

## Chapter 8

### *Turning Point in the Journey: The Destruction of Judah, Exile, and Return*

#### Called to Prayer

The word of the Lord came to me: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

“Ah, Lord God!” I said, “I do not know how to speak. I am too young!”

But the Lord answered me, Do not say, “I am too young.” To whomever I send you, you shall go; whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you—oracle of the Lord.

Then the Lord extended his hand and touched my mouth, saying to me, See, I place my words in your mouth!

—Jeremiah 1:4-9

- *Reflection:* Can you think of a time that you felt God calling you to something that you did not feel equipped to do? What does Jeremiah say when the Lord called him? How could God be saying something similar to you in your situation?
- *Meditation:* Insert your name into the text every time it says, “you.” In what ways have you been dedicated and appointed to bring God into the world? Tell God your honest reaction to that call? What does God say in return?

*Resolution:* By the grace of your baptism God has anointed you to act as a prophet in our world. What is the message that you think God wants you to share? Write this down and then ask God to give you an opportunity to share authentically.