



Dear Teacher,

This week we study the story of Jeremiah. Jeremiah is considered the sad and lonely prophet. Ridiculed, imprisoned, dismissed and hunted down, Jeremiah was miserable quite often. However, Jeremiah is a great story about trusting the Lord despite suffering, knowing God's Word will always prevail and that God never leaves those who serve Him faithfully. Jeremiah's story also brings to the forefront two main points we have been stressing each week: (1) God always keeps His promises and (2) God alone is worthy of worship.

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Split:* Jeremiah The Prophet

Lesson Objective: To communicate to children that God always keeps His promises despite circumstances and even our inability to trust Him. God wants us to trust Him and obey His commands.

Scripture: Jeremiah 1, 20, 36; II Kings 24; II Chronicles 36

Story: Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 98 (Pages 226-228); The Gospel Story Bible, Pages 142-143.

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- God alone is worthy of worship.
- Because of Solomon's disobedience, God tore the kingdom apart. There was the southern kingdom of Judah and the northern kingdom of Israel.
- Jeremiah was a prophet who told the people of Judah God's Word.
- The people of Judah did not want to listen to Jeremiah, especially the king. They punished Jeremiah for speaking God's Word.
- Jeremiah wanted to give up many times, but he could not because the truth of God's Word "burned" within him.
- Jeremiah received help from a scribe named Baruch. Baruch helped Jeremiah write down all the things God wanted His people to know.
- Jeremiah and Baruch were hunted down by the king because Baruch had read Jeremiah's words aloud in the Temple.
- The king burned Jeremiah's book. The king of Judah did not care to repent nor worship God.
- God would punish, or correct, His people by sending in the fierce Chaldeans, or Babylonians, to take riches, people, and many things back to Babylon. This was the beginning of the exile of Judah.
- Jeremiah's warnings to the people of Judah came true just like God said they would.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

For the Sunday Schedule, please see "Sunday Schedule for Preschool" found in Handbook on the teacher's table.

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 166, 165, 164)

Craft: Words of the Lord Booklet

Supplies: Cardstock booklet cover, inside page with verse, crayons/markers

Instructions:

1. Fold cover and inside page
2. Staple together in book crease
3. Help children write their name inside if needed
4. Color booklet



Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Craft: Jeremiah in Jail

Supplies: Cardstock with Jeremiah, yarn, verse sticker, tape, crayons/markers

Instructions:

1. Color Jeremiah
2. Secure one end of yarn to back of cardstock
3. String yarn back and forth through holes to create bars
4. Finish with yarn end in the back and secure with tape (ends can also be tied together).
5. Add verse sticker



Story: *Split:* Jeremiah The Prophet

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Boys and girls, today we learn about a boy who received an important job from God. If God gave you a special job, would you do it? What if it meant you were alone and had no friends? Well our story today tells us this young boy did this job for God, but let's learn what happens to him...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Questions for Review

Scripture Memory (Jeremiah 31:3)

Catechism Questions (1-15)

Hymn of the Month: O Love That Wilt No Let Me Go

Free Play

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What is the name of the prophet in our story?
- What did God reach out and touch on Jeremiah's face?
- What did God put in Jeremiah?
- What did Jeremiah do with all the words God gave him?
- What did the king do once he heard Jeremiah's book the first time?
- Who helped Jeremiah write down all of God's Words?
- Where did Baruch read the book?
- What did the king do when he heard the book a second time?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about worshipping God?

Scripture Memory for March:

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you." Jeremiah 31:3

Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*
- Question 11 - Can you see God? *No; I cannot see God, but He can always see me.*
- Question 12 – Does God know all things? *Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.*
- Question 13 – Can God do all things? *Yes. God can do all His holy will.*
- Question 14 – Where do you learn how to love and obey God? *In the Bible alone.*
- Question 15 – Who wrote the Bible? *Chosen men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.*

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, today we learn about a boy who received an important job from God. If God gave you a special job, would you do it? What if it meant you were alone and had no friends? Well our story today tells us this young boy did this job for God, but let's learn what happens to him...

God Chooses a Boy

When Jeremiah was just a young boy, the Lord spoke to him saying, "Before I made you in your mother's womb, I chose you. Before you were born, I set you apart for a special work. I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." God had a special job for young Jeremiah. God wanted Jeremiah to be a prophet, His prophet. A prophet was to tell God's people what God wanted them to know. But Jeremiah was afraid to be a prophet because it was a big job!

Jeremiah said, "But Lord God, I don't know how to speak. I am only a boy." The Lord replied back, "Don't say, 'I am only a boy.' You must go everywhere that I send you. You must say everything I tell you to say. Don't be afraid of anyone, because I am with you. I will protect you." The Bible then tells us that the Lord did something very special. The Lord reached out with His hand and touched Jeremiah's mouth. The Lord said, "See, I have put My words in your mouth."

