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# Naaman Healed of Leprosy

*Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1-27*

**Theme: Salvation is simple: obey God in humble faith**

*4th-6th Grade (Ages 9-11)*

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Free curriculum for small and rural churches

## Lesson Overview

Lesson Overview: Jeremiah , The Weeping Prophet Introduction: A Prophet Called to a Big Job Jeremiah was a young boy when God called him to be a prophet, a messenger for His people. In Jeremiah 1:4-10, God appeared to Jeremiah in a dream and told him to go to the people and warn them about God's judgment if they didn't turn back to Him. But Jeremiah was scared, he didn't know how to speak in front of others, and he felt overwhelmed. God didn't dismiss his fear but reassured him that He would give him the words and strength he needed. This lesson explores how God's love and faithfulness were the foundation for Jeremiah's mission, even when things seemed impossible. God's Love Never Gives Up Jeremiah wasn't just a prophet for a few years, he served for years, watching his people turn away from God over and over. Yet, in Jeremiah 31:31-34, God promised a new covenant: "I will put my law in their hearts, and write it on their minds." This was a radical idea in ancient times! God wasn't just forgiving sins one time but wanted to transform His people from the inside out. Even when we mess up, God's love doesn't stop, He keeps inviting us back to Him, showing us His heart through His Word, His people, and His Spirit. How do you think Jeremiah felt when he saw his people still disobeying God? Why Did God Choose Jeremiah? God chose Jeremiah because He saw something special in him: Jeremiah 1:5 says, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you." God didn't choose perfect people, He chose people who were willing to listen, even when it was hard. Jeremiah's job was hard, but God gave him a job because Jeremiah was real and relatable. God doesn't always call us for impossible things, but for us, with our fears, struggles, and yes, our mess-ups! What are some ways God might be calling you to share His love, even when it feels scary? God's Love as a Promise for Us Jeremiah's story is a reminder that God's love isn't just for the past, it's for today and tomorrow. No matter how hard things get, God promises to be with us, to speak through us, and to renew His people. This isn't just about the future either, it's about now. When we feel lost, God wants us to see Him as a loving Father who walks with us. How can you apply this today? Maybe it's listening when someone needs to talk about their struggles, or sharing God's love in small ways when others might give up on them. Closing: Let's Be Jeremiah's Team God didn't need Jeremiah to save His people alone, He had a team! He had priests, kings, and even ordinary people who believed in Him. God's people today need us, your kindness, your

prayers, and your willingness to follow His leading. Jeremiah's weeping wasn't because he was hopeless; it was because he loved his people deeply and knew God's heart. So, how can you be a team player for God's love this week? Who can you encourage, and how can you remind them (or yourself) that God's love never gives up?

## Bible Story

Jeremiah , The Weeping Prophet (A Bible Story for Sunday School)

One bright spring morning, God called young Jeremiah to be His prophet. The Lord appeared to Jeremiah in a vision and said, "Before you were even born, I chose you to speak to my people, Israel." At first, Jeremiah felt too young, he was only a boy, and the job seemed too big. He argued, "I can't do this! I'm too young and too afraid!" But God assured him, "Do not be afraid. I will be with you, and I will teach you what to say." Though Jeremiah still struggled, he knew God's power was greater than his fear.

Later, Jeremiah heard God's words again: "The Lord says, 'Look! I will make a new covenant with my people. It won't be broken like the old one, the days when the Israelites broke their promises and turned from me.'" At this, Jeremiah's heart sank. He knew many in Israel had forgotten God's love and were acting wickedly. Instead of anger, though, he poured out his sorrow to God, weeping as he prayed, "Lord, how can I make them change?"

Jeremiah's tears were real, but God heard him. He told Jeremiah to say to the people, "This is what the Lord says: 'I will forgive your wickedness and remember your sins no more.'" But Jeremiah felt helpless, how could he bring back what was broken? God reminded him: "You don't have to fix everything alone. I will help you share my message, and my love will guide them back to me."

Today, Jeremiah's story teaches us that God doesn't call the qualified, He calls us! Even when we feel too young, too afraid, or too broken, He promises to be with us. Jeremiah's tears show us that it's okay to feel sad for lost loved ones, but we must trust God to use our sorrow for good. When we pray like Jeremiah, asking God to help us speak His truth, He answers in ways we can't always see. That's why this story matters, because it reminds us that God's love is stronger than our fears, and His heart for people is always bigger than our own.

Discussion Questions: 1. Jeremiah felt afraid at first. What are some things you might feel afraid of, and how can you trust God to help you? 2. God said He would make a new covenant with His people. What does that mean for you today? 3. Jeremiah wept for Israel's sin. What's something you've prayed about that God has used in a big way? 4. How can we show God's love to people who are far from Him, like Jeremiah did?

