

## THE GIFT

Scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-10

December 4, 2020

Message: **“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart;”**

### Jeremiah 1:5 (NIV)

Birth. The scriptures are filled with references about special births. Isaac, Moses, Samuel, Jeremiah, John the Baptist, and the greatest birth, Jesus our Lord. I am confident God must have whispered the above scripture each time these people were given life. They were all placed on this earth for a very special time and task.

I was not given the privilege of giving birth but I have shared in the joy as family members and friends waited, anticipated, and dreamed of their baby's future. Will this child grow to look like their mother or dad? What career path will they choose? And finally, what does the future hold for my special child? Babies who are born this year, 2020, have and will enter a very uncertain world. But all of the above babies also entered a dangerous and uncertain world. So, how do we comfort and encourage the new parents of 2020? One way is to go back and read the stories again of the remarkable births and the promises God made to these people. “I will provide what you need to do what I ask. I will be with you.”

God has a special task for each of us. It is up to us listen, follow, and obey God's direction. He formed us in our mothers' wombs and He knew us. And before we were even born, He set us apart to do this special task. How will we respond to God's call this advent as we are reminded of the greatest birth ever? God set the example as He sent His Son for the greatest task on this earth.

Following God's call is the greatest gift we can give in return for the life He has given us.

Prayer: Lord, open my ears that I may hear you call to me and fill my heart with the desire to answer your call. Amen.

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