

EXILE

“The Call of Jeremiah”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- The call of the Prophet Jeremiah
- The story of Esther
- The life and message of Jeremiah

Series Theme Verse: “And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?” – Esther 4:14

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that God used prophets like Jeremiah to speak for God, even when they felt unqualified.

Lesson Passage: Jeremiah 1:1-9

Materials Needed: Bibles, paints, Cardstock to put thumb and fingerprints on, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points: Jeremiah 1:1-9

- What was Jeremiah’s dad’s name? (Hilkiah)
- What was Hilkiah? (A priest – Someone who performed the religious ceremonies and sacrifices for people...an intercessor between the people and God)
- By birth, then, what did that make Jeremiah? (A priest)
- The first words of God to Jeremiah are what? (Before I formed you in the womb I knew/chose you)
- What does God say Jeremiah has been set apart to be for God? (A prophet, not a priest)
- A prophet spoke God’s words to the people. Who would Jeremiah be a prophet to? (The nations)
- What is Jeremiah’s response to being called by God to be a prophet? (I don’t speak well, and I am too young)
- How does God respond to Jeremiah’s concerns or excuses? (Do not be afraid, I am with you. You just go where I send you and say what I tell you to say)
- The Lord touches Jeremiah, why? (God touched Jeremiah’s mouth and said God put God’s words in Jeremiah’s mouth)

The Story Retold:

- God made each of us unique and created us to be the mouthpiece of God in this world. We are special because we are created different and with different talents.

- Give each student a piece of Cardstock and have them write Jeremiah 1:1-9 at the top of the cardstock.
- While they are doing this, you can put some different colors of paints on plates or in bowls.
- Have students dip each finger and thumb in a different paint and put their fingerprints on the cardstock which represents their own uniqueness.
- Explain to students that God created each one of them unique.
- Have students write on their card something that makes them unique because God created them that way. Let them share what they wrote and maybe even tell them ways that you see each of them are unique or special to you.
- Remind students that even though we might feel small or too young, God still calls us to be faithful and willing to be used by God.

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
- Have the students read the verse together.
- Explain to students that each week we will see how God uses people where they are to do God's work in the world and grow the Kingdom of God.
- A teaser for the stories to come includes: A Woman Becomes a Queen and A Prophet with Burning Bones!
- Say the verse in groups to begin repetition and memorization of the verse.
- If you haven't done it before, some students might not know what the "4:14" means after Esther. You can explain this to them, too.