Personal Application: Think of someone who needs to hear God's love today. Like Jeremiah, pray for them, and ask God to help you share His message, even if it feels scary! You don't have to fix everything alone; He's with you.

## Key Verse

### 2 Kings 5:14

Jeremiah 31:3 , A Love Like No Other God's love for you isn't just temporary, it's like a big, strong hug that never ends! This verse tells us that God always loves us, just the way we are, with kindness and care. Even when you feel lonely, scared, or like you've messed up, God says, "I'll always be here for you!" His love is like a cozy blanket on a chilly day, keeping you warm and safe no matter what. Imagine if someone you trusted, maybe a best friend, said they'd always love you, no matter what. That's what God promises! He doesn't just love you when you're good; He loves you because you're His child. God sees your struggles, your silly mistakes, and still chooses you. That's why it's okay to ask for help or lean on Him, because He's already got your back. Sometimes, kids might wonder: What if I'm not good enough? Or Does God still love me if I don't get things right? That's why this verse is so special! God's love isn't about being perfect, it's about being known. He made you, and He wants you to know that you're loved exactly as you are. If you feel left out or unsure, try whispering back to God: "I love you too, God!" He'll hear you! What's something that makes you feel loved? Is it hugs, a favorite toy, or time with family? God's love is even bigger than all those things! Maybe today, you can thank God for that love by praying or drawing a picture of what you love about Him. And when you feel heavy, remember: His love is always there,

waiting to lift you up. Deeper Questions to Think About: - What's one way you've felt God's love in your life so far? - If God loved you forever, what would you want to tell Him in return? - How can you share God's love with someone else today? Personal Application: Close your eyes and imagine God's arms wrapping around you. Feel that love warmly in your heart. Then, take a deep breath and ask: "God, today I choose to believe you love me more than anything else." Keep this promise close, like a secret between you and Him. You're never alone!

## Activities

### Activity 1:

1. Introduce the Prophets' Fear: Read Jeremiah 1:4, 10 aloud. Ask: "What might have made Jeremiah feel nervous before God asked him to speak? How do you think he handled his fear?" Write their ideas on the board.
2. Create the "Wall": Each student folds a strip of paper in half, then tears it horizontally into 5, 6 "tiles." On each tile, they write/draw:
3. One line about Jeremiah's fear (e.g., "I felt small and scared").
4. One line about God's promise (e.g., "God says I'm not alone").
5. Glue & Reflect: Glue the tiles vertically onto a larger sheet (or their desk). In their Bible, read Jeremiah 31:31, 34, then discuss: "How does God's 'new covenant' comfort you when you feel afraid? Where do you see His promises in your life today?"
6. Share & Pray: Invite 2, 3 students to share one tile with the group. End with a group prayer, asking God to help them trust Him like Jeremiah did.
2. "Prophet's Prophecy" Clay or Paper Collage
8. Scripture Review: Pass out Bible verses. Ask: "What did Jeremiah see God telling him to do? How did God promise to change the people's hearts?" Highlight the "new covenant" language.
9. Craft the "Weeping Wall": Divide students into 2 groups:
10. Group 1: Roll a clay ball or crumple paper into a "broken wall" (symbolizing Israel's distress). Glue it onto a strip labeled "Jeremiah's Burden" (from 1:4, 10).
11. Group 2: Create a "new heart" (clay/paper) with a scroll inside, labeled "God's Promise" (from 31:33, 34). Write "I will put my law in their hearts" on it.
12. Symbolic Exchange: Have each student place their "weeping wall" and "new heart" on a shared paper. Discuss: "How does God's promise (a new heart) help you when you feel heavy like Jeremiah did?"
13. Personal Application: Each student writes one prayer or promise they'll hold onto (e.g., "Lord, help me trust like Jeremiah did").
14. Note for Facilitator:
15. For deeper questions, extend discussions by asking: "If you were Jeremiah, how would you respond to God's call? How can you share God's hope today?"
16. Adjust time by adding 1, 2 minutes for group sharing.
17. Use these activities to bridge faith and creativity, let their art speak volumes!

## Discussion Questions

- Here are four open-ended discussion questions for upper elementary students (ages 9, 11) about Jeremiah, the Weeping Prophet, designed to spark reflection, deeper thinking, and personal connection to the story:
- 1. God's Call and Our Own Voices
- Jeremiah felt afraid when God called him to be a prophet because he didn't know how to speak with such authority. What do you think makes it hard for you to share your thoughts or beliefs, whether it's in school, with friends, or even in church? How could God help you find your voice when you feel unsure?

