

Jonah Part 3 HANDOUT

3.12.23

Jonah 1:17 - Now the Lord provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Even when we are not repentant, God keeps coming after us. **The Gospel is God coming after us, not us coming after Him.**

KEY: God doesn't just come after us to start a relationship with Him, but also to remain in fellowship with Him.

KEY: Being leads to doing.

Jonah 2:1-2 From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God. 2 He said: "In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry.

God sending the great fish to swallow Jonah is actually an act of compassion and mercy on Jonah's life.

Jonah 2:3-6 You hurled me into the depths, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. 4 I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.' 5 The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. 6 To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you, Lord my God, brought my life up from the pit.

KEY: God let the circumstances become impossible before He delivered Jonah.

We need to understand today that God is always there...**He is ready to display His power when we realize that we can't accomplish it on our own!**

Jonah 2:7-10 “When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, Lord, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple. 8 “Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God’s love for them. 9 But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the Lord.’” 10 And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

Sometimes, we get so caught up in the circumstances that we are in that we forget that God is in the circumstances with us to change us.

KEY: When we see that God uses every circumstance to change us, then we can be eternally focused!

KEY: The goal of circumstances is to get you to look up, not around you.

Was Jonah repentant? We can repent of something we do in a certain situation, yet still struggle in so many areas of our lives.

Aren't you glad that God still chooses to work through imperfect people?

POINT: God is more concerned with who I am in Him, than what I do for Him.