



# Bread for the Journey

## September 2022

### the God who gets his hands dirty

*This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:*

*“Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.”*

*So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.*

*Then the word of the LORD came to me. He said,  
“Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?” declares the LORD. “Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel.”*

*Jeremiah 18:1-6*



Jeremiah must have passed the potter’s workshop hundreds of times, but this time God uses an everyday occurrence to say something profound.

Look back over today, at the ordinary events of the day. Bring these things before God.

Is there anything there, an event, a meeting, something you saw, which God can use to speak to you?

Consider the skill, the care, the time, the creativity of the potter, unwilling to throw away and discard a marred pot.

What does this say to you of your experience of God, your life-in-God now?

Look closely at the potter - his dirty hands, clay-streaked clothes, dusty feet on the wheel.

How does this speak to you of God’s activity to shape you?

Has there been a time (there may not have been) when it seems God has had to start again?

What do you want to say to God now about this?

How is God shaping you now - can you see what is emerging from his activity in you, with you?

Would you describe yourself as willing, or unwilling clay?

Bring all your thoughts together in a prayer of St. Thomas More:

*Thank you, dear Jesus,  
for all that you have given me,  
all that you have taken away from me,  
and all that you have left me.*

If you would like to speak confidentially about your life-in-God do contact one of the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf’s, Spiritual Directors Group:

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