GENESIS TO REVELATION | PROPHETIC LESSON

A Lesson at the Potter's House

Jeremiah 18:1-12



YOUR BIBLE READING

A warning can call for a real change in actions, not only different words.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Jeremiah Watches a Potter Work

Jeremiah 18:1-12



God told Jeremiah to go down to a potter's house, where he would hear a message. A potter makes containers from clay, shaping material that can be worked while it is soft. Jeremiah obeyed and went to the workshop. He saw the potter making something at the wheels. This is a prophetic lesson built around work Jeremiah actually observed, not merely a comparison introduced with no setting or person watching it.

The vessel being made was spoiled in the potter's hands. Instead of leaving it that way, the potter worked the clay again into another vessel, shaping it as seemed good to him. The passage does not say whether it was meant to be a bowl, a jar, or a cup. It does not name a color or describe a special pattern. The important action is the potter's ability to reshape the clay before him.

Then God's message came to Jeremiah. God compared the house of Israel with clay in a potter's hand. The lesson concerned God's relationship with a people and their future. It was not an instruction that a powerful human being may treat another person like an object. The workshop scene supplied a picture of shaping and changing, and the words that followed would explain how that picture applied to a nation.

God described speaking against a nation or kingdom, announcing that it would be pulled up, broken down, and destroyed. If that nation turned from its evil, he would relent from the disaster announced against it. The message included a real call to respond. It did not present the warning as a fixed ending that made every choice pointless. Turning away from wrongdoing mattered within the future the prophet was being told to speak about.

Remember: I can listen to a truthful correction and choose a specific action that reduces harm.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

A Warning That Calls for Changed Ways

Jeremiah 18:1-12



The message also described the other direction. God might speak of building and planting a nation. If its people then did evil and refused to listen, that good outcome would not be treated as permission to continue wrongdoing. The two examples belong together. A warning called for change, and a promise was not a shield for carelessness. The lesson connected national actions with consequences rather than treating either good words or bad news as an excuse to stop listening.

Jeremiah was to address Judah and the people of Jerusalem. God said that disaster was being shaped against them and called each person to turn from evil, changing their ways and actions. The potter's work now gave the warning a vivid picture. The message was not only about clay; it was about what a community was doing and whether its people would respond differently when confronted with the truth about those actions.

The selected passage ends with a stubborn refusal. The people are described as deciding to follow their own plans and the hardness of their hearts. A faithful retelling must not turn that ending into an invented scene in which everyone immediately apologizes and repairs the city. The call to change has been spoken, and the response recorded here resists it. That unfinished difficulty is part of the prophetic lesson, not something a reader must cover with a happier conclusion.

For an ordinary present-day example, a group may be warned that its way of using shared materials is damaging them. Changing the routine could prevent more harm. Ignoring the warning would have consequences. That example is not an extra message spoken to Jeremiah, and it does not explain every national disaster. It simply helps make response visible: admitting a problem and changing an action is different from saying that nothing can be done while carrying on exactly as before.

Pause and think: What practical action could show that someone has listened to a useful warning?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Practice a Change You Can Actually Make



With adult permission, shape soft craft clay into a simple container and reshape it before it dries. Notice what the material lets your hands do. Your model does not recreate every detail of Jeremiah's workshop. It can help you understand the observed action before considering the prophet's message. Describe what you changed without calling yourself or another person a spoiled or worthless object.

Think of a small habit that affects shared things: leaving caps off markers, interrupting, or forgetting to return materials. Choose an imaginary example if you prefer. What would a changed action look like? A useful plan names something you can do, not only a feeling you wish you had. A caregiver can help make the step realistic and notice what support you need.

People are not clay for other people to control. If an adult uses this passage to excuse hurting you or forcing harmful obedience, tell a safe adult. The lesson concerns God speaking through Jeremiah to Israel and Judah. Learning from correction should include truth, dignity, and protection, not the idea that being powerful gives someone permission to break another person.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

The potter’s work becomes a prophetic warning that calls Judah to change harmful ways rather than stubbornly continue them.

What practical action could show that someone has listened to a useful warning?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did the potter do when the vessel was spoiled?

2. How do the people respond at the end of this selection?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ The people resist and choose their own plans.
- ☐ God explains the picture through warnings and calls to change.
- ☐ Jeremiah watches the potter reshape a spoiled vessel.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw hands reshaping craft clay, with a separate panel showing a helpful change in an ordinary routine.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

I can listen to a truthful correction and choose a specific action that reduces harm.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Jeremiah 18:1-12

A thoughtful conversation

The vessel's exact type is not named, and the people do not repent by the end of this selection. Explain the national, prophetic meaning of the clay picture rather than treating children as defective objects. Human adults do not gain God's authority to control, break, or hurt others through this analogy.

Activity answers

1. He reshaped the clay into another vessel.
2. They stubbornly decide to follow their own plans.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, help me hear truthful correction and choose a caring action I can change.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Jeremiah 18:1-12. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original symbolic vector artwork by DigiPick.store; a learning aid, not an additional Bible event.
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