

Jonah 1:1-3 (NLT)

¹ The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai:

² "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh.

Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are." ³But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction to get away from the Lord. He went down to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping to escape from the Lord by sailing to Tarshish.

3.





How far are you willing to go to get your own way?

Jonah 1:4-6 (NLT)

⁴ But the Lord hurled a powerful wind over the sea, causing a violent storm that threatened to break the ship apart. ⁵ Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors shouted to their gods for help and threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship.

But all this time Jonah was sound asleep down in the hold. ⁶ So the captain went down after him. "How can you sleep at a time like this?" he shouted. "Get up and pray to your god! Maybe he will pay attention to us and spare our lives."

7.

Is there anything in your life you're clinging to that is threatening to destroy you?



9. SermonBackground-dark.jpg

Jonah 1:7-16 (NIV)

⁷ Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"

⁹ He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

Jonah 1:7-16 (NIV)

¹⁰ 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.)

¹¹ The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"

¹² "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." ¹³ Instead, the men did their best to row back to land.

11.

Jonah 1:7-16 (NIV)

But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. ¹⁴ Then they cried out to the Lord, "Please, Lord, do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, Lord, have done as you pleased." ¹⁵ Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. ¹⁶ At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to him.

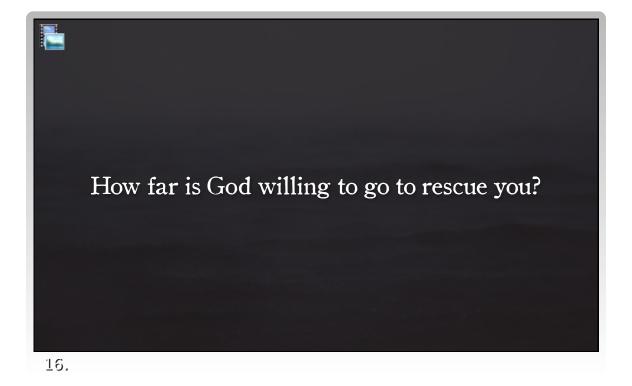
Jonah 1:17 (ESV)

And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah, And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

13.

The LORD is not finished with you.





Matthew 8:23-26 (ESV)

- ²³ And when [Jesus] got into the boat, his disciples followed him.
- ²⁴ And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep.
- ²⁵ And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing."
- ²⁶ And he said to them, "Why are you so afraid, o you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

17.

000

If you choose, by faith, to follow Jesus, you will find yourself in unlikely places.



19. SermonBackground-dark.jpg