

Old Testament

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Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part Two



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

Jeremiah Follows God

Jeremiah 1:1-19

Memory Verse

Every one of the prophets has said that all who have faith in Jesus will have their sins forgiven in His name.
(Acts 10:43 CEV)

Goals

1. Understand that God chose Jeremiah before he was born.
2. Recognize that God promised to be with Jeremiah.
3. Learn that God gave Jeremiah the words he needed to speak.
4. Understand that God is merciful.

Last week we learned that Isaiah prophesied about Jesus. Isaiah said that God chose Jesus to be a servant. God knew that Jesus would be faithful and obedient. Because Jesus did exactly what God wanted, Jesus pleased God.

Read the Bible

READ: Jeremiah 1:1-12 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Begin with Prayer

The next book in the Bible after Isaiah is Jeremiah. Jeremiah was a prophet, too. Do you remember from last week what a prophet is? A prophet is a messenger who tells the people what God says. Jeremiah believed in God even when the people laughed at him and hated him. Jeremiah also told about God's promise to us—He promised us His Son.

Have you ever played a game where people chose teams? Did you raise your hand and ask to be chosen? The first chapter of Jeremiah tells us how God chose Jeremiah to be His messenger. God told Jeremiah that He knew him and formed him into a little baby in his mother. "Before I formed you in your mother's body I chose you. Before you were born I set you apart to serve me. I appointed you to be a prophet to the nations." (Jeremiah 1:1-5 NIV)

Have you ever felt afraid to do something? Or has anyone told you that you are too young to do something? Jeremiah was scared and unsure. He told God that he was only a teenager and he couldn't speak to lots of people. He thought it would make him nervous. He said, "You are my Lord and King, I don't know how to speak. I'm only a child." (Jeremiah 1:6 NIV) God told Jeremiah not to be afraid. God shared that He would be with him and rescue him.

God wanted Jeremiah to go and tell the people what He was going to do. "You must go to everyone I send you to. You must say everything I command you to say. Do not be afraid of the people I send you to. I am with you. I will save you." Jeremiah 1:7-8 NIV)

God reached out His hand and touched Jeremiah's mouth. God told

Jeremiah Follows God – Bible Facts

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. God chose Jeremiah to be a prophet. | 2 Jeremiah said he was too young. |
| 3. God said, "You must say everything I command." | 4. God said, "I will be with you." |

Jeremiah that He put His words in his mouth. (Jeremiah 1:9) God commanded Jeremiah to tell the people what He said. He told Jeremiah that He would help him and Jeremiah must trust Him and do His work. "Today I am appointing you to speak to nations and kingdoms. I want you to pull them up by the roots and tear them down. I want you to destroy them and crush them. But I also want you to build them up and plant them." (Jeremiah 1:10 NIRV)

Then God asked Jeremiah, "What do you see, Jeremiah?"

Jeremiah said, "The branch of an almond tree." (Jeremiah 1:11 NIRV)

God told Jeremiah that he was right. It was the branch of an almond tree. Then God said, "I am watching to see that my word comes true." (Jeremiah 1:12 NIRV) Next, God asked Jeremiah what he saw. It was a pot of boiling water leaning toward the north. God said that He would allow Israel's enemies from the north to attack them because they had done evil things. But God who is merciful said that He would not allow their enemies to overcome them. 'But they will not overcome you. I am with you. I will save you,' announces the Lord." (Jeremiah 1:13-19 NIRV) God is with us, too. He loves and cares for us. He sends people like Jeremiah to help us. Jeremiah became God's prophet. He did what God said. He told the people what God said.

Review

1. **Whom did God choose to be a prophet?** (God chose Jeremiah to be a prophet.)
2. **What did Jeremiah say?** (Jeremiah said he was too young.)
3. **What did God say to Jeremiah?** (God said, "You must say everything I command.")
4. **What else did God say?** (God said, "I will be with you.")

Do You Know Jesus?

God would forgive the sins of Israel. When Jesus died and rose from the dead He provided the way for us to be forgiven. Jesus forgives our sins if we ask Him to forgive us. If we invite Him to be a part of our lives, He will come into our lives and never leave us. Would you like to trust in Jesus? (Romans 10:9-10) If you would like to know more, talk to your teacher about it.

Prayer Time

1. **Take a moment to listen to God.**
2. **Thank God for sending Jesus so that we could be forgiven.**
3. **Ask God to help you to do what He says.**
4. **Pray for friends and family members who need to do what God says.**

Application

God chose Jeremiah to be His prophet before he was born. Jeremiah was young when God called him. God promised to be with Jeremiah and God gave Jeremiah the words he needed to speak. God sent Jeremiah to tell Israel that their enemies would attack them because of the evil they had done. But God is merciful and He did not allow Israel's enemies to overcome them. God is merciful to us, too. "...all who have faith in Jesus will have their sins forgiven." (Acts 10:43 CEV)

Planning for Next Week

The Potter — Jeremiah 18-20

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Jeremiah 1:1-12 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Play Simon Says, but have the children repeat things (like the Bible verse) as they make movements.