As Jeremiah grew up, the people of Judah turned from following God and started to worship false gods called idols. The king of Judah was responsible for leading the people to worship the false gods. The king did not love or worship the One, True God! God sent Jeremiah to warn the people of Judah that if they did not worship Him, they would be punished. God told Jeremiah to plead with the people to turn back and worship Him. God told Jeremiah that if the people would turn and worship Him that all their sins would be forgiven. Jeremiah wrote down what God had told him to say.

Jeremiah Makes the Rulers Angry

Jeremiah told the people of Judah what God wanted them to know. Jeremiah told them terrible things would happen if they did not worship God. The rulers of Judah became angry with Jeremiah. They did not like what he said; they wanted to hear good things! The rulers of Judah decided to punish Jeremiah. The rulers took Jeremiah and put him in stocks. Stocks are a wooden frame that hold the hands and feet in place so that a person cannot move. For a whole day Jeremiah was left there. The stocks hurt his feet. Rude people came and laughed at him.

When he was set free, the prophet said to himself, "I will not mention God any more, nor speak in His name." This did not last though. Jeremiah then said, "But the Lord's message becomes like a burning fire inside me. It feels like it burns deep within my bones. I get tired of trying to hold the Lord's message inside of me. And finally, I cannot hold it in."

Jeremiah continued to tell people of God's Words. The king of Judah at that time did not worship God. The king did not care for the people of Judah either. He was a very wicked and mean king. One day the Egyptian army came into Judah and took the king away to prison. The king of Egypt then forced the people of Judah to pay him large sums of money every year. All of this happened just as Jeremiah said it would.

The King Burns the Book

The next king of Judah was a wicked and mean king too. God sent Jeremiah with a warning to the king. God told Jeremiah to tell the king, "I will raise up the Chaldeans, a bitter and quick nation. They will march through the land of Israel and take it over." This was scary news to hear from Jeremiah. The Chaldeans had a large army that could move very fast and take over lands quickly. The Bible tells us the Chaldean horses were faster than leopards, and the Chaldean soldiers were fiercer than wolves. As Jeremiah finished his message to the king, the king was so angry that he threw Jeremiah in prison so that he could not tell people God's Word any longer.

But the Lord told Jeremiah to take a book and write down everything God would say. God wanted Jeremiah to write down the first words he told him to the very last words; God wanted everyone to hear His Words. Jeremiah needed help though, so he sent for a man named Baruch [**pronunciation:** ba-rue-ck]. Baruch was a scribe, and that meant he would write things down. Jeremiah told Baruch all the things God had told him, and Baruch wrote those things down. Then Jeremiah said to Baruch, "I am shut up here in prison. I cannot go to the house of the Lord. You go to the temple and read all the words written in this book to the people who come to the temple. Maybe they will turn from their evil ways and pray to the Lord."

Baruch took Jeremiah's book to the temple and read it to all the people. A man at the temple heard Baruch reading the book. This man went to the king's house and told the princes who were sitting there what he had heard. The princes were scared at what they heard. They sent for Baruch and asked him to read the book to them. When they had heard the terrible judgements that would happen to them if they did not turn from their wicked ways, they

said, "The king should know what this book says! We will tell him about it. But you and Jeremiah must first hide yourselves or the king will hurt you." Then the princes went to the king and told him about Jeremiah's book. The king sent a messenger to get the book.

It was winter time in the land of Judah and the king was sitting in front of a fire to stay warm. The messenger came back to the king with the book and began to read it aloud. Many years ago, when King Josiah heard the Book of the Law which had been found in the temple, he tore his clothes because he was sad at how God's people had forgotten Him. But this king was not like that. When the scribe read three or four pages, the king took the book, cut out the pages which had been read, and threw them into the fire. The king continued to do this with all the pages until the whole book had been burned. Then the king sent his soldiers to arrest Jeremiah and Baruch. But God had hidden Jeremiah and Baruch so that they could not be found.

God said to Jeremiah, "Take another book and write in it the same words that were in the first book. Say to the king, 'You have burned this book and refused its warning. Therefore, you shall have no son to rule after you. You will not be king much longer.'" Then God told Jeremiah more, "For I will bring upon the people of Jerusalem many terrible things because they do not listen to Me, they did not turn to Me and worship Me."

Jeremiah told the people of Judah many times that God alone was worthy of worship, but they did not listen and they did not worship God. God made a promise that if His people did not worship Him, He would have to correct them. Soon the Chaldeans came to Jerusalem. The Chaldeans took people, gold and precious things from the Temple just as Jeremiah had said they would. God's people no longer lived in Jerusalem, but now lived in the city of Babylon.