



Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery Rock Branch

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Today's Word: iron

October 29, 2006

Lesson 41: "I Have Made Thee This Day . . . an Iron Pillar"

Are You:

- Sharing Your Testimony with Others?
- Following the Lord's Commandments?

Today's Scriptures

Jeremiah 1-2; 15; 20;
26; 36-38

Next Week:

Lesson 42:

"I Will Write it in Their
Hearts"

Jeremiah 16, 23, 29, and 31

Questions to Ponder

- How have you been reassured by the Lord when you felt inadequate?
- What can we learn from Jeremiah to help us when we experience adversity?

DO IT OVER, TRY AGAIN!

Jeremiah's trials were many, and even though he was utterly disgusted and discouraged at times, he kept heeding the Lord's call to warn the people. Even when the king ripped up his prophesies and threw it into the fire, Jeremiah sat right down and did it over again. We can take an example from him and be as an iron pillar as the Lord promised him he would be.

Jeremiah 1: 18

"For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brasen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the ^aprinces thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land. "



Have You Ever Wanted to Just Give Up??

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland asks, what made Jeremiah change his mind after he got so angry that he vowed, in effect, never to teach another lesson? He explains: "So speak unto them he did, but initially not with much success. Things went from bad to worse until finally he was imprisoned and made a laughingstock among the people. Angry that he had been so mistreated and maligned, Jeremiah vowed, in effect, never to teach another lesson, whether that be to an investigator, Primary child, new convert, or—heaven forbid—the 15-year-olds. 'I will not make mention of [the Lord], nor speak any more in his name,' the discouraged prophet said.

But then came the turning point of Jeremiah's life. Something had been happening with every testimony he had borne, every scripture he had read, every truth he had taught. Something had been happening that he hadn't counted on. Even as he vowed to close his mouth and walk away from the Lord's work, he found that he could not. Why? Because 'his word was in mine heart as burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay' " ("A Teacher Come from God," Ensign, May 1988, 27).

Think about the next time you feel like giving up and consider whether you have that "fire shut up in [your] bones." like Jeremiah. Then let it out.