

Bible Stories for Adults

Jeremiah

Jeremiah

Opening

Gathering: Does going to church regularly make someone a saved Christian?
If not, then why do we gather every week?

Today's Focus: God sent Jeremiah to once more call His people in Judah to return to faithfulness in Him. His message through Jeremiah was rejected just as it had been through His earlier prophets.

Key Verses: *I have put My words in your mouth.* Jeremiah 1:9

Like clay in the hand of the potter, so you are in My hand. Jeremiah 18:6

Opening Prayer

Lesson

After Hezekiah (*2 Chronicles 33*)

How faithful of a king was Hezekiah?
2 Kings 18:5-6

How faithful was Hezekiah's son, Manasseh?
2 Chronicles 33:1-6, 9

How did God decide to deal with this evil rejection?
2 Kings 21:10-13

Why did God allow Manasseh to reign 55 years?
2 Chronicles 33:10-13

How faithful was Manasseh's son, Amon?
2 Chronicles 33:21-22

Why did Amon reign only 2 years?
2 Chronicles 33:23-25

Josiah (*2 Chronicles 34*)

Was Josiah any more faithful than his father or grandfather?
2 Chronicles 34:2-4, 8 (1-13)

How extensive was Josiah's clean-up campaign?
2 Kings 23:12-13, 19-20 (1-25)

What especially notable cleansing did Josiah do in the northern territory of Israel?
2 Kings 23:15-16 (15-18)

Why was this especially notable?
1 Kings 13:1-2

What was found in the temple during its repairs that showed Judah's faithlessness?
2 Chronicles 34:14, 19, 21, 29-32 (14-33)

Did Josiah's faithfulness lead God to cancel His plans to punish Judah?
2 Chronicles 34:27-28

Did Josiah's pride ever get ahold of him as it had faithful kings who had preceded him?
2 Chronicles 35:20-23

How long did Josiah's reforms last?
2 Kings 23:30, 32

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God Calls Jeremiah (*Jeremiah 1:1-5*)

Did God finally give up on these faithless Jews and punish them as He had Samaria?

Jeremiah 1:1-3

What had Jeremiah done to be chosen by God to be His prophet?

Jeremiah 1:4-5

Who else recognized their call into God's service from birth?

Galatians 1:15-16

Who else was chosen before birth and predestined to carry out God's plan?

Ephesians 1:11

God Equips Jeremiah (*Jeremiah 1:6-19*)

What was Jeremiah's concern when God called him and how did God respond?

Jeremiah 1:6-9

What did God show Jeremiah to build confidence?

Jeremiah 1:11-12

What did God show Jeremiah to explain His plans?

Jeremiah 1:13-16

How would Jeremiah be able to present this message to the kings & nations?

Jeremiah 1:10

Jeremiah 1:17-19

Jeremiah's Message (*Jeremiah 3-4*)

How did God summarize the problem to Jeremiah?

Jeremiah 3:6-11

What did God want?

Jeremiah 3:12-13; 4:1-2, 4

How would God's wrath break out if they continued to reject Him?

Jeremiah 4:5-6

Security in the Temple (*Jeremiah 7*)

Where did God send Jeremiah to call the people to return to God?

Jeremiah 7:2-3

How did God answer Judah's sense of security from wrath since God's temple was there?

Jeremiah 7:4

The temple was the house that bore God's Name. Wouldn't God protect it for His own sake?

Jeremiah 7:12-15

Note: Shiloh was where the tabernacle was set up after the Israelites conquered Canaan

How did Jesus later identify the correct place to worship God?

John 4:19-24

How were the people using the temple?

Jeremiah 7:9-11

Weren't the people doing right by obeying God's commands to sacrifice and worship?

Jeremiah 7:21-23

Doesn't God consider us to be faithful if we come to church every week and give sacrificial offerings?

Mark 12:33

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Call to Return (*Jeremiah 7*)

How then could the people return to God's favor?

Jeremiah 7:5, 7

How had the Israelites responded to God's calls to faithfulness in the past?

