

Name: _____

FUNDOCY Homework: Voice of the Prophets

Lesson Taught on Sunday, January 13

Homework Due: Sunday, January 27

God has chosen people throughout history to speak out against injustice, to take a stand for the poor and powerless, to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable...and the people God has chosen have been all different ages, and from all different walks of life. Age is not the primary ingredient in receiving spiritual insight—the primary ingredient is the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit is calling us to speak out and live out God’s will. With the Spirit’s power, we can both know what God’s will is and be given incredible power to speak it out. So now what?

Part I: The Lesson

1. Using a dictionary, define "prophet".

A prophet is _____

2. The word "prophet" means: (Circle your answer)

- A. To prosper,
- B. To see the future,
- C. To speak out or before,
- D. To be in favor of "phets"

Throughout history, God has spoken through prophets to reveal to God’s people the error of their ways, and to re-direct them on the right path. At different points in history, God’s people made different mistakes, and therefore, the messages of the prophets varied (what the people needed to hear at one point, they didn’t need to hear at another point)

Early on, in spite of everything that God had done, Israel abandoned God and began serving idols.

Prophets, such as Elijah, arose to warn Israel to return to God, but the people didn’t listen.

3. Read 1 Kings 18:23-24. Here, Elijah challenges the prophets of Baal (an idol to whom the Israelites had turned) to call upon Baal to prove himself. Elijah instructs the prophets to call upon Baal to bring _____ upon the people (see the very end of verse 24)

4. Elijah challenged the prophets of the false god Baal to:

- A. An arm wrestling contest,
- B. A Pillsbury Bake-Off,
- C. A "God vs. Baal Fire From Heaven Loser Gets Hacked To Pieces" contest,
- D. Appear on *American Idol*

5. Read Isaiah 6:1-8. Isaiah's response to God's call was:
 - A. "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips,"
 - B. "Here am I; send me!"
 - C. "I'll have to get back to you on that one – have your people call my people,"
 - D. Both A and B
6. Read Isaiah 1:18-20. Here, the prophet Isaiah says to the people "if you are _____ and _____ you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and _____, you shall be devoured by the sword".
7. Read Isaiah 49:1b. When did the LORD call the prophet Isaiah? (when he was an old man, when he was a teenager, etc.) _____
8. Read Jeremiah 1:4-8. God appointed Jeremiah to be a prophet before he was born, but Jeremiah doubts his abilities and says "Truly, I do not know how to _____, for I am only a boy".
 - A. Who else have we studied who doubted their ability to speak, even though God had instructed them to speak? _____
9. The prophet Jeremiah's first response to God's call was:
 - A. "Here am I, send me,"
 - B. "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening,"
 - C. "I don't know how to speak – I'm only a youth,"
 - D. "I'll have to get back to you on that one – have your people call my people"
10. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34. The new covenant that God promises to Jeremiah is the birth of Jesus! Complete the verse (33b): "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their _____; and I will be their _____ and they will be my _____".
11. Why did the Israelites need prophets from time to time? (Circle your answer)
 - A. They got bored easily and prophets were the best show in town,
 - B. They ran out of kings,
 - C. They liked to meet new people,
 - D. They often turned away from God and needed someone to set them straight
12. Read Ezekiel 37:11-14. Based on these verses (God's words to the prophet Ezekiel), Israel was:
 - A. Very rich and needed a scolding,
 - B. Very poor and needed a king,
 - C. Exiled in Babylon and needed a word of hope,
 - D. Leased to Starbucks

13. Read Amos 5:21-24. In the days of the prophet Amos, Israel was:
- A. Very rich and needed a scolding,
 - B. Very poor and needed a king,
 - C. Exiled in Babylon and needed a word of hope,
 - D. Leased to Starbucks
14. Read Zechariah 9:9. Who do you think the king is? (Hint: It's someone who will come in the future, someone very important to Christianity). _____
15. God's prophets are often called to:
- A. Comfort the afflicted,
 - B. Afflict the comfortable,
 - C. Both A and B,
 - D. Tell people what they want to hear
16. If God calls you to speak out or act out against injustice, what should you do?:
- A. Take the first boat in the opposite direction,
 - B. Tell God that you are just a kid and not qualified,
 - C. Make as many lame excuses as you possibly can,
 - D. Respond, "Here am I! Send me!" and then get ready

Part II: Reflection Questions (There are NO wrong answers here!)

1. Have you ever felt compelled to speak out against injustice, evil, violence, or anything else you knew was against God's will?
- _____
- What happened? _____
- _____
2. Israel and Judah abandoned God and eventually were carried off into exile. What does this teach us?
- _____
- _____
- _____
3. Your friends are making racist comments. God stirs in your heart to say something. What do you say?
