**Small Group Discussion Guide**

**Sermon Date: June 13, 2021 – Youth Sunday**

**Series: Rooted in Faith| Sermon Title: “God Please Choose Someone Else”**

**Text: Jeremiah 1:4-10 NRSV**

**Speaker: Reverend Chelesea Waite**

**Jeremiah 1:**[4](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=Jeremiah+1%3A4&ver=nlt) 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.”

**Sermon Notes**

We’ve lived through a season of discomfort because of COVID19 causing many of us to cry: “God choose someone else”. Parents have worked full time, while raising children and being full time teachers. Teachers have simultaneously taught in-class and managed virtual classrooms. Children have missed out on graduations, celebrations and championships. African Americans have confronted a resurgence of open-blatant racism and rampant police brutality. But God often places us in uncomfortable situations as the blueprint or plan for our lives. Such was the case with Jeremiah.

 ***God used Jeremiah to preach repentance to Israel. God sought out Jeremiah – We don’t need to seek popularity because God will seek you – “even if you are a child”***

God used Jeremiah to preach repentance to the people of God. Jeremiah did not seek God for this assignment but rather God sought-out Jeremiah before he was in his mother’s womb. God had a blue print or design for Jeremiah’s life which God reveals to Jeremiah as a young boy in our text.

Jeremiah sought to decline God’s commission based on his age and the discomfort he felt with preforming the awesome role of “Prophet to the Nation” but God refused Jeremiah’s resignation. Jeremiah could not see the potential that God saw in him. God has a history of seeking out, qualifying and working with young people such as Joseph, David and here Jeremiah. Therefore, God refused Jeremiah’s resignation and excuses but instead anointed his mouth to preach justice to the people of God. Like the little steam-engine who repeated the refrain, “I think I can, I think I can, I think I can, made it up the steep mountain, Jeremiah trusted God’s calling on his life and became a great prophet. We also “Can” do all things through Christ.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. How can we know if a child is gifted and/or anointed by God?
2. What does it mean to be called before you’re in your mother’s womb?
3. Explain why God would put us in uncomfortable situations?
4. Why is it important for children to be seen and heard?
5. What experiences have you had with anointed children?
6. How is wanting God to choose someone else different from humility?