Jeremiah 7:25-26

How would the people respond to this message this time?

Jeremiah 7:27-28

What would God do as a result?

Jeremiah 7:20, 33-34

The Potter and the Clay (*Jeremiah 18*)

What did God do to make sure that Jeremiah understood the message he was sent to give?

Jeremiah 13:1-11

What object lesson did God show Jeremiah in Chapter 18?

Jeremiah 18:1-4

What was the message of what Jeremiah saw?

Jeremiah 18:5-6

Why should Judah repent if God has already decided to destroy it?

Jeremiah 18:7-8

But wasn't Judah protected by God's plans and promises for them?

Jeremiah 18:9-10

Would Judah repent if God warned them of His plans?

Jeremiah 18:11-12, 18

God's Plans for the Old Pot (*Jeremiah 19*)

Where did God send Jeremiah to announce the impending disaster?

Jeremiah 19:1-3

Note: Potsherd Gate overlooked main dump for broken pottery, Valley south side of Jerusalem

What reasons did Jeremiah give for the disaster?

Jeremiah 19:4-5

How severe would this disaster be?

Jeremiah 19:6-9

Note: Hebrew for *Valley of Hinnom* is *ge' hennom*, *Gehenna* is translated in NT as *hell*

Why did God have Jeremiah bring a clay pot?

Jeremiah 19:10-11

Jeremiah's Reception (*Jeremiah 20:1-6*)

Where did Jeremiah go after speaking at Topheth?

Jeremiah 19:14-15

How did the temple officer react to Jeremiah saying this in the temple?

Jeremiah 20:1-2

How did Jeremiah use this to again speak his message?

Jeremiah 20:3-6

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Jeremiah's Response to Rejection (*Jeremiah 20:7-11*)

How did Jeremiah feel about being ridiculed and rejected?

Jeremiah 20:7-8

Why didn't Jeremiah just stop prophesying?

Jeremiah 20:9

In what did Jeremiah take comfort?

Jeremiah 20:11

God's New Covenant for the New Pot (*Jeremiah 31*)

From the lesson of the potter (Jeremiah 18), how did God plan to reform Israel?

Jeremiah 31:31-32

Who is the new Israel, the new children of Abraham?

Galatians 3:7-9

How would this new covenant be different?

Jeremiah 31:33-34

What was required to guarantee God's old covenant with Israel?

Hebrews 9:16-18, 20

How is God's new covenant with the new Israel guaranteed?

Hebrews 9:14-15, 7:22

How are we reminded regularly of this new covenant?

Matthew 26:26-28

Hope For The Exiles (*Jeremiah 23*)

By bringing His wrath on Judah through the Babylonians, did God consider Babylon as better than Judah?

Jeremiah 23:1-2

What would God do for His exiled people?

Jeremiah 23:3-4

Would Judah and Israel ever have a righteous king?

Jeremiah 23:5-6

How important would this restoration be to the new Israel?

Jeremiah 23:7-8

Closing Prayer

Response - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. Have I hesitated sharing God's word because I was unsure what to say?
(*Jeremiah 1:6-9; Exodus 4:10-12; Isaiah 51:16; Matthew 10:19-20; Mark 13:11*)
2. Do I learn from bad examples around me or do I follow them?
(*Jeremiah 3:6-11; 2 Kings 17:15b; 3 John 11; Jude 7*)
3. Do I come to church because I have to?
(*Jeremiah 7; John 4:19-24; Mark 12:33; 1 Samuel 15:22; Isaiah 1:11-13; Hosea 6:6; Amos 4:4-5*)
4. When have I been so excited about what God has done in my life that I couldn't keep myself from telling others about Him? (*Jeremiah 20:7-9; Acts 4:18-20; Ephesians 3:1-13; 1 Peter 3:15*)
5. What defects in my life has God reformed?
(*Jeremiah 18:1-6; Isaiah 64:8; Romans 6:1-4; Ephesians 4:17-32*)