

WARM-UP

- If you could have one superpower, what would it be and why?
- Share about a book or blog post that made an impact on your life.
- What is one thing you were afraid to do as a kid? Why?

WORD *⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." ⁷But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a youth'; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. ⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord." ⁹Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, "Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant." **JEREMIAH 1:6-10***

Many attempt to discover their purpose in life all on their own. Sadly, some give up on finding the answer and conclude that they have no purpose at all. However, through the life of Jeremiah, we can see that every person has a purpose and it can only be found in God. Here are some truths that we can hold on to about our purpose from Jeremiah's encounter with God.

1 | God sends you.

But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a youth'; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak." **JEREMIAH 1:7**

Though Jeremiah responded to God's call with doubt because of his own limitations, God responded with the firm assurance that He had sent him. Because it is God who sends us, we can respond in faith instead of doubt. What were your hindrances or hesitations when you first began to follow God? How did you overcome them?

2 | God is with you.

"Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord." **JEREMIAH 1:8**

Jeremiah admitted to God that he was afraid to fulfill the purpose God had for him. God did not promise an absence of troubles, but He promised to *deliver* him. This gave Jeremiah the assurance that God will always be there to protect and rescue him. In the same way, as we fulfill God's purpose for us, His presence and protection accompany us through every circumstance. How can we move forward in faith, being assured of God's presence? How have you learned to submit your fears to God?

3 | God equips you.

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, "Behold, I have put my words in your mouth."

JEREMIAH 1:9

When God called Jeremiah, He didn't send him empty-handed. God touched Jeremiah's mouth to set it apart for His use and equip him for His purpose. Before God sends us to His purpose for us, He prepares and equips us. Jeremiah claimed no credit for the words and prophecies he spoke. He gave all the glory to God. We can only accomplish the purpose of God when we go with His power. How has God been equipping you as you fulfill His purpose for you?

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APPLICATION

- What do you think God is calling you to do? Which of the truths (that God sends you, is with you, and equips you) can help you grow in your purpose? How?
- Are you in a place of faith regarding your purpose in God or are you in fear, doubt, or unbelief? What can you do in faith this week about this?
- Who can you encourage to find and understand their purpose in God? Commit to talk to them about this in the coming week.

