



God Calls Jeremiah

(based on Jeremiah 1:4-10)

Many years ago, there was a young man called Jeremiah. He lived in a town close to Jerusalem.

One day, Jeremiah heard God's voice. At first, Jeremiah thought he was dreaming. Why would God be talking to him? But it wasn't a dream. God was speaking to him.

"Jeremiah, I chose you to do a special job," announced God. "I chose you to do this job before you were born. You will be my prophet. You will take my message to all the people."

Jeremiah was astonished. He was so young. Who would listen to him?

"I can't do this," stammered Jeremiah. "I won't know what to say. I'm not a good speaker. I'm far too young to do this job."

"Don't say you are too young," answered God. "All you have to do is listen. I will tell you where to go, and you will go there. I will give you a message, and you will speak it. Don't be afraid. I will be with you."

Jeremiah felt God touch his lips.

"Did you feel me touch your lips?" said God. "I have put my words right in your mouth. I will tell you what to say. I am sending you out to the world to speak for me. My words will be your words."

Jeremiah felt God's words burning in his mouth. He knew that these words were important. He had to speak them to the people. He knew that some of God's words would be hard for people to hear but others would give hope.

So Jeremiah listened to God's call. He went out to be God's messenger. It was a huge job, but he knew God would be with him every step of the way.



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(based on Jeremiah 1:4–9)

Use one or more activities from each section to explore grace and gratitude with your children this week.

Recognizing God's Grace

- Read and enjoy the story with your children—imagine and wonder.
- Read about young people who have done amazing things at bit.ly/30DoingGood. Wonder together how God's grace may be working through these children and youth to make God's world a better place. Choose one of them and find out more about their life.
- What is a special job your child can do that they haven't done before? Talk together about this job, what it requires, and assure them that you will be with them as they first do it.



Responding to God's Grace

- Together make a timeline of your child's life, capturing important milestones with pictures, drawings, or captions. Note the activities and ages that they were not able to do something, and then they were. Wonder together what the next year, two years, and five years might hold for them.
- Tell your children about a time when you were afraid to do something but did it anyway. Share how you experienced that God was with you in the task. Ask your children what they might be afraid to do. Pray together, asking for God's presence to be with them in these instances.
- Watch the YouTube video "Jeremiah talks about God / Bible Story for Kids / Prophet Jeremiah Bible Story" (bit.ly/JeremiahsMessage). God gave Jeremiah a message to share with God's people. What message(s) would you want to share from God with others?

Celebrating in Gratitude

- Help your children collaborate on saying a table grace for one of today's meals. Remind your children that, like Jeremiah, they are not too young to find words to speak with God.
- The Bible tells us that God gave Jeremiah words to say. What words can you make using alphabet cereal that God might want you to say?
- Watch the story of Jeremiah's call in this YouTube video, "The Call of Jeremiah Bible Story Cartoon" (bit.ly/JeremiahsCallVideo).
- Pray:

God, thank you for being with us every step of the way. Amen.