**Series: Well Done: Beauty of Faithfulness**

**Today: When the Going Gets Rough**

**Faithfulness is the willingness to keep a promise over the long haul.**

***Matthew 5:37***

*All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.*

***Jeremiah 19:10-11***

***10****“Then break the jar while those who go with you are watching,* ***11****and say to them, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I will smash this nation and this city just as this potter’s jar is smashed and cannot be repaired.*

***Jeremiah 20***

***7****You deceived me, Lord, and I was deceived; you overpowered me and prevailed. I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me.*

***8****Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the Lord has brought me insult and reproach all day long.*

***Jeremiah 38:6***

*So they took Jeremiah and put him into the cistern of Malkijah, the king’s son, which was in the courtyard of the guard. They lowered Jeremiah by ropes into the cistern; it had no water in it, only mud, and Jeremiah sank down into the mud.*

***Lamentations 3:19-24***

*19I remember my affliction and my wandering,  
    the bitterness and the gall.  
20I well remember them,  
    and my soul is downcast within me.  
21Yet this I call to mind  
    and therefore I have hope:*

*22Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed,  
    for his compassions never fail.  
23They are new every morning;  
    great is your faithfulness.  
24I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion;  
    therefore I will wait for him.”*

***Revelation 2:8-10***

*8“To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:*

*These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. 9I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know about the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.*

*10Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.*

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**“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.”**

**God treasures and rewards your faithfulness!**