



Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

November 23, 2014

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Narrative Lectionary

Matthew 25:31-46

Jeremiah 1:4-10; 7:1-11



knew you before
you were born, I had
set you apart

He Knows My Name. Object: Name tags that say, "Hello, my name is ____."

As you can see, I am wearing a name tag this morning. It says, "My name is (Your Name)." I want to make sure that all of you know my name. I also want to know your name too, so I have a name tag for each of you. A little later, I want you to write your name on your name tag and then come to see me so that I can make sure I know your name. Wearing a name tag is a good way for all of us to get to know each other, isn't it?

Have you ever heard the song, "He Knows My Name?" It is a very popular song that is sung in many churches all over the world. It goes like this:

"He Knows My Name" by Tommy Walker

I have a Maker. He formed my heart. Before even time began, my life was in his hands.

He knows my name. He knows my every thought. He sees each tear that falls.

He hears me when I call.

Do you know where the songwriter got the idea for that song? It is from our Bible lesson this morning.

Our story begins with God speaking to a young boy by the name of Jeremiah. "Before I started to put you together inside of your mother, I knew you. Before you were even born, I set you apart; I chose you to be a prophet to the nations."

Jeremiah heard God and he understood what God wanted him to do, but he was afraid. He answered God and said, "Oh, Lord! I can't be your prophet. I don't even know how to speak; I am only a child."

God answered Jeremiah and said, "Don't say, 'I am only a child.' You must go wherever I send you and do what I tell you. Don't be afraid, because I am with you." Then the Lord touched Jeremiah's mouth and said, "See, I have put my words in your mouth. Today I have chosen you to be over the nations and the kings."

Wow! God had some mighty big plans for Jeremiah, didn't he? Well, God may have some pretty big plans for you too. He knows your name. He knew you before you were even born and he has a plan for your life. When God asks you to do something, don't say, "I'm only a child!" Don't be afraid, do what God tells you to do, because he will be with you no matter what he asks you to do.

Father, thank you for being a God who knows us by name. Help us to remember that when you show us the plans that you have for us, there is nothing to fear, because you are with us. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Jesus says, I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will last. Alleluia (John 15:16)

Word Search Puzzle

J B N A T I O N S H R N Y I S
T G Z L F S P E A K H E X T D
P H I Z O V L W P A N W A N E
Y X C V R F M N I S M X E C V
P C O Z M X M M M F L S H G H
R F M T E Q E O W A R T B B D
H V M M D R D Y X Y U D E Y U
Z T A H E G Z G S O I M C L H
A A N J N A I L M P C H I L D
P F D I D E C L A R E U N S L
P R K F W I T D A G E B M N Q
O A Q Z Q O O N K K S G G D
I I H A N D R R U Q T N C R C
N D M W K X O D T C I P O U C
T I M U X B Z G F M H L A W E

REACH	SEND	CHILD	APPOINT	COMMAND
TOUCH	NATIONS	KINGDOMS	HAND	SPEAK
RESCUE	AFRAID	MOUTH	LORD	WORD
BORN	JEREMIAH	DECLARE	KNOW	FORMED

BOOKMARK: Don't be afraid - I am with you. Decorate bookmark with stickers and place in Bible. Write or glue the typed Bible verse on the back of the bookmark.

MY NAME POSTER: Have child color in his own name in block or bubble letters in bright colors. Under the name, have child write GOD KNOWS MY NAME!

BANNER: Draw large red heart with GOD FORMED MY HEART written inside the heart; draw or trace hands and write below them: MY LIFE IS IN GOD'S HANDS: and draw a large EAR and write: HE HEARS ME WHEN I CALL. This can be a classroom banner with everyone taking part or each child can make a banner above to take home.



"BEFORE I FORMED YOU IN THE WOMB I KNEW YOU,
BEFORE YOU WERE BORN I SET YOU APART."

JEREMIAH 1:5A

