

MESSAGE 1: WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU CAUSE A STORM

Parts 1-3

“...Each one of us should be careful how we build our lives. The only true foundation for building is Jesus Christ. But be careful in choosing what building materials you use on that foundation. You can build with values that last forever like gold, silver and jewels or can build with values that burn up and won’t last like wood, hay, and straw. One day your work on earth will be inspected on the Day of Judgment. God will test it by fire, so the quality of your work is MANIFESTED and all will see the true value of what you accomplished. If your work survives the fire, you will receive your reward. But if your work is burned up, you will lose your reward, even though you yourself will be saved, like someone barely escaping a fire.” 1 Corinthians 3:10-14

TEN LESSONS FROM JONAH ABOUT MY LIFE MISSION JONAH 1:1-17

1. MY LIFE MISSION _____

“One day, God spoke his Word to Jonah, the son of Amittai.” Jonah 1:1

2. MY LIFE MISSION _____

“I want you to get up and go to the great city of Nineveh...” Jonah 1:2a

3. MY LIFE MISSION _____

“...go to the great city of Nineveh and tell them that I see all the evil happening there and I won’t ignore it.” Jonah 1:2b

4. MY LIFE MISSION _____

“But Jonah ran away from the presence of the Lord.” Jonah 1:3a

5. RUNNING FROM MY MISSION CAUSES BAD CONSEQUENCES

1) IF I RUN FROM GOD _____

“He went DOWN to Joppa, where he found a ship headed for the port of Tarshish. He paid the price to sail to Tarshish, and went DOWN below deck, hoping to get as far away from God as he could get.” Jonah 1:3b

“Jonah was DOWN below laying DOWN sound asleep.” Jonah 1:5

(later) “I sank DOWN, DOWN into the deep sea!” Jonah 2:3 (NCV)

“I was as FAR DOWN as a body can go!” Jonah 2:6 (MSG)

2) IF I RUN FROM GOD, _____

“He paid the price to sail to Tarshish.” Jonah 1:3b

3) IF I RUN FROM GOD, _____

“But as the ship was sailing, the Lord sent an opposing wind...” Jonah 1:4a

4) IF I RUN FROM GOD, _____

“...the opposing wind created such a massive storm that the ship was in danger of breaking apart!” Jonah 1:4b

“All the sailors were terrified, and they cried out in desperation to whatever gods each one trusted. They also threw overboard everything they could to lighten the ship’s load. While this storm was threatening everyone, Jonah was down below deck laying down sound asleep.” Jonah 1:5

“So they asked Jonah ‘How have you brought down all this trouble on us?’” Jonah 1:8a

6. THE LONGER I RUN FROM GOD, _____

“Now the storm was GETTING WORSE and the waves GOT ROUGHER, so again they asked Jonah, ‘What should we do to you to stop the storm and calm everything down?’” Jonah 1:11

“‘Throw me overboard down into the sea,’ Jonah said, ‘and everything will calm down. I know that it is my fault that you’re having to fight this terrible storm.’” Jonah 1:12

7. IF I’M FIGHTING GOD’S PLAN, _____

“Instead, the sailors tried harder to row the ship back to land and safety. But they could not turn it around, for the raging storm was out of control.” Jonah 1:13

8. WHEN I DO WHAT GOD WANTS, _____

“Finally, the sailors cried out to Jonah’s God ‘O Lord, don’t let us die because of this man’s life! And please don’t hold us responsible for his death, because you, Lord, sent this storm for your purpose.’ Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and immediately the raging sea calmed down.” Jonah 1:14-15

9. WHEN I DO WHAT GOD WANTS, _____

“When the sailors saw this happen, they were awestruck by God’s greatness and they worshiped God. They offered a sacrifice and made vows to God.” John 1:16

10. WHEN I ACCEPT MY MISSION, _____

“Now the Lord PREPARED a great fish to swallow up Jonah, and Jonah was inside that great fish for three days and nights.” Jonah 1:17

MESSAGE 2: WHAT TO DO WHEN IT FEELS HOPELESS

Parts 1-4

7 STEPS FROM JONAH 2:1-10

1. _____

“From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God.” Jonah 2:1

“The disciples privately asked Jesus, ‘Why couldn't we drive that bad spirit out?’ Jesus answered, ‘This kind can only be forced out BY PRAYER.’” Mark 9:28-29

