

#### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY - 9 am.

We are at present studying the four Gospels. Johan is facilitating the class. Please join us during this time of learning God's Word.

#### **LADIES BIBLE STUDY - 10 AM**

All ladies are encouraged to attend the Wednesday Ladies Bible class. This Wednesday, they will be studying Hosea

#### SUNDAY CHILDREN'S CLASS 9am

Please bring your children to the Children's Bible class. It is so important to bring a child up in God's Way, teaching them about God's Word and God's Love.

Closing Prayer: Chris du Preez

**Song Leader**: Braam Le Roux **Scripture Reading**: Braam Le Roux **Opening Prayer:** Jan Roberts Lord's Table: Ordene Engelbrecht **Attendance last Sunday: 43** 

Servers: Jan, Ordene, Braam & Chris

# The Prophet Jeremiah – which means "Yahweh throws."

Jeremiah's calling to be a prophet came when he was still quite young. He was about 20 years old when God spoke to him and set him apart for a life of prophecy. Jeremiah 1: 4 - 7 marks the beginning of Jeremiah's prophetic ministry.

Jeremiah is known as the "Weeping Prophet", because his ministry was marked by sorrow and grief over the people of Judah and their refusal to repent. He often expressed his deep anguish over the destruction that was coming to his nation (Jeremiah 9: 1). His heartache is one of the key aspects of his prophetic role.

Jeremiah's primary message to the people of Judah was the coming judgment due to their sin and disobedience to God. He foretold the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple (Jeremiah 25: 11 - 12). This prophecy was eventually fulfilled when the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem.

Jeremiah faced intense persecution and rejection throughout his life. He was often beaten, thrown into prison, and faced ridicule for delivering such difficult prophecies (Jeremiah 20: 2). Despite these hardships, Jeremiah remained faithful to his calling.

God commanded Jeremiah to remain single as part of his prophetic message to the people of Judah. His unmarried status was a reflection of the coming desolation and the lack of hope for future generations (Jeremiah 16: 1-2). This was a unique aspect of Jeremiah's life and prophetic mission.

One of the most important aspects of Jeremiah's ministry was his prophecy of the Babylonian exile. He warned that the people of Judah would be taken captive if they did not repent (Jeremiah 27: 6-7). This exile would last 70 years, as foretold by Jeremiah.

In addition to the book of Jeremiah, the prophet is traditionally believed to have authored the Book of Lamentations. This book expresses his deep sorrow over the fall of Jerusalem and the suffering of the people (Lamentations 1: 1). Lamentations is a series of mourning poems expressing the devastation of Judah.

Throughout his ministry, Jeremiah called the people of Judah to repent and return to God. He emphasized the importance of true repentance, not just outward rituals (Jeremiah 3: 12 - 13). His call for repentance was a major theme in his prophecies. Even though Jeremiah's prophecies often focused on judgment, he also offered hope for a future restoration. He promised that God would eventually bring back the people from exile and restore the land (Jeremiah 29: 10 - 11). This is one of the most comforting and well-known verses in the book of Jeremiah.

Jeremiah often used symbolic acts to visually communicate his messages. One such act was the purchase of a field in Jeremiah 32: 6 - 15, which symbolized God's future restoration of the land. These symbolic acts made Jeremiah's prophecies come alive for the people.

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# SUNDAY TIMES: BIBLE STUDIES: 09H00 WORSHIP: 10H00 TO 11H00 12 OCTOBER 2025

**Preacher**: Johan Smulders

Sermon Topic: "Walking in Christ" Scripture reading: Colossians 2: 6 - 15

Text: Colossians 2: 6

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the members in our congregation who are in need of God's grace, healing and strength through difficult times. Please pray for Taida Marembo, Geraldine's mother, Petro, Ian, Kate and Landon, as they are going through a very difficult time. We also need to thank God for prayers answered.

## WELCOME

We welcome all visitors to our worship this morning. We believe that you will be blessed as we worship God. Please feel free to ask any questions regarding our worship or about God's Word.

#### **PAMPHLET DRIVE**

Mike would like to thank everyone who helped with the pamphlet drive yesterday.

#### SCRIPTURES FOR THE WEEK

Romans 15: 13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Philippians 4: 13, "I can do all things through God who strengthens me."

2 Corinthians 12: 9, "My Grace is all you need, for my power is the greatest when you are weak."

Psalm 73: 26, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

Joshua 1: 9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Psalm 23: 4, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

### **SCARS FOR LIFE**

Some years ago, on a hot summer day in south Florida, a little boy decided to go for a swim in the old swimming hole behind his house. In a hurry to dive into the cool water, he ran out the back door, leaving behind shoes, socks and shirt as he went. He flew into the water, not realizing that, as he swam toward the middle of the lake, an alligator was swimming toward the shore.

His mother, who was in the house, was looking out the window and saw the two as they got closer and closer together. In utter fear, she ran toward the water, yelling to her son as loudly as she could. Hearing her voice, the little boy became alarmed and made a U-turn to swim to his mother. It was too late. Just as he reached her, the alligator reached him.

From the dock, the mother grabbed her little boy by the arms just as the alligator snatched his legs. That began an incredible tug-of-war between the two. The alligator was much stronger than the mother, but the mother was much too passionate to let go.

A farmer happened to drive by, heard her screams, raced from his truck, took aim and shot the alligator. Remarkably, after weeks and weeks in the hospital, the little boy survived. His legs were extremely scarred by the vicious attack of the animal. On his arms were deep scratches where his mother's fingernails dug into his flesh in her effort to hang on to the son she loved.

The newspaper reporter who interviewed the boy after the trauma, asked if he would show him his scars. The boy lifted his pant legs. And then, with obvious pride, he said to the reporter, "But look at my arms. I have great scars on my arms, too. I have them because my Mom wouldn't let go."

You and I can identify with that little boy. We have scars, too. No, not from an alligator, or anything quite so dramatic. But the scars of a painful past. Some of those scars are unsightly and have caused us deep regret. But some wounds, my friend, are because God has refused to let go.

In the midst of your struggle, He's been there holding on to you. The Scripture teaches that God loves you. You are a child of God. He wants to protect you and provide for you in every way.

But sometimes we foolishly wade into dangerous situations. The swimming hole of life is filled with peril - and we forget that the enemy is waiting to attack. That's when the tug-of-war begins - and if you have the scars of His love on your arms be very, very grateful. He did not and will not - let you go.