

MAJOR ON THE MINORS: FAITH IN THE PROPHETIC BOOKS

The Minor Prophets may be some of the most overlooked books of the Bible, but their messages are anything but minor. In this multi-week series, **Major on the Minors**, we'll journey through the lives and ministries of God's twelve prophetic messengers and discover how their stories intersect with our own.

Major on the Minors - Week 5

Jonah: Faith When You Don't Feel Like It

Key Text: Jonah 1-4

Introduction

The Simple Story "Jonah and the Whale"

Jonah's Journey

1. Running From what God Said

Jonah 1:1-1:3

- God calls Jonah to Nineveh
- Jonah runs toward Tarshish
- **We can run from God's assignment, but not God's presence**

2. God Pursues the Reluctant

Jonah 1:9, 1:12, 1:17

- God sends a storm
- Jonah is thrown into the sea
- **The big fish was not punishment alone, but preservation**

(Video)

3. Faith From the Belly of the Fish

Jonah 2:5-10

- Jonah prays from the fish
- God delivers him
- Jonah obeys and goes to Nineveh
- **God's grace reaches places we never thought possible.**

4. When God Uses us Anyway

Jonah 3:4, 3:6, 3:10

- **Obedience Doesn’t require Enthusiasm**
- Jonah preaches God's warning
- The people repent
- God shows mercy and spares the city
- **Jonah preached one sentence. God changed a city.**

5. When God’s Mercy Frustrates Us

Jonah 4:1-3, 4:9-11

- Jonah is angry about God's mercy
- God uses a plant, a worm, and the wind to teach him
- God's heart is for people, not just our comfort
- **Do we celebrate God's grace for everyone, or just for people like us?**

Four Lessons for Faith When You Don't Feel Like It

✅ Don't ignore God's prompting.

✅ It's not too late to listen.

✅ Let God write the ending.

✅ Celebrate what God does.

Romans 12:15

Key Verse

"Shouldn't I feel sorry for such a great city?"
Jonah 4:11

The Big Idea

Faith is not just trusting God when we want to. Faith is obeying God when we don't.

Takeaway

God often works through reluctant people who are willing to take the next step of obedience. Even when we don't feel like it, faith says "yes" to God's call.