2. _____

“Jonah said ‘In my distress and deep trouble I CRIED OUT to the Lord and he answered me.’” Jonah 2:2

3. _____

“You cast me into the deep water, and I sank to the bottom of the sea. Everything was churning around me, and I was engulfed by powerful waves that overwhelmed me. Then I thought ‘I’ve been banished from God’s presence and I’ll never get to see your holy temple again.’ I was scared to death, afraid I was drowning with water choking me and seaweed wrapped all around my head. I kept sinking down to mountains that rise off the ocean floor. I felt locked in a prison forever...” Jonah 2:3-6

8 CAUSES OF HOPELESSNESS

CHECK any that you may be feeling

- FEELING _____
“You cast me into the DEEP water.”
- FEELING _____
“I sank to the bottom of the sea.”
- FEELING _____
“Everything was churning around me.”
- FEELING _____
“I was engulfed by powerful waves that overwhelmed me.”
- FEELING _____
“Then I thought ‘I’ve been banished from God’s Presence.’”
- FEELING _____
“...and I’ll never get to see your holy temple again.”
- FEELING _____
“I was scared to death, afraid I was drowning with water choking me and seaweed wrapped all around my head.”

- FEELING _____
“I felt locked in a prison forever.”

4. _____

“From the deep in the world of the dead I ASKED FOR HELP and you listened to my cry.” Jonah 2:2b

“Call to me in your times of trouble. I will save you, and you will honor me.” Psalm 50:15 (NCV)

5. _____

“When I had LOST ALL HOPE, I turned my thoughts once more to the Lord. And my earnest prayer went out to you in your Holy Temple.” Jonah 2:7 (NLT)

6. _____

“Those who look to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.” Jonah 2:8

“You, O Lord, saved me and brought my life back up from the pit.” Jonah 2:6b

7. _____

“I will sing a song of thanksgiving, and I will sacrifice to you, and I will do what I have promised you to do because salvation comes from the Lord!” Jonah 2:9

- THROUGH _____
- THROUGH _____
- THROUGH _____

“For God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.” Romans 11:29 (NIV)

“So the Lord ordered the great fish to vomit Jonah onto a beach.” Jonah 2:10

MESSAGE 3: WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU GET A SECOND CHANCE

Parts 1-4

JONAH 3:1-10

“Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah A SECOND TIME!” Jonah 3:1

GOD DELIGHTS IN SHOWING US GRACE & MERCY

“A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. BUT if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance.” Proverbs 28:13 (LB)

“The unfailing love of the Lord never ends! It is his mercy that has kept us from complete destruction. His faithfulness is great and his mercies begin afresh every new day.” Lamentations 3:22-23

EVERY NEW DAY _____

WHAT DO I DO WHEN GOD GIVES ME ANOTHER CHANCE?

1. _____

“Jonah told God, ‘I will sing my thanksgiving to you, and I will sacrifice to you, and I’ll do what I’ve promised you to do, because salvation comes from you Lord!’ Then God ordered the fish to spit up Jonah onto the beach, and it did.”

Jonah 2:9-10

- _____ TO GOD

“It is good to say thank you to the Lord and sing praises to Him. Every morning tell him, ‘Thank you for your kindness!’” Psalms 92:1-2 (LB)

- _____ IN THANKS TO GOD

“The people who honor me are those who bring me offerings to show thanks. And I save those who obey me.” Psalms 50:23 (NCV)

- _____ TO GOD’S MISSION FOR ME

“...Give yourselves completely to God -- every part of you -- for you are back from death and you want to be tools in the hands of God, to be used for his good purposes.” Romans 6:13 (LB)

2. _____

“Do not let the grace that you received from God be for nothing!” 2 Corinthians 6:1 (NCV)

Paul: “I don't care about my own life. The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me—to tell people the Good News about God's grace.” Acts 20:24 (NCV)

“Then the Lord spoke to Jonah again: ‘Go to that great city, Nineveh and WARN THEM of their doom, as I told you to before!’” Jonah 3:1-2

Circumstances may change me but _____

“God's gifts and his call can never be withdrawn; he will never go back on his promises!” Romans 11:29 (LB)

3. _____

“This time Jonah immediately headed to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord.” Jonah 3:3a

_____ **obedience is disobedience**

4. _____

This is one part of your Life Mission

“Now the city of Nineveh was so big that it took three days to walk around it. But after walking for a day, Jonah **WARNED** the people...” Jonah 3:3b-4 (CEV)

A WARNING: cautionary advice about a danger, trap, or problem

“For 3 years I never stopped warning each of you night & day with tears!” Acts 20:31 (NIV)

“Jonah warned the people ‘In forty days Nineveh will be destroyed!’” Jonah 3:4b (NCV)

We are to humbly accept warnings & lovingly give warnings

WHEN?

