

## Jeremiah and Pashhur - Jeremiah 20:1-18

*Topics:* Children, Consequences, Death, Enemies, Evil, Failure, Fear, Friendship, Good News, Heart, Humiliation, Insults, Lying, Mind, Mourning, Power, Praise, Prophecy, Punishment, Revenge, Righteousness, Salvation, Shame, Slavery, Sorrow, Trust, War, Wealth

### Open It

1. What kinds of crises might make a person wish he or she had never been born?
- \* 2. When was the last time you were bitterly disappointed?
3. When have you felt as if everyone were just waiting for you to make a mistake?

### Explore It

4. How did the chief officer respond to Jeremiah's prophecy in the temple? (20:1-2)
5. What unlikely person had Jeremiah beaten? Why? (20:1-2)
6. What future did Jeremiah foretell for Pashhur and all of Judah? (20:3-6)
- \* 7. What was Jeremiah's complaint to the Lord? (20:7-8)
8. Why was Jeremiah upset with God? (20:7-10)
9. What would happen if Jeremiah tried to stop speaking the word of the Lord? (20:9)
10. What did Jeremiah hear the people saying about him? (20:10)
- \* 11. From where did Jeremiah derive consolation for his disappointments? (20:11-13)
12. What did Jeremiah believe about God's ability to set things straight? (20:11-13)
- \* 13. What was the basis for Jeremiah's song of praise to God? (20:13)
14. How had Jeremiah come to feel about life and his presumably joyful entry into it? (20:14-18)

### Get It

15. Why do some people try to silence those who speak God's Word?
16. How could Jeremiah be so confident that his enemies wouldn't have the final word?
17. Why is it encouraging to know that no human being can keep the Word of God from going forth?
18. What would motivate even Jeremiah's friends to try to silence him?
- \* 19. What value is there in the fact that the Bible records Jeremiah's (and other servants' of God) discouragement?
- \* 20. What should we do whenever we feel disappointed?

### Apply It

21. What servant of God do you know who is in a period of despair and in need of your words of comfort?
- \* 22. What injustice is weighing on you which you can turn over to God?