- (Deeper reflection: How do you think God might speak to you in ways that feel brave or clear? What would happen if you tried to listen for His voice, even when it's hard?)
- 2. Fear and Trust
  - Jeremiah was afraid of the future because he knew God's words could lead to trouble, maybe even his death. Have you ever faced something scary or uncertain, like a big test, a new school, or even just a big decision? How did you handle your fear? What would it look like to trust God like Jeremiah did, even when the path ahead seemed dark?
  - (Personal application: Imagine you're afraid of something important. What's one small step you could take to trust God, even if you don't feel ready?)
- 3. Words That Shape the Future
  - Jeremiah's prophecies didn't always bring joy, some were warnings about judgment, and others were promises of hope. How do you think words can either build people up or tear them down? Have you ever heard a message that made you feel discouraged or upset? What about a time someone spoke kind or encouraging words to you? How did it change how you saw yourself or the future?
  - (Deeper question: If you were God's prophet, how would you speak to people today? What truths would you share that would help them feel seen or hopeful?)
- 4. Heart Over Perfection
  - Jeremiah's heart broke for the people of Israel, and he wept because he knew they were straying from God. Do you think Jeremiah felt sad because he loved them, or because he thought God would be disappointed? Why do you think God allows us to feel sadness, even when we know it's not always "right"? Have you ever felt like your actions or choices didn't match God's plan? How did you handle it?
  - (Personal reflection: God doesn't expect us to be perfect. How can you show your heart to God (or others) when you feel like you've messed up? What would it mean to ask for forgiveness and trust that He'll help you move forward?)
  - These questions encourage students to connect the story of Jeremiah to their own fears, choices, and relationships with God. They also invite deeper conversations about trust, voice, and grace! Would you like any of these adjusted for a specific focus (e.g., more focus on faith, more emotional discussion)?

## Prayer Focus

*Prayer Focus: "A Heart Like God's" For Upper Elementary Students (Ages 9, 11) Dear God, thank You for calling people to do what's right, even when it's hard! You called Jeremiah to be a prophet when he was young and felt scared, just like we might feel when God asks us to stand up for truth or love others even when we don't feel ready. Help us trust You, just like Jeremiah trusted You when You said, "I'll be with you" (Jeremiah 1:8). Give us hearts that listen to Your voice, even when it's quiet or difficult to understand. Sometimes, like Jeremiah, we might feel alone or afraid. But You promised to never leave us, just like You never left Jeremiah. Help us remember that You're always there to encourage us, even when we feel lost or unsure. When we doubt, remind us of Your love, like the time You told Jeremiah, "Don't be afraid; I'll help you" (Jeremiah 1:19). Help us take brave steps, just as Jeremiah did, even when we don't know what comes next. Jeremiah cried out in sorrow, and You listened. Help us do the same, when we feel sad, frustrated, or worried about the world, let us turn to You in prayer. You know all our hearts, and You love us more than we can imagine. When we feel small, remind us that You made us in Your image, and You call us to be brave, kind, and truthful, just like You wanted Jeremiah to be. God, we love You because You never give up on us. Help us to be like You, to love others, to stand up for what's right, and to trust You even when things don't make sense. When we mess up, forgive us quickly, like You do. And when we feel like Jeremiah, scared, unsure, or overwhelmed, let us find courage in You. Thank You for being our Guide, our Comforter, and our Friend. Amen. Teacher's Prayer with Class: "Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Jeremiah, the prophet who trusted You even when he felt afraid. Lord, help us to be brave like He was, to speak Your truth*

*when needed, and to listen to You with open hearts. When we doubt, remind us that You are with us, just as You promised. Help us to weep with those who weep, to stand up for justice, and to love like You love. In Jesus' name, Amen."* Deeper Questions for Reflection: 1. When have you felt called to do something big for God, even when you weren't sure you could? How did it feel? 2. Jeremiah cried a lot. What's one thing you've felt so heavy about that you wish you could tell God? 3. God said He'd never leave Jeremiah. What's one way you can trust God today, even when you're scared? 4. How can we help others feel brave, like Jeremiah did for Israel?

### >> Missions Spotlight

The Roma (Gypsy) people of Europe have been marginalized for centuries. Missionaries working among Roma communities in Eastern Europe share Jeremiah's message that God never gives up on His people, including the Roma, whom God deeply loves.

### -> To the Cross

Jeremiah wept over God's people because they kept turning away. But God promised a 'new covenant', not written on tablets of stone but on their hearts. Jesus inaugurated this new covenant at the Last Supper: 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood.'