

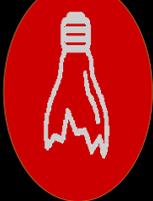
**Fail**



what to do when  
things go wrong

# Jeremiah's Story

**Fail**



These are the words of Jeremiah, Hilkiah's son, who was one of the priests from Anathoth in the land of Benjamin. The LORD's word came to Jeremiah in the thirteenth year of Judah's King Josiah, Amon's son, and throughout the rule of Judah's King Jehoiakim, Josiah's son, until the fifth month of the eleventh year of King Zedekiah, Josiah's son, when the people of Jerusalem were taken into exile.

**Jeremiah 1:1-10**

**Fail**



The LORD's word came to me: "Before I created you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I set you apart; I made you a prophet to the nations." "Ah, LORD God," I said, "I don't know how to speak because I'm only a child." The LORD responded, "Don't say, 'I'm only a child.' Where I send you, you must go; what I tell you, you must say. Don't be afraid of them, because I'm with you to rescue you," declares the LORD.

**Jeremiah 1:4-8**

## Grab Gather Grow

Week of Sunday, April 8, 2018

Grab this study, gather a few people,  
and grow in faith

### Jeremiah's Story

#### SCRIPTURE

(read over the scripture together)  
(see side panels)

#### OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, sometimes in the midst of circumstances, we fail to respond faithfully to the task that's set before us. So God, give us, through the power of your Holy Spirit, discernment, so that we might let go of the things that we can't control, take hold of the things that we can control, and respond faithfully, believing that you are there to deliver us. We pray these things in Christ's name. Amen.

#### DISCUSSION (one or two or ...)

Discuss the following statement ...

*"All of us are born at certain times, in certain places, with certain challenges and obstacles. All of us have difficult circumstances, things we can't control, and realities that leave us wondering what we did to deserve this"*

- Matt Miofsky, author of *Fail*

Jeremiah 1:1-10 lays out the context for the prophet. Many of us are like Jeremiah. We weren't born into the middle of his mess, but we have messes all our own. Sometimes it's a mess that we create, but lots of times it just happens to us. It's part of the circumstances of our life. Share the circumstances of your life with each other.

What do we do when things go wrong? Do we remember not to focus on the things that we can't control? Do we respond faithfully to the task that's set before us, believing that we have a God who will deliver us? It's a lesson that Jeremiah had to learn right from the beginning of his ministry, and its one that we must learn too.

# Fail



Then the LORD stretched out thy hand, touched my mouth, and said to me, "I'm putting my words in your mouth. This very day I appoint you over nations and empires, to dig up and pull down, to destroy and demolish, to build and plant."  
Jeremiah 1:9-10

## SERVE

As we approach a 5th Sunday, April 29th, call the church office and sign up to join one of our service teams that afternoon. Mark your calendar, worship with us at 10am, potluck at 11 and then that afternoon join a service team. We will gather again at 6pm at what we are calling a Service Celebration.

Our Change for Change this week is UMCOR SUNDAY. Our change or special gift will support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Is there a way for you to raise some funds for UMCOR?

Jeremiah says "I don't know how to speak because I'm only a child." Is there a way your **Gathering** could help support youth or children find their voice?

## Extra Scripture Reading this week...

Lamentations: Chapter 1 & Jeremiah: Chapters 1-12



**FAITH**  
share read talk pray bless



## AT HOME THIS WEEK

Share your High and Low of the day; read the daily scripture; talk about it; pray about each others highs and lows, and at the end of the day, bless each other with the blessing below or one of your own.

SUNDAY: Jeremiah 1:1-3

MONDAY: Jeremiah 1:4-8

TUESDAY: Jeremiah 1:9-10

WEDNESDAY: Ecclesiastes 3:1

THURSDAY: Ecclesiastes 3:9-15

FRIDAY: Jeremiah 32:26-27

SATURDAY: Jeremiah 18:5-6, 12

BLESSING: "May you respond faithfully to any circumstances."