

Message Notes

Who Knows, God May Turn
The Gospel According to Jonah
Jonah 3
January 14, 2007

Message Outline

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*For just as **Jonah** became a sign to the Ninevites,
so will the Son of Man be to this generation.*
--Luke 11:30--

I. Nineveh, God & Us

- A. The **cause** of the preaching of Jonah
- B. The **content** of the preaching of Jonah
- C. The **conversion** at the preaching of Jonah
- D. The **cause of the conversion** at the preaching of Jonah

II. Jonah, God & Us

- A. Jonah has been **saved** by God's grace, but he doesn't get it.
- B. Jonah is **subdued** by God's grace, but he can't hold on to it.
- C. Jonah is twice **sent** with God's grace, but he's slow and stingy in showing it.

III. Jonah, the Gospel & Us

Growth Group Understanding Questions

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1. Reread Jonah 1-3. How many verses are spent on the Ninevites and how many verses concern Jonah? What does this mean? What is the book of Jonah about?
2. Why again, would Jonah not have wanted to go to Nineveh? Compare Jonah's two responses to the Word of the Lord in 1:1-3 and 3:1-3? How does Jonah respond to the second sending of the Lord? Why does he respond this way?
3. What evidence is there that Jonah was "getting" the Gospel at the end of chapter 2? Read chapter 4:1-4. What evidence is there at the beginning of chapter 4 that Jonah had a hard time "holding on" to the Gospel?
4. Look at the repentance of the Ninevites. What were the marks of their repentance, internally and externally?
5. While Jonah's message was a message of doom and gloom, what was the evidence of God's grace?
6. Look up the references to Jonah in the Gospels: Matthew 12:39-41, Matthew 16:4, Luke 11:29-32. How do they differ? What does Luke 11:29 in particular mean? Can we know?

Growth Group Application Questions

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1. What was new and most challenging in the text/message this week and why?
2. In what ways are we like Nineveh? Who does Nineveh represent?
3. In what ways are we like Jonah? Who does Jonah represent both in the time when the book was written and now?
4. Why did the Ninevites repent? Do we believe that such a thing is possible? If we do, why don't we share and show the Gospel? (Jonah didn't want the Ninevites to repent. That isn't our problem is it? What is?)
5. How has God pursued you and persevered in His grace toward you? How do we see the sovereignty of God in Jonah 3? Where do we see the Grace of God in Jonah 3?
6. God used even Jonah's rebellion to accomplish His saving purposes. What things has God allowed in your life to make you useful to His saving cause? Do you see everything that happens in your life as part of the plan to make you broken and useful? Why do we resist this view of life?