

You Are Just Right!

“At the Well” mentoring series

Girls!

www.DebiStack.com



by humorist, author
and speaker **Debi Stack**
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www.debistack.com!

Joe Jonas (Squeal!) and Jeremiah (Zzzz...)

What do a handsome pop star and an Old Testament prophet have in common?

- Their first names begin with the SAME LETTER! (*Squeal!*)
- They were raised in families that followed the SAME GOD! (*Squeal!*)
- They are, at 20 years old, the SAME AGE! (*Sque– Huh? How can that be?*)

OK, Joe and Jeremiah may not be 20 years old at the same time. But the point is that Jeremiah was *young* like Joe Jonas (or even younger!) when God said, “Jer, listen up. Before I formed you in your mama’s belly, I had this plan for you. You are going to be My spokesperson to the whole nation!”

That would be a ginormous job for an adult! A national spokesperson would need a lot of college, training in public relations, experience in politics, a really good personal stylist, etc. Jeremiah didn’t have any of that. He didn’t even have natural talent (like Joe Jonas) or the support of an adoring crowd to cheer him on (again, like J.J.)

We know Jeremiah was young. How? Because of the Hebrew word used in the Bible’s record of his conversation with God. Read Jeremiah 1:4-8 from your own Bible or from the back of this sheet. Your Bible might use the English word “child” or “young.” In Hebrew, the original word is pronounced *nah’ ar* and it covers the ages of infancy through teenhood. Had Jeremiah’s voice changed yet? Was he old enough to shave? Did he have a learner’s permit to drive a chariot? The only thing we know for sure is that he was *not* an adult.

We also know that God’s plan scared Jeremiah. The first word out of this boy’s mouth was, “AHAAA!!” The Hebrew word for it is pronounced *a-haw’* and it means to yell “Oh” or “Ah” with an exclamation point because you are in pain. Imagine getting a big slap on the back by someone who couldn’t see the sunburn under your shirt. *That’s* the kind of “Ah” that Jeremiah said to God. He wasn’t just doubtful or disinterested. Jeremiah was *painfully afraid* to do what God asked.

Look at how God answered. He didn’t say, “Oops! Sorry, Jeremiah. I didn’t realize you were *that* young. What was I thinking? Besides, if you’re scared, I’ll just ask someone else. Sorry to have bothered you.”

No, God knew *exactly* how Jeremiah was made because He created this boy personally — without special speaking ability! Why? *So that Jeremiah would always depend on God, not his own abilities.*

God’s reply was this: “Zip it, kid. You are just right. Now go where I send you, and say what I tell you. Don’t be afraid. I’ll always stay near you, to snatch you out of trouble.”

Girls, you are just right too! You are not too young to pour into the lives of younger girls, and God will be with you very step of the way.

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Girls, you are just right too! You are not too young to pour into the lives of younger girls, and God will be with you very step of the way.

3 for me

quick questions
to make it real



Jeremiah 1:4-8

The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

"Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child."

But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you."

- 1. If God also knew King David, the prophet Isaiah and the apostle Paul before they were born, then He certainly knew you too!** Read these verses about them. Then cross out the words *my*, *me* and *I* in each verse. Above them, write your first name. Now, read these verses aloud with your first name as part of them!

King David Psalm 139:16 *Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.*

Isaiah Isaiah 49:1 *Before I was born the LORD called me; from my birth He has made mention of my name.*

Paul Galatians 1:15 *God set me apart from birth ... and called me by His grace.*

- 2. God views young people very differently from the way adults do.**

1 Samuel 17: 33, 50, [King] Saul replied, "[David,] you are not able to go out against [Goliath] and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth." [...But] David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone.

King Saul and other adults viewed David this way:

But God knew that David was just right and helped him to:

1 Timothy 4:12 *Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.*

Other adults viewed Timothy this way:

But God knew that Timothy was just right and helped him to:

- 3. Today, you are just right! What do you think God wants to help you do now (not "someday when I'm grown up")?**

Ask God to make clear to you what HIS plan is for you now. Below, write:

"Talk to me, God! I'm listening!" Pray and listen every day for His reply! When you know what it is, design a collage or poster of it for your room.

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