



Called to Serve and Speak **Jeremiah 1:6-10; 26:8-9, 12-15**

Then I said, “Ah, LORD GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” 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 1:6-7—ESV).

Usually, whenever the LORD called someone to serve Him, whether in the Old or New Testaments, they felt humbled and inadequate for the task. Think of Jeremiah, John the Baptist, and Paul the Apostle, for examples. Perhaps Isaiah is one of the few examples of one who jumped up to volunteer when the LORD looked for someone to serve Him, and God accepted his enthusiastic desire to go where the LORD would send him. When the LORD calls us to serve Him, He also gives us the tools to serve Him and assures us of His presence with us. We may feel inadequate as did Jeremiah, but if we prayerfully share, show, and teach the words of the Bible and the truths that God has revealed in the Bible, some of our words will be effective because the Spirit of God will make them effective. We may not see the effects or lasting results of God's works and words during our lifetime, but neither did Jeremiah. One lasting effect he could have never imagined is the use of his life and words to encourage readers and listeners in 2025, and perhaps for many years beyond. As we study Jeremiah let us remind ourselves that God may bless many we may never see because we sought to do what God asked us to do and shared truths about God as we learned them. We do not need to know everything before we share the good news of Jesus Christ. There will always be some who need to learn truths that we do know. With the enthusiasm of Isaiah, let us pray to be used by God, for Jesus has given us many commands in the Bible that He expects those in the Church to obey. For example, in Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus told us to, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”