

**October 18, 2020**

## **Activity**

### **Tower Building**

**Supplies:** index cards or deck of cards

Give each kid about 20 index cards, and encourage them to see who can build the tallest tower. Kids will likely fail and get frustrated. At that point, demonstrate how to bend the cards in half and stack them on the edges of the cards. Then, play again.

**Say** • You may have wondered if you would ever really be able to build a tower. Jeremiah didn't believe he could be a prophet, but God had a plan even before Jeremiah was born.

***What job did God give Jeremiah? God chose Jeremiah before he was born to be a prophet to the nations.***

**Say** • Can you think of ways that God might use you to tell others about Jesus?

## **Bible Story Questions**

### **God Called Jeremiah**

**Bible Passage:** Jeremiah 1

**Main Point:** God chose Jeremiah as a prophet to the nations.

**Christ Connection:** God had a plan for Jeremiah before Jeremiah was born. God called Jeremiah to share God's message about sin. In a similar way, God had planned all along to send His Son, Jesus, to show people what God is like and to rescue them from sin.

Who was king when God first called Jeremiah? (*Josiah, Jer. 1:2*)

What was Jeremiah before he was called to be a prophet? (*a priest, Jer. 1:1*)

When did God choose Jeremiah to be a prophet? (*before he was born, Jer. 1:5*)

What was Jeremiah's reason that he should not be a prophet? (*He was too young and did not know how to speak well, Jer. 1:6*)

What did God do when He touched Jeremiah's mouth? (*gave Jeremiah His words, Jer. 1:9*)

What did God give Jeremiah responsibility over? (*nations and kingdoms, Jer. 1:10*)

What did Jeremiah see first, and what did it mean? (*an almond branch; it meant God would keep His promises; Jer. 1:11-12*)

What did he see next, and what did it mean? (*a boiling pot facing north; it meant that kingdoms from the north would come against Judah; Jer. 1:13-15*)

Did God promise to protect Jeremiah and be with him? (*yes, Jer. 1:18-19*)

## **Prayer**

Ask kids to think of and share something they think God might use them for, even as a kid. Remind kids that Jeremiah was chosen even though he was still young and that God chose to use Jeremiah before he was even born.

**Say** • God loves us and wants the best for us. That's why we can trust Him and obey Him! We know that God can use all of us, no matter who we are. God can use us when we are young and when we are old, and God will always give us the words we need to speak to people about Him.

Take prayer requests. Pray, thanking God for using Jeremiah even though he thought he was too young. Thank God for planning all along to send Jesus to rescue us from sin. Pray that God will help your class learn to love God more and understand God's love for them better. Pray that as they learn about God's love, they will obey Him and be used in His awesome plans.

## **God Called Jeremiah**

### *Jeremiah 1*

The people of Judah were afraid. The Northern Kingdom of Israel had been destroyed by the Assyrians. The people in the Southern Kingdom of Judah were not sure they would survive. God called a priest named Jeremiah to speak to His people. At this time, Josiah was the king of Judah.

**God said to Jeremiah, "I knew you before I made you in your mother's womb. Before you were born, I chose you to do very special things. I chose you to be a prophet to the nations."**

Being a prophet meant listening to what God said and telling the people God's message. **Jeremiah said, "Oh no, God! I don't know how to speak in front of other people. I'm just a boy, only a youth."**

**God replied, "Don't say that. You will go where I send you and say what I tell you to say. You do not need to be afraid because I am with you. I will protect you."**

**Then God reached out His hand and touched Jeremiah's mouth. God said, "I am putting you over nations and kingdoms. You will give the people My message. It is a message of destruction, of bad things happening because of their sin. It is also a message of reconstruction. After I tear down the people, I will rebuild them."**

**God gave Jeremiah two visions.** Visions are like dreams, except Jeremiah was awake. **God said, "What do you see, Jeremiah?"**

**Jeremiah said, "I see a branch of an almond tree."**

"You are right," God said. **The almond branch was a sign for Jeremiah so he would know that God would do what He said He would, and He would do it soon.**

**Then Jeremiah saw a second vision.** He saw a **boiling pot. The pot was overflowing from the north!** God told Jeremiah that **this vision meant trouble was coming from the north.** Trouble would come for everyone in Judah.

**God told Jeremiah that the rulers in the north were going to come and set up their kingdoms outside the city gates of Jerusalem. They were going to attack cities in Judah. God was going to judge the people of Judah for their sin.** They had walked away from God and worshiped their own man-made gods.

**Jeremiah had a big job to do, and God was ready to send him on his way. "Get ready! Tell the people everything I say. Do not be afraid.** I am making you strong against the people. They will fight you, but they'll never win. **I'm here to protect you and to rescue you."**

*Christ Connection: God had a plan for Jeremiah before Jeremiah was born. God called Jeremiah to share God's message about sin. In a similar way, God had planned all along to send His Son, Jesus, to show people what God is like and to rescue them from sin.*