

Steps To Take When You Mess Up

October 2, 2022

Text: Jonah 1:17-2:10

Introduction:

Big Idea: Because of God's mercy, our _____ (rebellion/disobedience) doesn't end our story, but we must _____ to our pursuing God before He can deliver us.

1. _____ the _____ of running (2:1-7)

- The vast amount of focus in Jonah's prayer is what it cost him.
 - His choices took him to a place of _____.
 - Tsarah [tsa-rah'] - means to "press" or "be squeezed into a narrow place"
 - Sheol = This word can mean "_____", also translated "the realm of the dead"
 - He confesses that God put him where he is.
 - He feels like he is going to die in the great fish.
 - He remembers the _____ is his only hope.

2. Recognize the _____ of the running (2:8)

- The source of running is _____.
 - All sin, ultimately, begins in idolatry.
 - An idol is simply something you love more than God, trust more than God, crave more than God and find comfort in more than God.
- The choice to cling to idols will cause you to forsake the hope of _____.
 - In the Hebrew language is the word _____.
 - It means loyal love, very literally--_____.

3. Behold the _____ of a merciful God who _____ us in our running (2:9-10)

- Salvation starts with God and it ends with God.

TRUTH INTO ACTION:

#1-Running from God will always take you further than you thought you would go and cost you far more than you ever planned to pay. **STOP RUNNING!**

#2- God doesn't step away from Jonah's mess, he plans for deliverance! **TREASURE THE MERCY OF GOD!**

#3-Idols always demand your undivided attention and cause you to forsake God's loyal love. **CHECK YOUR WORSHIP?**

SERMON CONNECT CARD (Go on the FBC app and complete the digital card at the CONNECT tab or complete a paper card)

- What do you need "rescue" from today?
- How can we pray for you?



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up: Option 1-Describe a time when you had a near death experience and the thoughts that went through your mind. Option 2-What is the biggest fish you have ever caught? For real—no fish stories.

1. According to verse 2, how does God respond to Jonah's prayer of desperation?
2. Why is it so important that we understand both our need for forgiveness (i.e., due to our sinfulness) and the immense breadth of God's love (salvation comes from the Lord)? What happens if you neglect to acknowledge either of these?
3. Verse 9 can be viewed as a theme of the entire Bible. Jonah declares, "Salvation belongs to the Lord." What do you think he means by this?
4. In this passage, God saves Jonah from an inward struggle before delivering him from external difficulties. Would you rather have God save you from an outward circumstance, or from an internal struggle of sin? (Asking the same question differently--Would we rather be comfortable or holy?)
5. What can you learn from Jonah's experience? What is revealed about God in this chapter? How will you apply this to your life?

Closing Prayer: Father God, thank you for not running away from Jonah as he sank in his mess. Thank you, Jesus, that you are the greater Jonah and you have come to rescue me and bring me to a place of deliverance. Help me to treasure You and your mercy this week.