

Week 1: The word calls Jeremiah – Jeremiah 1:1-14

Note: It might be worth printing off the timeline or sending it to your members

Pray for our mission partners and your time in the Word	
Context (2 Kings)	
Read Jeremiah 1:1-3, “To see the time in which Jeremiah's ministry takes place we are going to look back in 2 kings” 1. Give each of the following 2 Kings passages to pairs of members to read and summarise. 2 kings 22:1-13, 23:1-3 (Josiah) 2 Kings 23:31-24:7 (Jehoahaz and Jehoiakim) 2 Kings 24:18-25:12 (Zedekiah) 2. How would you describe this time in Judah's history?	Note: Avoid getting stuck into too many questions, this is just meant to give a quick historical context.
Notice	
Read Jeremiah 1:1-14 3. Re-read the passage on your own with this in mind a. What are you unsure about? b. What is interesting?	Some background for Ch 1 Hilkiah: a priest, not given any more information Anathoth: village 3 miles from Jerusalem, was a priestly town Land of Benjamin: Allied with Judah when the kingdom split (southern kingdom)
4. Share with your partner a. What are you unsure about? b. What do you think the passage is about?	
Clarify	
5. As a group, a. Resolve what you think the main point of the passage is. b. What else does the passage teach about this?	Guided study if needed An alternative for Q5. One of the key themes seems to be God's appointed purpose for Jeremiah, What would you say is God's purpose for Jeremiah? - What does he call Jeremiah to do? - Who is the message for?

	- What is the content of his message (see vs: 10)? What does God promise in vs: 11-14? How does God provide for Jeremiah in his struggle with the ministry?
Reflect/Respond	
Read Matt 28:18-20 What similar/different about jeremiah's: - Context and ours? - Calling and ours? What helps/comforts does God provide for this ministry? - How can this help when we are feeling fear or inadequacy?	-
Pray in response to the passage, then in pairs	

MP: Jeremiah is called to a ministry of preaching God's judgment and hope, and his words will not be ineffective because God is with him.

App: We are called by Jesus to take his word into the world, and he is with us as we proclaim his good news to the world.

1 The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, one of the priests at Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. **2** The word of the LORD came to him in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, **3** and through the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, down to the fifth month of the eleventh year of Zedekiah son of Josiah king of Judah, when the people of Jerusalem went into exile.

The Call of Jeremiah

4 The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew^[a] you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

6 “Alas, Sovereign LORD,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

7 But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. **8** Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.

9 Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. **10** See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

11 The word of the LORD came to me: “What do you see, Jeremiah?”

“I see the branch of an almond tree,” I replied.

12 The LORD said to me, “You have seen correctly, for I am watching^[b] to see that my word is fulfilled.”

13 The word of the LORD came to me again: “What do you see?”

“I see a pot that is boiling,” I answered. “It is tilting toward us from the north.”

14 The LORD said to me, “From the north disaster will be poured out on all who live in the land.

