

## **‘Before You Were Born, God Knew You’ Jeremiah 1:1-10**

### **I. Practical lessons from Jeremiah’s call**

He’s been called the weeping prophet. His sufferings began with a divine call. 1:4,5  
His call is rich in practical teaching; permit me to mention 4 items.

**1. God is the Lord of life.** Jeremiah had biological parents, of course, but God is the One who fashioned and formed him. The Lord of life uses the natural processes that He designed to make new humans. So first, He is the Lord of life. This means you are not just an accident of nature.

**2. A fetus is a person.** The whole abortion industry used to hang on the idea that a fetus is not a person. Now, many don’t care even if it is a person or if it can be shown that life begins at conception, they say that a baby has no rights, period; the mother has complete rights to do whatever she feels like.

a. But that is not what God says. He says a fetus is a human being, created in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

Birth is not our beginning. Conception also is not our beginning. In some way, quite unknown to us, God has a personal knowledge of that person that even precedes conception. *‘Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.’*

b. But think of it, God says: *‘I knew you.’* What a beautiful thing for God to say to His children. I knew you, I loved you and cared for you in eternity past. Thus, what a beautiful thing for parents to say to their kids, ‘God knows you, God loves you, God wants you to know and love Him too.’ This whole concept can be a tremendous comfort for mothers who had miscarriages. God knew their child. This also gives hope to parents who have lost kids in infancy, God knew their kids too. It also provides hope for women who ended up for whatever reason, aborting their child. God knew that child; it wasn’t just a blob of cells.

c. This is why we celebrate sanctity of life. All of life is \_\_\_\_\_, from the very beginning to the very end. Life is a gift from God. We do not have the right to end a child’s existence, to end their chance to live a life here on earth.

**3. We do not choose God before God chooses us.** If you want to know *who* you are, you have to know *whose* you are. For the Christian, the answer to that is, you belong to Jesus Christ. God says: ‘I consecrated you.’ This means he was set apart, chosen, dedicated to the Lord’s service.

God’s choice is not unique to Jeremiah; it is true for every believer. John 15:16 Eph. 1:3,4

**4. Every Christian has a calling.** Not only is there a general type of calling to believe and obey the Lord Jesus Christ but there is also a special calling just for that person. Notice, Jeremiah was not just set apart for salvation but also for a specific vocation: a prophet to the nations. The good news includes that not only did God know you and chose you but He also has a \_\_\_\_\_ for your life.

F.B. Meyer quote: *‘from the foot of the cross, where we are cradled in our second birth, to the brink of the river, where we lay down our armor, there is a path which He has prepared for us to walk in.’*

### **II. Would you have chosen Jeremiah? 1:6-7**

Jeremiah now knew his calling but right away he had his doubts. But when God gives His servants a clear calling, He does not accept any excuses. God exposed Jeremiah’s false humility for what it really was: a lack of faith. 2 Cor. 2:16

### **III. A Dangerous calling 1:8,9**

Once God dealt with his excuses, He went on and further described Jeremiah’s dangerous calling. Standing up for the sacredness of life has become a somewhat dangerous platform to stand on in our day. People will attack that idea not because it’s not true, but because they don’t want it to be true.

### **IV. Grace gets the last word. 1:10**

Note the 6 action verbs in his calling.