



“WARNING!”

Intro: What are warning signs for?

...and why would anyone post them?

"I've got something to say. Is anybody listening? I've a warning to post. Will anyone notice? It's hopeless! Their ears are stuffed with wax—deaf as a post, blind as a bat. It's hopeless! They've tuned out God. They don't want to hear from me." Jeremiah 6:10-11



Discussion: What sort of sign reader are you?



1. Don't notice signs _____

"Please speak to the LORD for us and ask him to help us. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon is attacking Judah. Perhaps the LORD will be gracious and do a mighty miracle as he has done in the past. Perhaps he will force Nebuchadnezzar to withdraw his armies."? Jeremiah 21:2



2. Don't believe signs apply _____

Your clothing is stained with the blood of the innocent and the poor, though you didn't catch them breaking into your houses! And yet you say, 'I have done nothing wrong. Surely God isn't angry with me!' Jeremiah 2:34-35

3. Don't actually believe the signs mean what they say _____

"For you are a brazen prostitute and completely shameless. Yet you say to me, 'Father, you have been my guide since my youth. Surely you won't be angry forever! Surely you can forget about it!' So you talk, but you keep on doing all the evil you can." Jeremiah 3:4-5



Conclusion: How are fulfilled warnings good news?



"This is what the LORD says: Just as I have brought all these calamities on them, so I will do all the good I have promised them." Jeremiah 32:42

Application: (Challenge)

Spectator: Have you noticed any warning signs in your life? Of the three different attitudes towards warnings (see above), which is yours? What does that say about your opinion of warnings in the first place? Have you considered that warnings may be a sign of care and concern...maybe even love? "Better a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who no longer knows how to take warning." Ecclesiastes 4:13

Participant: All of us have at some point conscientiously rejected a warning from God...what does this say about our opinion of God and our opinion of what we think he thinks of us? Why do we normally consider warnings as a negative thing? Does that suggest a warped idea of who God is? "I remember the devotion of your youth, how as a bride you loved me and followed me through the desert" Jeremiah 2:2 If you consider God as your lover, how might that impact your opinion of his warnings?

