

Unit 15, Session 3

Jeremiah, Prophet to Judah

Jeremiah

Story Point: Jeremiah told God's people about a new and better covenant.

When Josiah was the king of Judah, God called a priest named Jeremiah to be a prophet. Jeremiah said, "I don't know how to speak in front of other people. I'm just a boy, only a youth."

God replied, "You will go where I send you and say what I tell you to say. I am with you. I will protect you." For many years, Jeremiah spoke God's message to the people of Judah. He reminded them that God had made a covenant with them: If they obeyed Him, He would bless them. But the people did not obey. Now God had to punish their sin. God said the people would lose their land, their wealth, and their freedom.

The people did not want to listen to Jeremiah, and Jeremiah was sad. God promised a new and better covenant so the people could be saved from their sins. God would write His law on people's hearts

and give His people power to obey His commands.

Jeremiah spoke God's words, and his friend Baruch wrote the words on a scroll. King Jehoiakim sent one of his officials to get the scroll. Jehoiakim cut off each part and threw it into the fire until the entire scroll was burned up.

God told Jeremiah to write another scroll with the same words as the first. Jeremiah told the king, "God is going to punish you for doing wrong things. God warned you that disaster will come to Judah but you did not listen."

Christ Connection: Jeremiah told about a day when God would forgive sin and change people's hearts. Jesus made these words come true. God forgives our sin through His Son, Jesus. He changes us and gives us power through His Spirit to obey His commands.

EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- Underline the statements that describe the old convenant, and circle the statements that describe the new covenant.
 - Jesus gave His perfect life as a sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin.
 - Make offerings and sacrifices such as grain and animals as payment for sin.
 - God accepts us into His family and gives us the Holy Spirit. Nothing can separate us from Him.
 - Offer two goats—one killed and one sent into the wilderness—to remove the sins of the people.
 - Because of Jesus, God remembers our sin no more.
 We die to sins and live for righteousness.
 - Sprinkle blood in the temple to purify, or wash away, the sins of the people.
 - The blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin.
 - Observe the Day of Atonement as God's loving way to make His people holy.
- What does this story teach us about God?
- How are we like the people of Judah?

Old Covenant:

the agreement God made with His people based on their obedience to the Law

New Covenant:

the agreement God made with people that He will give us new hearts and forgive our sin

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jeremiah told about a day when God would forgive sin and change people's hearts. Jesus made these words come true. God forgives our sin through His Son, Jesus. He changes us and gives us power through His Spirit to obey His commands.



• What did Jeremiah say would be different about the new covenant?	>

• How does God change our hearts today?

• Why should we obey God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

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• Find 2 Chronicles 7:14 in your Bible and write the words below.

• Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for saving us—not because we follow rules but because we trust in Jesus, who obeyed God perfectly and died on the cross for our sin.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

☐ Hebrews 10:16

☐ Romans 8:38-39

■ Ezekiel 11:19-20

☐ Luke 22:20

☐ Ephesians 2:8-9

☐ Romans 8:7-10