

“The Race You Can’t Win”

YOU CAN’T OUT RUN GOD: JONAH 1

The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD. Jonah 1:1-3

- **JONAH: KNOWN AS “THE RELUCTANT PROPHET.” HIS NAME MEANS DOVE.**
- **AMITTAI: MEANS TRUTH.**
- **NINEVAH: CAPITAL OF ASSYRIA. NINEVEH WAS ISRAEL’S WORST ENEMY. THE JONAH IN US**

The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai... Jonah 1:1

1) GOD WILL OFTEN ASK YOU TO DO THINGS YOU DON’T WANT TO DO.
"Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me." Jonah 1:2

2) YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND A BOAT SAILING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION.
But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD. Jonah 1:3

3) GOD MAY SEND A STORM TO GRAB YOUR ATTENTION.
Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. Jonah 1:4

(Jonah) answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land." This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.) Jonah 1:8-10

"Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you." Jonah 1:12

4) JONAH’S WORST NIGHTMARE WAS EXACTLY WHAT HE NEEDED.

Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him. But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights. Jonah 1:15-17

A PRAYER FOR ANYONE ON THE RUN FROM GOD AND FINDS HER/HIMSELF IN A WHALE OF A PREDICAMENT:

HELP!