Have you ever played a game where people chose teams? Did you raise your hand and ask to be chosen? God chose Jeremiah to be His messenger. God told Jeremiah that He knew him and formed him into a little baby in his mother. "Before I formed you in your mother's body I chose you. Before you were born I set you apart to serve me. I appointed you to be a prophet to the nations." (Jeremiah 1:1-5 NIRV)

Have you ever felt afraid to do something? Or has anyone told you that you are too young to do something? Jeremiah was scared and unsure. He told God that he was only a teenager. He said, "You are my Lord and King, I don't know how to speak. I'm only a child." (Jeremiah 1:6 NIRV) God told Jeremiah not to be afraid. God shared that He would be with him and rescue him.

God wanted Jeremiah to go and tell the people what He was going to do. "You must go to everyone I send you to. You must say everything I command you to say. Do not be afraid of the people I send you to. I am with you. I will save you." (Jeremiah 1:7-8 NIRV)

Next, God showed Jeremiah a pot of boiling water leaning away toward the north. God said that He would allow Israel's enemies from the north to attack them because they had done evil things. But God told Israel, "...I am with you. I will save you." (Jeremiah 1:13-19 NIRV) God is with us, too. He sent Jesus so that we can know that He loves and cares for us.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus.
3. Ask God to help you to do what He says.

Memory verse for younger children

All who have faith in Jesus will have their sins forgiven. Acts 10:43

Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Write the memory on a blank piece of paper. Make crosses out of craft sticks and glue them on the paper. Remind the children that Jesus obeyed God and because Jesus died and rose again, we can be forgiven.

•**Test your memory** — Choose different children to demonstrate different events from the story. (God chose Jeremiah. Jeremiah was afraid. God promised to be with him, etc.)

•**Taste activity** — Bring doughnuts for a snack.

•**Think about it**— Jeremiah told the people what God said. Sometimes the message was not good. Talk about how Jeremiah might have felt.

Jeremiah was young. He was afraid. God promised to be with him. Talk about how God is with us.

•**Touch activity** — Bring stickers. Tell the children Jeremiah obeyed God. Ask them how they can obey God. Give each child a sticker to remind them to obey God.

Make traffic signs. Let the children color them. Talk about obedience.

Make an obedience book. Bring coloring pages of someone praying, reading the Bible, sitting in Bible study, praising God, memorizing Scripture, etc.

• **Run and play** — Play “Red Light, Green Light.”

Play Simon Says, but have the children repeat things (like the Bible verse) as they make movements.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to obey Him.

•**Sing** — Sing “Obedience,” “The Lord Has A Will,” “Trust and Obey,” “I’m Forgiven,” or another song related to the story.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids who did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts with the Bible verse to those who were absent. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

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in His name.

Acts 10:43

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

God

chose

Jeremiah

Word Search

N P B T S K M H L K P C B C T
D L R O N E T S D O B D H R C
T V C N G E C P B E F I O L E
C M N H E W S P S T L F N H A
G K C N D S L O F D T U O L M
R H S P Y E B E H N R H M H F
M R T D N O M L A C N O G A F
E F D R I D K N I L V F W I R
M N E L O E A A M B I T I M R
D E I B C N D U E S H G M E E
N N V T E H P O R P F I H R P
G D I A C P I T E D S M R E S
D C S F S E I M E N E G C J D
S K D C H B D C W B H E N K M

PROPHET
TEEN
WORDS
ENEMIES

JEREMIAH
SPEAK
ALMOND
NORTH

CHOSEN
CHILD
BOILING
SAVE

Word Search

N P B T S K M H L K P C B C T
 D L R O N E T S D O B D H R C
 T V C N G E C P B E F I O L E
 C M N H E W S P S T L F N H A
 G K C N D S L O F D T U O L M
 R H S P Y E B E H N R H M H F
 M R T D N O M L A C N O G A F
 E F D R I D K N I L V F W I R
 M N E L O E A A M B I T I M R
 D E I B C N D U E S H G M E E
 N N V T E H P O R P F I H R P
 G D I A C P I T E D S M R E S
 D C S F S E I M E N E G C J D
 S K D C H B D C W B H E N K M

PROPHET
 TEEN
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 BOILING
 SAVE

Word Search

N P C H I L D K P C B C T
D L R O N E T O B D H R C
T V W O R D S G F I O L E
C M N H E W S T L F N H A
G K S P E A K D T U O L M
R H S P Y E B N R H M H F
M R C H O S E N N O G A F
E F D R I D K L N F W I R
M N J E R E M I A H I O R
D E I B C N D S H G M F E
N N P R O P H E T I H O P
G D I A C P I D S M R T S

PROPHET

JEREMIAH

CHOSEN

SPEAK

WORDS

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Word Search

N P C H I L D K P C B C T
D L R O N E T O B D H R C
T V W O R D S G F I O L E
C M N H E W S T L F N H A
G K S P E A K D T U O L M
R H S P Y E B N R H M H F
M R C H O S E N N O G A F
E F D R I D K L N F W I R
M N J E R E M I A H I O R
D E I B C N D S H G M F E
N N P R O P H E T I H O P
G D I A C P I D S M R T S

PROPHET

JEREMIAH

CHOSEN

SPEAK

WORDS

CHILD

Anagram

REEVY

PPTRSEOH

TFHIA

VEJSS

NISS

VRNFOIEG

MAEN

MHREEIAJ

KPSSEA

Anagram

EVERY

PROPHETS

FAITH

JESUS

SINS

FORGIVEN

NAME

JEREMIAH

SPEAKS