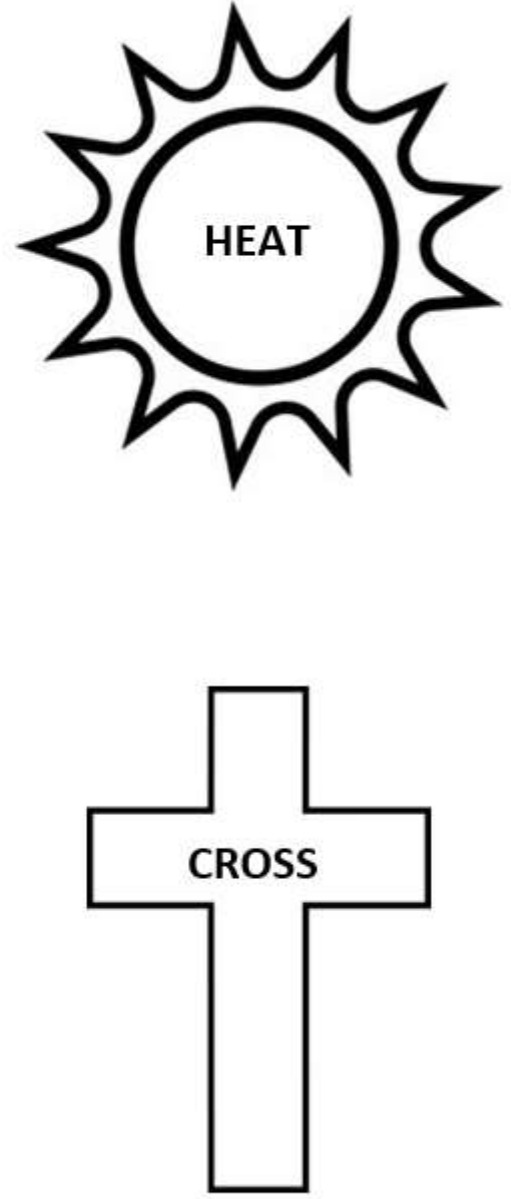
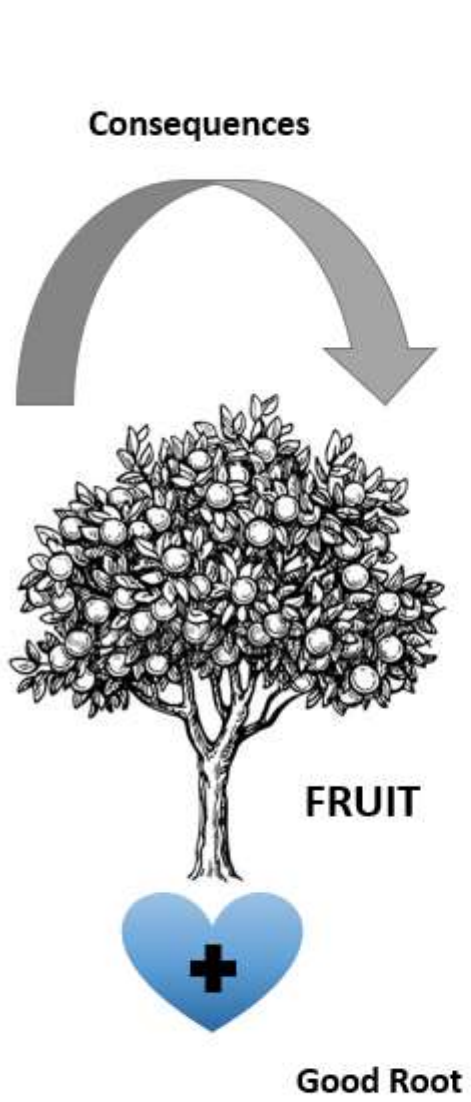


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# How People Change

Week 2: The Heat – Where God meets us in the  
real world

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## Jeremiah 17:5-10

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man  
and makes flesh his strength,[a]  
whose heart turns away from the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> He is like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the  
wilderness,

in an uninhabited salt land.

