

Jonah
“Am I Jonah?”
Jonah 1:1-16
September 3, 2017 / Pastor Shawn

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

²³ In the fifteenth year of Amaziah son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel became king in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. ²⁵ He was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Dead Sea, in accordance with the word of the Lord, the God of Israel, spoken through his servant Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath Hepher. 2 Kings 14:23, 25

Jonah: Dove, peaceful one

Jeroboam (II): _____

Gath Hepher: the place of the wine press

Amittai: truth

• **God speaks to His people.**

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

• **When God Speaks:**

1. God will often ask you to do things you don't want to do.

² “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” ³ But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. Jonah 1:2-3a

2. You can always find a ship sailing in the wrong direction.

³ 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.

⁴ 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

⁹ He (Jonah) answered, “I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” 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.) Jonah 1:9-10

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.” Jonah 1:12

• **The “word of the Lord” for me is:**

_____.

Discussion Questions

1. What was your “A-Ha!” from Sunday’s message and why did this grab your attention?
2. What has God used in your past (or present) to get your attention?

Read Jonah chapter 1, then answer the following:

3. What seems reasonable and surprising about God’s command (v.2)? About Jonah’s response? Why do you think Jonah refused to take God’s message to them?
4. What was foolish about Jonah’s belief that he could flee from God (v. 3)? What do you think Jonah was thinking as he fled to Tarshish? During the violent storm? In your spiritual life, which direction are you running: toward God, away from God, with God, or behind God? What does our running from God reveal about our belief about God?
5. Pastor Shawn said that “like Jonah, our disobedience will cost others.” Think about a time when you disobeyed God. Who was affected by your disobedience?
6. How did God use the storm to grab the attention of Jonah? of the sailors? What affect did God’s stilling the storm have on the sailors? How did God use the storm to turn Jonah back to him?
7. Who or what is currently the Nineveh in your life? With whom in your life have you refused to share God’s message of mercy and grace? Are you withholding God’s message because of fear, bitterness, judgment, or something else? Confess your disobedience to God and receive His grace to obey. Forgive your enemies and pray for them. Ask God to give you another opportunity to share His message of love and grace.