

## Jeremiah 36

"Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

Jeremiah 23:29

### Readings this week:

S	Jeremiah 36: 1-16
M	Jeremiah 36: 17-32
T	Jeremiah 23: 23-32
W	Jeremiah 15: 15-21
Th	2 Timothy 3: 10-17
F	2 Timothy 4: 1-8
S	Psalms 119: 89-112

Think back to the lesson in Josiah, whose whole life changed when he read God's word. Not all kings had that attitude, though. Read Jeremiah 36 to find out how Jehoiakim reacted when God's word was read to him! Use the cartoon to identify who the people were and write in what they were saying or thinking.



How would you react if someone suggested God's word is rubbish?

Work with your group to write an imaginary conversation. You might like to do some role play together to work out what you would say. It's a good idea to have your thoughts ready in case you need to use them!



We've been thinking about what you would do if God's word were insulted, now let's look at it the other way round: how can you show God the respect that you have for His word?

Talk in your group about the things you can do to show your respect and make a list of things to try out.

## Digging Deeper

Remind yourself which period of history we are talking about. Where did Jeremiah live and in whose reigns? Look at Jeremiah 1:1-3 and use the time chart at the front of the workbook.

What do we know about Jeremiah himself?  
Read Jeremiah 1:4-10 to find out how God called him.  
How does this remind you of how Isaiah was called?  
(Look back at lesson 51)  
What did God tell him? Jeremiah 16:1-4.  
How did Jeremiah often feel about telling the people  
God's message? chapter 20:7-9

Read chapter 11:18-22 to find out how he was treated by the people. (In this week's and last week's lessons also you will have learnt how he was he treated and the next two lessons will show us more.)  
How did Jeremiah react?

Here are two clay impressions of seals which archaeologists have discovered.



They both belonged to people mentioned in Jeremiah 36. The one above has the name Baruch (Berechiah) the son of Neriah the scribe. The other bears



the words "Jerahmeel, the king's son". History can also tell

us that this was not the only time God's word was burned. See what you can find out about when people tried to make the Bible available in English. It wasn't just books which got burned ....

*Pray  
you  
will have  
courage to  
speak out for  
God.*