



JONAH

RELENTLESS GRACE

Jonah 3: 1-2

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: 2 “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

Jonah 3:3-4

³ Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴ Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth

Jonah 3: 5

5 The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

Jonah 3: 6-7

6 When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. 7 This is the proclamation he issued in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink.

Jonah 3: 8-10

8 But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. 9 Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.”

10 When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Is the story of Jonah historically true?

“Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from you.”

39 He answered, “A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

Is the story of Jonah historically true?

40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now something greater than Jonah is here. (Matthew 12: 38-42)

Why did Jonah run?

Two reasons:

Reason 1: The Israelites and Assyrians were arch enemies.

The kings of Assyria were brutal.

“I caused great slaughter. I destroyed, I demolished, I burned.”

“Many of the captives I burned in fire. Many I took alive; from some I cut off their hands to the wrist, from others I cut off their noses, ears and fingers, I put out the eyes of many soldiers.”

Why did Jonah run?

Reason 2: Jonah knew God would forgive the worst of the worst. Jonah's view of God has driven the entire narrative of the book.

Jonah 4:2 "I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love."

Jonah's Message Was Simple

Eight Words. A three-day journey into the large city.

“FORTY MORE DAYS AND NINEVEH WILL BE OVERTHROWN.”

2 Peter 3:9 “God is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone comes to repentance.”

What does Jonah want?

Jonah wants the Ninevites to receive just punishment. He wants God to NOT forgive them but knows God will forgive.

God's heart for broken people is much BIGGER than we realize.

God's Grace is Bigger.

Oftentimes, God's grace to the person in a tough situation (Jonah) looks like suffering to them but it is really a means of salvation.

How can we wrestle with God's will
and calling for our lives?

Tip # 1- NAME YOUR NINEVEH

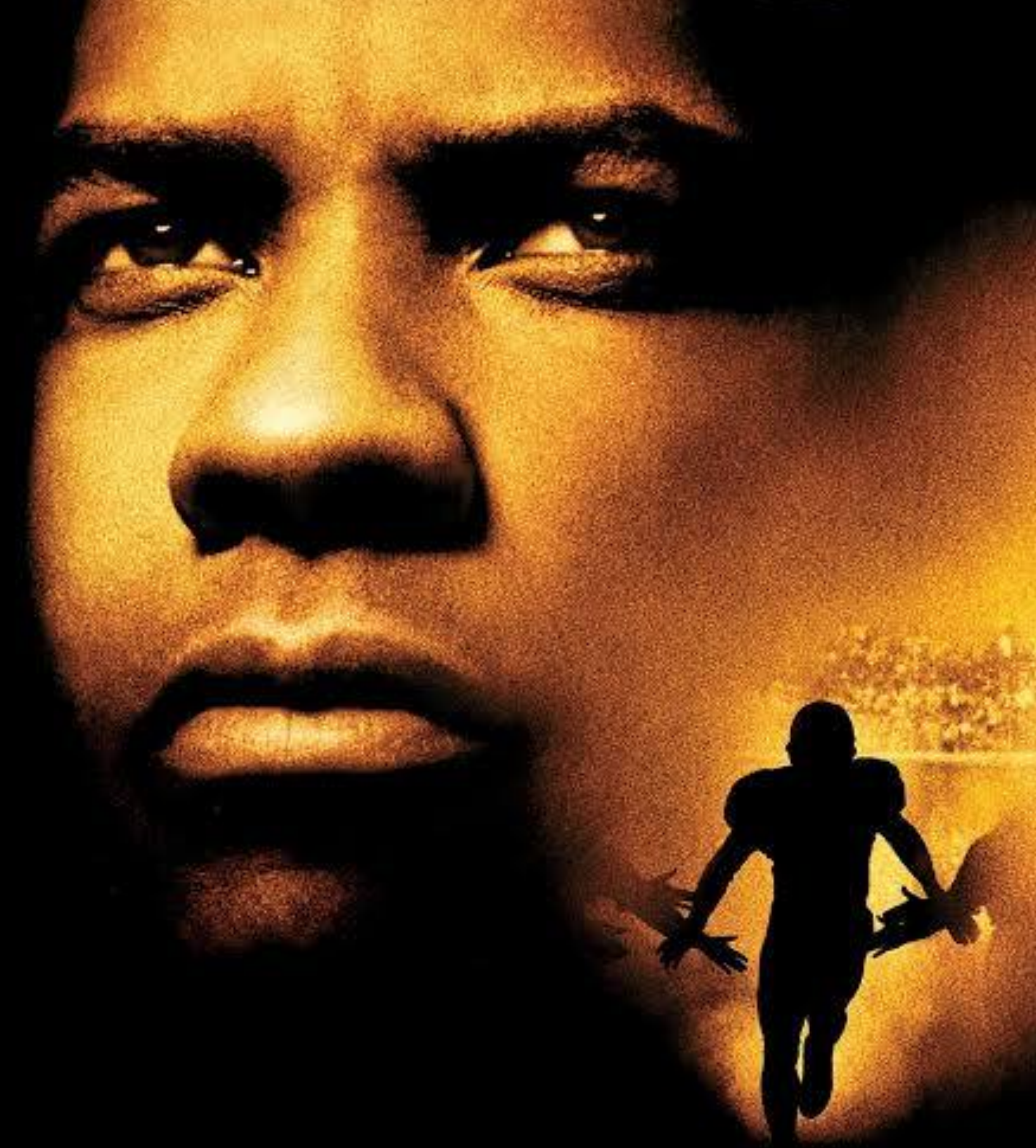
Where (**PLACE**) what (**MISSION**) or who
(**PERSON**) is your Nineveh? Are you
running towards it or away from it?

**How can we wrestle with God's will
and calling for our lives?**

**Tip # 2- IDENTIFY THE ENEMY
LURKING IN YOUR SOUL**

(Who do you think does not “deserve”
the grace of God?)

REMEMBER THE
TITANS



**How can we wrestle with God's will
and calling for our lives?**

Tip # 3- WHERE IS YOUR TARSHISH?

Where do you tend to run away to? What
is your diversion? Escape?



How is God delivering you?

- The fish looked like a problem to Jonah. It was actually God's provision.
- SLOW OBEDIENCE IS BETTER THAN NO OBEDIENCE
- Our lives are not just for ourselves. It's always about impacting others. God is not just doing stuff in us, He is working for us and through us.
- God's plan was doing something way past just Jonah, He was trying to reach an unreached people group

Application

APPLICATION - God gives us second chances...and more

“When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.” Jonah 3:10

What's your next step with God?



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