

“VOICES – THE MINOR PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT”
JONAH: YOU CAN RUN BUT YOU CAN’T HIDE **SEPTEMBER 23, 2018**

In the Bible, prophets were **MESSENGERS** of God

“The Bible asserts that God prepared his prophets for a very specific ministry. They brought the divine word to people who desperately needed to hear it.” Bill T. Arnold

The Essence of Their Message

- A call to **REPENTANCE** = move away from sin
- A promise of **SALVATION** = move toward God

“The LORD gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: ‘Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are.’ But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction to get away from the LORD.” Jonah 1:1-3a

The question we want to look at today is this:

What are you running away **FROM**
that you should be running **TO**?

DISCOVERY #1

God doesn’t always tell you what you **LIKE** or what **WANT**

- Obedience will require you to **LEAN** into Him
- **DELAYED** obedience is **DISOBEDIENCE**
- Many of us are **WAITING** for a word from God we like
- Your calling is **NOT** for your glory but for God’s
- God is pleased by our **FAITH** and **OBEDIENCE**

DISCOVERY #2

There will always be a boat headed in the **OPPOSITE** direction

“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.” Jonah 1:3b

- Often it takes more effort to **DISOBEY** God than to simply obey Him
- Most of us **KNOW** what we’re supposed to be doing
- The **ENEMY** is going to do everything he can to get us on the wrong boat
- When God speaks there is always another **VOICE**
- What keeps us **OFF** the wrong boat?
 1. **INTIMACY** with God = “in-to-me-see”
 2. Bible **APPLICATION**
 3. **COMMUNITY** with believers

“If you don’t know where you’re going, people will be glad to take you where they’re headed.”

DISCOVERY #3

God may use a **STORM** to wake you up

“The LORD hurled a powerful wind over the sea..” Jonah 1:4

- You can **RUN** from God but you can’t **HIDE** from Him
- Every storm in your life is **NOT** because of your disobedience but **SOME** may be!
- God’s **GRACE** will find you and wake you up
- Sometimes we **SHARE** in another’s storm

DISCOVERY #4

Salvation is about a willingness to **SURRENDER**

“Throw me into the sea,” Jonah said, **“and it will become calm again. I know that this terrible storm is all my fault.”** Jonah 1:12

- It’s about **CHOOSING** Jesus and **DENYING** yourself
- Storms invite us to look for our **FISH** of salvation

God invites us to position ourselves to receive, to respond to, and to remain IN His unrelenting love! The choice is ours!