

# In Preparation for Sunday, March 9 *Jeremiah's Calling*

**“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”  
Jeremiah 1:5**

Read: Jeremiah 1:1-19

1. From the first chapter, what do we know about the person named Jeremiah? How would you like to be Jeremiah?
2. Before Jeremiah said a word, the Lord said, “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I set you apart (consecrated); I appointed you as a prophet to the nations” (1:5). God’s threefold action defined Jeremiah. What does each action mean and has God done this in your life, as well?
3. How does Jeremiah’s calling compare to your calling? Do you agree with Eugene Peterson’s statement: “God’s call to Jeremiah to be a prophet parallels his call to us to be a person” (Run with the Horses, p.50)?
4. Describe the dynamic tension between the Lord’s definition of Jeremiah and Jeremiah’s self-understanding. Can you see yourself in this dialogue between the Lord and Jeremiah?

5. Jeremiah’s name may mean “the Lord exalts” or it may mean “the Lord hurls.” How does this double meaning relate well to God’s calling in Jeremiah’s life (1:10) and God’s vision revealed to Jeremiah of the almond branch and the boiling pot (1:11-14)?

6. How does the Lord come across to Jeremiah in the final section of this chapter (1:17-19)? What kind of weakness was the Lord unwilling to tolerate?

7. Was Jeremiah’s calling optional? Do you think your calling is optional?