

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

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Scripture

Jeremiah 1:1-10

1 The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, 2 to whom the word of the LORD came in the days of King Josiah son of Amon of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. 3 It came also in the days of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, and until the end of the eleventh year of King Zedekiah son of Josiah of Judah, until the captivity of Jerusalem in the fifth month.

4 Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,
5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

6 Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” 7 But the LORD said to me,
“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

8 Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD.”

9 Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,
“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

10 See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

Devotional

In this passage, Jeremiah says to God, “I am only a child,” to which God says, “Do not say that to me.” Truly, God calls us to things we think impossible or unfitting for us. We tell God we cannot do it because we are too young or too old, we are unworthy, we are not skilled enough, we already have a “full plate” and can’t take on any more tasks. Truly though, would God call us to service if God did not see us as worthy, as the right mix of youth and maturity, as able to take on this task? Also, would God leave us

without the proper skills? Does God not provide for us all we could possibly need and more? God's calling us is not a sending, but an invitation to assist, to travel along God's side.

Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for all that you have given us. You never leave us high and dry or without the toolset that will help us to achieve your goals in the world. We pray that, as we do your work and fulfill your callings for us, we might never forget what you have done for us or your presence with us all the days of our lives. We pray this in the name of the Father through your Son, Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.