

Second Chance

Gregg Brenes

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.”

³Jonah 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. ⁴Jonah began by going a day’s journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” ⁵The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

⁶When 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. ⁷This 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. ⁸But let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. ⁹Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.”

¹⁰When 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 3:1-10

Connect

- What is the best “second chance” story you’ve ever heard?

Word and Reflection

The book of Jonah reveals some of the most raw, honest, and difficult things about us. But this book also highlights some of the best things about God. Through Jonah’s experience, we discover in a greater way, the love, grace and power of God. No matter where we’ve been or what we’ve done, God is always ready to offer us a fresh start – a second chance.

Jonah 3:1-10; John 6:44, 65; 2 Tim 2:25; Rev 7:9; Matt 28:18-20; Romans 1:16, 17

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Jonah 3:1-10. Describe a time when God gave you a second chance. Why do you think God gave Jonah a second chance to go to Nineveh? What has God shown you that you need to do, but you have not done yet? What will you do to obey God immediately?
- Why do you think the Ninevites were so quick to repent of their evil ways? Pastor Gregg said that repentance is ultimately always a work of God. How have you seen this to be true?
- God wants everyone to be a missionary and to leave their comfort zone, security and take a risk to share the good news of Jesus. Where are you living “uncomfortable” for God, so you can share good news with others?
- To be a more effective missionary, which of the two areas—understanding you’re a sinner saved by grace or being willing to go—will you take a step to grow? Better yet, maybe it’s both.

Action

- Who is God asking you to share His message of love and grace? Take a step this week to pray for them and share your story.
- Share God’s love through service. Text “go” to 808-201-0093 to learn more about our upcoming community outreach opportunities.

Prayer

- Pray for God to give opportunities to share the Gospel with those you meet.
- Pray for your group and for those to whom you’re inviting to Easter services.