The written (inspired) revelation would give a promise of ***RESTORATION***. (Jeremiah 36:3 – *"forgiveness"* – restoration of broken fellowship because of sin).

God gave Jeremiah a revelation of His divine plan in vs. 3 (*"purpose to do"*). Jeremiah conveyed the revelation to Baruch through an inspired message to be penned (Jer. 36:18).

It is amazing to think that a holy God used ordinary and imperfect people to do such an important task as penning everything He wanted us to know. Though the Bible has been completed, He still uses ordinary people to do great things for His honor and glory. The same God who loved you enough to save you wants to use your life to do great things for Him now. What is more important than allowing God to use you for His glory to impact others with the message of His Son?

** – *Indicates a defined word within the lesson.*

LESSON DEFINITIONS

Holy – When a man's heart is conformed in some degree to the image of God, and his life is regulated by the divine precepts.

Illuminate – To enlighten intellectually with knowledge or grace.

Inspiration – The infusion of ideas into the mind by the Holy Spirit; the communication of the divine will to the understanding by suggestions or impressions on the mind, which leave no room to doubt the reality of their supernatural origin.

Moved – To cause to act or determine.

Revelation – The act of disclosing or discovering to others what was before unknown to them; appropriately, the disclosure or communication of truth to men by God Himself.

To see this lesson taught by a Bearing Precious Seed representative, please visit bpsmilford.org/nbpm/resources.

TEACHER NOTES:

NATIONAL BIBLE PUBLISHING MONTH

INSPIRATION

GOD ILLUMINATES A PEOPLE GROUP

TEEN TEACHER GUIDE 2

LESSON TWO: INSPIRATION

God Illuminates A People Group

A FEW — A PEOPLE GROUP — A GENERATION — THE WORLD

DISCUSSION TIME

Last week you were contacted by a secret organization and given a mission to carry a message. Now, picture yourself with that message in a foreign country. You are now in the same country where the people to whom you are to give the message are; however, you do not know how to find them. But, you do know the life or death importance of the message you carry. You know these people must receive it in a limited amount of time. The challenge is *how do you get it to them without knowing exactly where they are?*

Suddenly, someone taps you on the shoulder. When you turn to see who it is, a secret, plain-clothed agent from the organization relays to you in minute detail, turn by turn directions to the people to whom you are to take the message. Additionally, he includes other information that they must hear. Now, you are faced with a dilemma. *Should you rely upon your memory for the valuable content of what you have been told, or should you take the time to carefully write down in detail the information that you have been given?*

Upon arrival, you are surprised to find, not just a small group of people to whom you could call together and give this urgent message at one time, but millions of people. *What would be the best plan of action to ensure that every one of them hears each word of the vital message correctly and exactly the same as the first one with whom you share it?*

READ 1 PETER 1:12

Were those who were given God's message supposed to keep it for themselves? The revealed Truth that God gave to a man was not to stay with just him. He wanted him to take it to others.

Since the beginning of mankind, God's desire has been for us to live with not only a knowledge or recognition of His existence, but also with an awareness of His *excellence*. More specifically, he desires for man to know not just about His *presence*, but also to know His *person*. He desires for the whole world to know not just of *a* god, but to personally know *the real* God of heaven (Jn. 17:3; 1 Th. 1:9; 1 Jn. 5:20). God has a plan in which to fulfill this objective.

God's ultimate will is that all men everywhere would repent of their sins and come into the saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Pt. 3:9). With that as His desire, He began a four-part plan to illuminate** mankind with the knowledge of Himself. As we saw in last week's lesson, the first piece to God's plan is revelation**. The second part is inspiration**.

An interesting fact illustrating this divine activity is that God used over ***40*** different authors, during a period of about ***1500*** years, on ***THREE*** different continents to give us everything He wanted for us to receive.

READ 2 PETER 1:21

What word does this verse use to describe the men that were used by God? ***HOLY***

They were ordinary, but God-fearing people who strived to live holy** lives. Those divinely appointed men still were sinful human beings. In their own humanity, they could not be trusted to accurately convey a Divine message from God in their own ability or talents or memory. The Holy Spirit of God "moved"** them in such a way that they penned exactly the words God wanted them to record, free of human error. The finished product was a Divinely inspired, perfect Holy Bible.

READ 2 TIMOTHY 3:16

According to this verse, how much of the Bible is inspired by God? ***ALL OF IT***

The laws of arithmetic teach us that the whole of something is made up of the sum of all its parts. If the whole of the Scriptures is inspired, then all of the pieces completing these Scriptures also have to be inspired. *All* means exactly what it says, *All*. This includes the recording of the great events and miracles, as well as the less-exciting passages, including genealogies and things of that sort. It is not our place to pick and choose or make judgments of what is or is not inspired. God said All is inspired and profitable.

An Old Testament example of the Inspiration Process is found in the book of Jeremiah.

READ JEREMIAH 1:9; 30:1-4; 36:1-3

According to Jeremiah 1:9, where did God place His message? ***IN JEREMIAH'S MOUTH***

According to Jeremiah 30:2, what did God want Jeremiah to do with His message? ***WRITE IT IN A BOOK***

God instructed Jeremiah to pen down the revelation** that He had given him. It was not enough that Jeremiah just preach it. God knew there was a more effective means of communicating His truths to the most possible people.

In Jeremiah 30:2, God uses the words *"that I have spoken."* God used inspiration** to tell Jeremiah exactly what he was to pen down.

In verse 3, God uses the words *"will bring"* and *"will cause"*. God was revealing to Jeremiah truths concerning His people of His divine activity in their lives.

Jeremiah 36 records God's explanation to Jeremiah for why he was to write down the revelation** he had been given.

The written (inspired) response would produce ***REPENTANCE*** (Jer. 36:3 – *"return"*).