## Jeremiah 17:5-10

- 7 “Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.
- 8 He is like a tree planted by water,  
that sends out its roots by the stream,  
and does not fear when heat comes,  
for its leaves remain green,  
and is not anxious in the year of drought,  
for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

## Jeremiah 17:5-10

- 9 The heart is deceitful above all things,  
and desperately sick;  
who can understand it?
- 10 “I the Lord search the heart  
and test the mind,[b]  
to give every man according to his ways,  
according to the fruit of his deeds.”

## 2 Corinthians 1:3-12

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,  
<sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. <sup>5</sup> For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.

## 2 Corinthians 1:3-12

<sup>6</sup> If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. <sup>7</sup> Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

## 2 Corinthians 1:3-12

<sup>8</sup> For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. <sup>9</sup> Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. <sup>10</sup> He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.



## 2 Corinthians 1:3-12

<sup>11</sup> You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

<sup>12</sup> For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you.

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# The HEAT

1. The HEAT is significant

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"dew" of blessing

marketplace of options and opportunities

evil one, liar & murderer

reality of human differences

sinned-against,  
wronged by others

observing sufferings &  
shortcomings of others



general hardships,  
troubles, & limitations

voices & images of  
misleading counsel

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# The HEAT

2. HEAT contributes to the form of  
sinful life patterns

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## The HEAT

3. The HEAT in all of its complexities  
reveals who a person is

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## The HEAT

4. The HEAT is NOT the  
determinative why a person does  
what he does

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# Psalm 88

O Lord, God of my salvation,  
I cry out day and night before you.

<sup>2</sup> Let my prayer come before you;  
incline your ear to my cry!

<sup>3</sup> For my soul is full of troubles,  
and my life draws near to Sheol.

<sup>4</sup> I am counted among those who go down to the pit;  
I am a man who has no strength,

# Psalm 88

- <sup>5</sup> like one set loose among the dead,  
like the slain that lie in the grave,  
like those whom you remember no more,  
for they are cut off from your hand.
- <sup>6</sup> You have put me in the depths of the pit,  
in the regions dark and deep.
- <sup>7</sup> Your wrath lies heavy upon me,  
and you overwhelm me with all your waves. Selah



# Psalm 88

8 You have caused my companions to shun me;  
you have made me a horror to them.

I am shut in so that I cannot escape;

9 my eye grows dim through sorrow.

Every day I call upon you, O Lord;

I spread out my hands to you.

10 Do you work wonders for the dead?

Do the departed rise up to praise you? Selah

# Psalm 88

- <sup>11</sup> Is your steadfast love declared in the grave,  
or your faithfulness in Abaddon?
- <sup>12</sup> Are your wonders known in the darkness,  
or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
- <sup>13</sup> But I, O Lord, cry to you;  
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- <sup>14</sup> O Lord, why do you cast my soul away?  
Why do you hide your face from me?

# Psalm 88

<sup>15</sup> Afflicted and close to death from my youth up,  
I suffer your terrors; I am helpless.

<sup>16</sup> Your wrath has swept over me;  
your dreadful assaults destroy me.

<sup>17</sup> They surround me like a flood all day long;  
they close in on me together.

<sup>18</sup> You have caused my beloved and my friend to shun  
me;

my companions have become darkness.

# James 1:1-18

<sup>1</sup> James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings. <sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

## James 1:1-18

<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

## James 1:1-18

9 Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, 10 and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. 11 For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

## James 1:1-18

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. <sup>13</sup> Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. <sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

## James 1:1-18

<sup>15</sup> Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

<sup>16</sup> Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. <sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup> Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.



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# The Real World

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## Romans 8:20-22

<sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

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v.20 Subjected to futility

v.21 Bondage to corruption

v.22 Groaning together in the pains of  
childbirth

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# Lessons from the wilderness

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1. Longing for the past

2. Fear of the future

3. Anger at God

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## PERSONAL PROJECT

**How do you typically react to the heat in your life? Think about your thoughts, words, actions, choices and emotions. How are you tempted to react?**