1. **WHEN PEOPLE ARE** _____

2. **WHEN PEOPLE ARE** _____

5. _____

“The Ninevites believed God... They humbled themselves putting on sackcloth...even the King sat down in the dust! Then the King proclaimed a public fast... Then let us all pray urgently to God, and let us turn from our evil ways and let us stop all our violence! Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.’ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not do what he had warned he’d do.” Jonah 3:5-10

“Warn each other every day, because it’s still called ‘today’, and so that your heart isn’t hardened against God by the sin’s deceit. We will share in all the belongs to Christ if we hold firmly till the end... **SO IF** you hear God’s voice today, listen and don’t be stubborn!” Hebrews 3:13-15

MESSAGE 4: WHAT TO REMEMBER WHEN THINGS DON'T GO YOUR WAY

Parts 1-3

- Ch. 1 Jonah Rebelling & Running From God
- Ch. 2 Jonah Repenting & Running Back To God
- Ch. 3 Jonah Restarting & Running With God
- Ch. 4 Jonah Regretting & Resenting God

5 MISTAKES THAT MADE JONAH MISERABLE

These make us miserable too

1. Jonah thought he could ignore his Mission. He ran from God.
2. Jonah was prejudiced against people God created & loved.
3. Jonah cared more about his politics than people's salvation.
4. Jonah was only interested in his nation, not God's world.
5. Jonah reluctantly fulfilled his Mission, but with a bad attitude.

2 MORE MISTAKES: JONAH 4:1-11

1. _____

“When God saw that the people of Nineveh had put a stop to their evil ways, he had mercy on them and he cancelled the destruction he had threatened. This CHANGE OF PLANS upset Jonah, and he became furious. So Jonah complained to the Lord about it...” Jonah 3:10-4:2

- FRUSTRATION “This change of plans upset Jonah”
- ANGER “He became furious”
- SELF-PITY “He complained to the Lord”

“Now I ask you, Lord, please kill me. For it is better for me to die than to live.” Jonah 4:3 (NCV)

- DEPRESSION “It is better for me to die than live”
- SUICIDAL “Lord, please kill me!”

2. _____

“Then Jonah complained, ‘Didn't I say before I left home that you would do this, Lord? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I KNEW that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. I knew how easily you could cancel your plans for punishing these people.’” Jonah 4:2 (NLT)

WHAT TO REMEMBER WHEN THINGS DON'T GO MY WAY

1. REMEMBER _____

“Then God asked Jonah: ‘What right do you have to be angry over what I've done?’” Jonah 4:4

“The Lord said to Job, ‘Who are you to question my wisdom?... Where were you when I made the world?’” Job 38:2-3 (TEV)

“Then Jonah left the city and found a place east of the city to sit down. There he tried to make a temporary shelter to sit under as he waited to see what would happen to the city.” Jonah 4:5

2. REMEMBER

“Then God arranged for broad leafed plant to spring up quickly and provide shade for Jonah from the hot sun and to relieve his discomfort. This made Jonah very happy and comfortable!” Jonah 4:6

3. REMEMBER

“But at dawn the next day God arranged for a small worm to chew through the stem of that large shade plant so that it withered and died! Then, when the sun rose, God arranged a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed so hot on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said again, ‘It would be better for me to die than to live!’” Jonah 4:7-8

GOD USES BOTH GREAT & SMALL THINGS TO DIRECT ME

“Then God asked Jonah again, ‘What right do you have to be angry that the shade plant withered and died?’ Jonah said. ‘I have every right to be angry and I’m angry enough to die!’” Jonah 4:9

4. REMEMBER

“Then the Lord said, ‘Jonah, you’re more concerned about a plant that died even though you didn’t plant it, water it, it or make it grow. (I did that) And plants are short-lived. They spring up quickly then die. But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people who don’t know their right hand from their left, not to mention all the animals. Should I not be concerned about that great city?’” Jonah 4:10-11

“We fix our eyes not on what we see but on what we cannot see. What we see will last only a short time, but what we cannot see will last forever.” 2 Corinthians 4:18 (NCV)