

NOTES: Sitting in the Shade
October 17 & 18, 2026 | Pastor Gabe Elarton | Compelled Church

Scripture Texts:

Jonah 1-4 (ESV), Matthew 12:36-41 (ESV)

- Jonah was a Prophet during the reign of the Jeroboam II - King of Israel.
- The Book of Jonah was Written in about 793-753 BC

Jonah 1:1-3 (ESV)

Prayer

God, we know your presence is inescapable. Your presence is like shimmering rays of the sun, and nothing and no one can escape the warmth. Yet too many times I find myself, like Jonah, trying to find ways to run from your confronting presence. Help me not to run but accept your invitation to transform my life, from the inside out. Amen.

Let's define Confrontation and Consecration for our context:

- **Confrontation** – God, reveals the points in us that are unlike Christ.
- **Consecration** – We give God permission to do his transforming work in us.

God's presence **confronts**.

- If we want to be like Jesus, we will be confronted with the parts that don't line up with Jesus.

Consecrating ourselves before the Lord is painful, humbling, and slow.

- Transformation will not be forced upon us. God will knock, but we must open the door.

You can always find a boat sailing in the wrong direction.

Jonah 1:9-10;15-16 (ESV)

- Out of Grace and Mercy – God **confronted** Jonah again by sending a great fish to swallow him up. For three days and three nights Jonah begins to **consecrate** himself before the Lord as he prayed.

Jonah 2:9 (ESV)

"...But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!"

Jonah 3:1-2 (ESV)

A Five Word Sermon that saved a city (Jonah 3:4)

1. עוֹד (Od): Yet / Another / Still
2. אַרְבָּעִים (arba'im): forty

3. יום (yom): days
4. וְנִינְוֶה (v'Nineveh): and Nineveh
5. נִהְפָּכֶת (nehpachet): shall be overthrown / turned over

Jonah 3:5 (ESV) “...And the people of Nineveh believed God.”

	Jonah Confronted by God	Jonah's Response
1v2	God calls Jonah to preach to Nineveh	He runs
1v4	God sends a storm	He sleeps
1v8-9	Sailors cast lots, lots land on Jonah	He resents God's character
1v17	God sends a fish	He prays
3v2	God calls Jonah to preach in Nineveh again	He follows God's Call
3v5	The people of Nineveh believe	He resents God's character
4v4	God confronts Jonah's anger	He runs then he sleeps
4v6-10	God gives him shade and then takes it away	He hardens his heart and wants to die

Characters	Confronted by God	Response
Pagan Sailors	Confronted by God through the calming of a storm.	Feared the Lord, repented, and made vows.
People of Murderous Empire (Cattle of Murderous Empire)	Confronted by God through a brief sermon.	Feared the Lord, fasted, prayed, and made vows.
King of Murderous Empire	Confronted by God through the response of his people.	Feared the Lord, fasted, prayed, and made vows.
Jonah - Prophet of God	Confronted by God through call, storm, sea, fish, revival, plant, and worm.	Ran from God, became angry, and wanted the shaded comfort of a plant more than the salvation of a people.

Matthew 12:36-41(ESV)

“...behold, something greater than Jonah is here”

- If we want to be like Jesus, we will be confronted with the parts that don't line up with Jesus.

Questions to ponder on with Christ:

- When have you been confronted by an aspect of your life that didn't align with Christ, and you moved to consecration?
- When have you been confronted and instead of consecration, moved further from God's presence? What did that look like?
- Where is God confronting you and call you to transformation now?