

RUN WITH THE HORSES

Jeremiah Series Guide
Part 2



WEEK 2

Sermon Notes:

Jeremiah 1:6-8

“But I said, ‘Hold it, Master God! Look at me. I don’t know anything. I’m only a boy!’ God told me, ‘Don’t say, “I’m only a boy.” I’ll tell you where to go and you’ll go there. I’ll tell you what to say and you’ll say it. Don’t be afraid of a soul. I’ll be right there, looking after you.’ GOD’s Decree. “

Jeremiah 1:10

“See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Jeremiah 51:20-21

“You are my hammer and weapon of war: with you I break nations in pieces; with you I destroy kingdoms; with you I break in pieces the horse and his rider; with you I break in pieces the chariot and the charioteer..”

1 John 3:2

“Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”

Commentary

Some people as they grow up become less..Other people as they grow up become more. Life is not an inevitable decline into dullness; for some it is an ascent into excellence. It was for Jeremiah. Jeremiah lived about sixty years. Across that life span, there is no sign of decay or shriveling. Always he was pushing out the borders of reality, exploring new territory. And always he was vigorous in battle, challenging and contesting the shoddy, the false, the vile.

How did he do it? How do I do it? How do I shed the fantasies of boyhood and simultaneously increase my hold on the realities of life? How do I leave the childish yet keep the deeply accurate perceptions of the child - that life is an adventure, that life is a contest?

Eugene Peterson, Run With The Horses, (Illinois: Intervarsity Press, 2009), p. 23.

We are practiced in pleading inadequacy in order to avoid living at the best that God calls us to. How tired the excuses sound! I am only a youth; I am only a housewife; I am only a layman; I am only a poor preacher; I only have an eighth-grade education; I don't have enough time; I don't have enough training; I don't have enough confidence; or, with biblical precedence, "Master, please, I don't talk well" (Ex 4:10). Too much is being asked of us. We cannot cope. We cannot manage.

If we look at ourselves and are absolutely honest, we are always inadequate. Of course, we are not always honest. We fudge and cheat on the tests. We cover up a bit here; we bluff a bit there. We pretend to be more sure than we are.

Eugene Peterson, Run With The Horses, (Illinois: Intervarsity Press, 2009), p. 48.

There are two interlaced convictions that characterize a prophet. The first conviction is that God is personal and alive and active. The second conviction is that what is going on right now, in this world at this time in history, is critical. A prophet is obsessed with God, and a prophet is immersed in the now.

Eugene Peterson, Run With The Horses, (Illinois: Intervarsity Press, 2009), p. 46.

Small Group Guide

This section is to be used to turn the message into a small group. Gather up some people, find a space to meet, and use this as a guide.

Connect with each other, introduce yourself, and share a bit about who you are.

Summarize. Take turns summarizing the message in your own words. Allow everyone to participate in summarizing the message. Not a personal application yet, just take turns summarizing the message and build it in its entirety. Make sure you as a small group leader are filling in any gaps, the main point, scripture, and the end of the message.

Personal. This section will allow you to go deeper and be sensitive to God's activity in people's lives. Ask questions and facilitate questions around what God is saying and doing in the lives of the people you're leading. What did you get out of it and why? Go over the main scriptures from the message.

Application. Take this time to ask what everyone will be doing with what they heard from the message. (add discussion questions here) What will you do with what you heard? From what you heard out of the message what is God asking you to be or do?

Pray. Take some time to pray with each other.

Jeremiah Reading Plan:

Join our entire church family in reading through the book of Jeremiah together.

Jeremiah 6-9, and 51

Context:

The overall context of the story of Jeremiah can be found in 2 Kings 22-25 and 2 Chronicles 34-36.



Series inspired by "Run With The Horses".

Peterson, Eugene. *Run With The Horses*. Illinois: Intersivity Press, 2009.