

Jeremiah 1:4-10; 17-19

Here we find Jeremiah having an encounter with God. We're given a glimpse into the conversation they're having. What it boils down to is God is telling Jeremiah how important he is to God, He's giving him a glimpse at what his destiny is and He is reassuring Jeremiah that He [God] would be with him through it all.

1. You are so important to God

In verse 5 we see God telling Jeremiah that God formed him in his mother's womb. Those words were obviously spoken to Jeremiah, but I think they speak to who God is and how He cares for every single one of us.

The Scriptures make it clear that the God we worship is a very personal God that delights in the details of our lives. He wants you to know tonight that you are important to Him. You are valuable to Him. You were not a mistake... or a surprise to Him... you were destined to be a live on this earth right now. HE WANTED YOU HERE.

Every single one of us have struggled at some point with the value of our lives. If you haven't yet, you probably will at some point. But what you should know and understand is that you are so incredibly valuable to Jesus. Your life is precious to Him.

He didn't just die to save successful people. He didn't just die to save nice people. He didn't just die to save people that have it all together. He came after all of us. Every single one of us are valuable to Him.

What He was doing with Jeremiah was He was letting him know that God had had His eye on Jeremiah before He was even born.

2. You have a destiny

How many of you when you were a little kid wanted to "be" something when you grew up...

A lot of times when we think or hear the word destiny we may think "oh, that's what I'm supposed to do with my life."

The LORD wants you to know tonight that your destiny is something so much more than just what job you will have as an adult. Your destiny is really the impact that you will be able to make in everyone's life that you come in contact with throughout your life.

Yes, your destiny will include the occupation you are involved in "when you grow up". In fact, the LORD wants some of you in this room to be missionaries, or pastors, or youth pastors. But the occupation is not just the totality of your destiny.

You see you do not have to be a youth pastor, or a worship leader, or a home team leader to make an impact for Jesus in people's lives. You can make that impact right now, right where you're at... in every area of your life. You don't have to wait till you're an adult, you don't have to wait till you're out of

college... you can make an impact right now. **You can change eternity for people right now.**

Jeremiah had this idea that he had to be older to do what God was wanting him to do. He had this idea that he had to be qualified to a certain extent. God dealt with all of that with this statement: You must do and say as I desire and I will be with you.

With us, part of our destinies as believers in Jesus is that we are to reach out with His love to those around us. We are to live our lives as He did and everywhere He went, He reached out to people.

Your destiny includes God using you to rescue people from hell. Your destiny includes God using you to heal people. Your destiny includes God using you to help those in need. Your destiny includes loving the ones who are shunned.

Really your destiny is about allowing God to use you in every area of your life, at all times to impact the lives of others with Him.

3. You are not alone

God finished up this part of His conversation with Jeremiah by letting him know that he would not be alone... especially because what He was asking Jeremiah to do was a huge, huge thing. There was no "freedom of speech" or "freedom of religion". If you were spouting out something, especially to the king and they didn't like what you said... you were dead meat.

Think about this: God never told Jeremiah it would be easy. He never told Jeremiah how successful he would be. BUT He did tell him that he would not be alone.

Jesus has told us the very same thing after He challenged the disciples to "Go into all the world and make disciples..." He said in Matthew 28:20: "And be sure of this, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

The truth of the matter is, God has earmarked each and every one of us in this room to do awesome things for Him in His kingdom. Whether that's reaching our friends at school right now, or by allowing God to use us in whatever job we choose to take.

The challenge God gave Jeremiah was this: Get up and get dressed. The time is now. The time isn't when you feel like it. The time isn't when you're in college. The time isn't once you've got a good job. The time to live out your destiny is NOW.