



Series: Running From God

Sermon: Part 2: Who Is My Neighbor?

Date: Sunday, September 22nd, 2024

God Tells Jonah To:

1. Go to the Assyrian city of Nineveh
2. Preach to them and give them an opportunity to turn from their wicked ways and repent

Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship. But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your God! Maybe He will take notice of us so that we will not perish." (Jonah 1:4-6)

The man of God is supposed to be the one that _____ for others in trouble, but here Jonah is sleeping, escaping his reality and oblivious to the storm that was happening caused by his disobedience.

Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?" He [Jonah] answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of Heaven, Who made the sea and the dry land." This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the Lord, because he had already told them so.) (Jonah 1:7-10)

"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2)

Whether we are believers or non-believers, the reality is that we are all in the same _____.

Jonah's faith is so private that it is absolutely no good for anyone else.

Those who truly love God start to develop a heart that loves _____.

As Followers of Jesus We Have To Evaluate Our Impact Outside of Church:

- Are we impacting the lives of those around us?
- Are we trustworthy people who look out for the wellbeing and betterment of others?
- Are we bringing healing, salvation, and restoration to our communities?
- Are we leveraging our faith, our time, and our resources so people can find God?



“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him [Jonah], “What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?” “Pick me up and throw me into the sea,” Jonah replied, “and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you.” (Jonah 1:11-12)

Was this the turning point where Jonah was submitting to God or continuing to rebel against God?

Jesus entered the storm so that we could be free.

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus... (Romans 8:1)

Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. Then they cried out to the Lord, “Please, Lord, do not let us die for taking this man’s life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for You, Lord, have done as You pleased.” Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to Him. Now the Lord provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. (Jonah 1:13-17)

They went from fearing the storm to fearing God.

Jonah’s disobedience was met by God’s pursuit.

Jonah’s repentance was met by God’s _____ and _____.

Bottom Line: *Jonah’s disobedience was met by God’s pursuit. Jonah’s repentance was met by God’s mercy and grace.*

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

1. *In what ways have you been apathetic to the needs of those around you? How can you start to change that?*
2. *How has God been lovingly pursuing you in your sin and disobedience?*
3. *When we do turn from our ways and start to decide to go God’s way, how have you been met by God’s mercy and grace?*

Songs used in service: Praise You Anywhere (Brandon Lake), La Batalla (Phil Wickham & Christine D’Clario), Goodness of God (Rhett Walker), Run To The Father (Cody Carnes), Trust In God (Elevation Worship)

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Any prayer requests?

Name _____ **Date:** _____ **Email:** _____

What can we be praying for you about?