

# Reluctance Message Series



Sunday, September 12, 2021

Jonah 1: The Disobedient Prophet

By Jay Haugh

## **BIG IDEA:**

God abounds in loving kindness & delights in extending mercy instead of judgment.

## **Study Guide Questions**

- ◆ What are the typical reasons people do not want to share the gospel?
  
- ◆ What is one immediate decision you can make that will help you be better prepared to share the gospel when the next opportunity for sharing arises?
  
- ◆ When Jonah reveals that he worships the Lord, how is he being both sincere and hypocritical? In terms of what Christians believe and practice concerning the Great Commission, how might it be possible for a believer or a congregation to be both sincere and hypocritical in following the Lord?
  
- ◆ God “appoints” several things in the book of Jonah. What is this communicating about God? How does this make you feel? How does it impact your life?
  
- ◆ What are some ways in which Jonah’s account resembles the account of Christ? What might the resemblance say about the plan of God for all mankind? What might the resemblance say about the character of Scripture?
  
- ◆ What would you say is the central point of Jonah 1? What’s God trying to communicate?
  
- ◆ Where did God “break in” and get your attention in the passage? What are you “hearing” from God? Where is He calling you to repent? What is He calling you to do or believe?

**Sunday, September 19, 2021**  
**Jonah 2: The Punished Prophet**  
**By Jay Haugh**



**BIG IDEA:**

Deliverance and salvation cannot come from ourselves, but only through the LORD.

**Study Guide Questions**

- ◆ Our God is a God of salvation. Meditate and reflect on the stories we have of God's deliverance. (Work through the Bible).
  
- ◆ Read Jonah 2:3-6 where he describes his despair. Is there anyone in your group that can resonate with Jonah's plight? If comfortable, share your story of hitting "rock bottom."
  
- ◆ How and when did God deliver you? How did God "bring you up from the pit?"
  
- ◆ In what way is Jonah 2 the gospel? In what way is Jonah 2 the totality of Scripture?
  
- ◆ Jonah is full of verses describing God "appointing" things in creation to do His bidding. How comforting/challenging is the doctrine of God's providence (i.e., God's sovereign control)?
  
- ◆ How is Jonah's story (Chapter 2), your story?
  
- ◆ Where did God "break in" and get your attention in the passage? What are you "hearing" from God? Where is He calling you to repent? What is He calling you to do or believe?

**Sunday, September 26, 2021**

## **Jonah 3: The Preaching Prophet**

**By Jay Haugh**



### **BIG IDEA:**

God is faithful to forgive and save when we come to Him with repentance & faith.

### **Study Guide Questions**

- God calls Jonah a “second time” in verse 1. Consider the last time you failed to obey or respond to the opportunity God placed before you. What are you feeling internally? What do you need to do to be better prepared?
  
- Jonah’s message was simple (8 words in the text). What is the simplest way you can share the gospel message without missing its necessary aspects?
  
- How is Jesus a sign of Jonah (Luke 11:29)?
  
- How was Jonah a sign to the Ninevites (Luke 11:30)?
  
- How is Jonah’s story (Chapter 3), your story?
  
- What confidence do you gain from knowing that God never changes? How does His immutability (i.e. never changes) strengthen your hope for you and your loved ones?
  
- What would you say is the central point of Jonah 3? What’s God trying to communicate?
  
- Where did God “break in” and get your attention in the passage? What are you “hearing” from God? Where is He calling you to repent? What is He calling you to do or believe?

**Sunday, October 3, 2021**

## **Jonah 4: The Angry Prophet**

**By Jay Haugh**



### **BIG IDEA:**

God's heart is to seek & save the lost and He wants our hearts to reflect Him.

### **Study Guide Questions**

- ◆ What things made you angry this week?
  
- ◆ When have you been angry with God over unfulfilled dreams or missed expectations?
  
- ◆ Is it easy or hard for you to identify with Jonah's anger toward God's compassion with wicked and evil people? Explain.
  
- ◆ Name a recent experience in which you rejoiced in the Lord's grace, mercy, or patience toward you. Why did you need such grace, mercy, or patience? How did you feel about the Lord when you had this experience?
  
- ◆ Read Luke 15:25-32. How is Jonah like the eldest brother?
  
- ◆ What lessons is God trying to teach Jonah with the gourd, worm and wind?
  
- ◆ What would you say is the central point of Jonah 4? What's God trying to communicate?
  
- ◆ Where did God "break in" and get your attention in the passage? What are you "hearing" from God? Where is He calling you to repent? What is He calling you to do or believe?