

# JONAH

THE SCANDALOUS DEPTHS OF GRACE

## A Second Chance

The word of the Lord comes a second time and this time  
Jonah \_\_\_\_\_

Took three days

Only one day journey into city

- 1) Half-hearted
- 2) But it was all it took

A 5 word sermon

*Forty days, and Nineveh will be overthrown*

The Ninevites believe God

- 1) Fast is proclaimed
- 2) Greatest to least

Even the King!

- 1) Took off royal robes
- 2) Covered in sackcloth
- 3) Sat in ashes
- 4) Even the cows!

God may yet relent... and God did

## PRINCIPLES:

- It is easier to \_\_\_\_\_ than \_\_\_\_\_ against God's will
- God can use a \_\_\_\_\_ messenger and a \_\_\_\_\_ message
- Repentance brings about \_\_\_\_\_
- Even the worst of sinners can find and receive God's \_\_\_\_\_

We can't reach a holy and a beautiful God but a HOLY and BEAUTIFUL GOD reached out to us.

Romans 5:8

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*



Sun, Apr 30, 2023 | Joel Nuefeld, Pastor  
Creekside Christian Church

## Prayer

Begin your time by opening in prayer. Check in and share one thing you are looking forward to this summer.

## My Story

What is the strangest place you have ever been to? What stood out as odd?

## Digging Deep

1) Read **Jonah 3:1-2**. Even after spending three days in the fish and being vomited out, Jonah still needed to be told a second time about his original command of going to Nineveh. Why do you think Jonah was still hesitant to go to Nineveh? What generally stops you from being obedient to God the first time you are asked?

2) Why would God still try to use someone as disobedient as Jonah to proclaim His message to Nineveh?

## Digging Deeper

3) Read **Jonah 3:3-5**. As Christians in the world today, we might get caught up in the lie that we have to meet God's standards of righteousness before we can obey. How does Nineveh's response to Jonah's sermon show otherwise?

4) The city of Nineveh was ready to repent from their evil ways and responded quickly to Jonah's short sermon. Have you ever had someone suddenly respond to a message of repentance? Even without knowing God, why do you think they responded so quickly? How does this help you pray for people who are far from God?

5) Read **Jonah 3:6-10**. Recap the king's response. Does this surprise you? If non-believers can see the importance of calling on God to turn away from their sin, why do you think believers sometimes attempt to hide or run away from God? Do you have a story of running that you are willing to share?

6) God saw the repentance of the Ninevites and had compassion on them. Did Jonah or the city of Nineveh deserve the second chance that God gave them? When has God given you two chances?

7) What have you found helpful in turning back to God? Prayer, confession, attending church, Bible study, help from another believer, etc. How might you use this to help someone who is struggling?

## Taking it Home

8) Read **Titus 2:11-13**. Do you believe that God's grace is for all people? Why or why not? How are you living a godly life and sharing God's grace with those around you?

9) Jonah never would have been stuck in the fish for three days had he obeyed God the first time. Where is a potential area of disobedience in your life that is causing you unnecessary pain? Are you willing to share with a friend and ask for prayer in this area?

## Praying Together

Pray that we may be an encouragement to one another as we seek to walk in obedience with God this week.