

“You Can Run, But You Can’t Hide”

INTRODUCTION – Ever want to “*run away*” from home?

- Some great Bible characters “*ran away*” ... Adam & Eve, Moses, David, Elijah, Disciples, Jonah ...

Jonah 1:1 – Jonah’s ministry was to listen to God.

1:2 – Jonah had a clear message from God.

1:3 – Jonah deliberately disobeys God ... **DO YOU?**

- **WHY** ... did Jonah disobey God? Many reasons ... **1:2**

- Jonah hated the Ninevites, so he “*runs away*” from God.

- Jonah struggled with the same things we struggle with ... there’s a “*Jonah*” in each one of us!

- There’s never a good reason to disobey God.

- You can “*run away*” from God, but never move.

- What is God calling you to do? Don’t “*run away*”.

1:4 – God sent the storm.

- God won’t stop you from running from Him ... **AT FIRST!**

- Some “*storms*” are sent by God to bring us back to Him.

- In **EVERY** “*storm*” of life, you’ll find God – **Psalm 93:4**

- When we’re persistent in disobedience, God will discipline you – **Prov. 3:12, Rev. 3:19** ... Are you in a “*storm*”?

1:5 – The “*storms*” in our life are a wake-up call from God.

1:6 – When you run from God, it affects others around you.

- Those “*in the boat*” with you will suffer with you – **1:13**

1:12 – Jonah would rather die than do what God says.

1:15 – They threw Jonah into the Sea.

- God **LOVED** the Sailors & Jonah.

1:15-16 – We see God’s love for the Sailors.

- Jonah had told them about Jehovah God – **1:10**

1:17 – God loved Jonah ... He sent a fish to rescue him.

- Here, we see the anger of God, and His love, grace, and mercy.

- God may or may not rescue you **FROM** the “*storm*”, but He will be with you **IN** the “*storms*” of life.

- Jesus prayed “***Nevertheless not My will, but Thine be done.***”

- Elijah prayed “***Here am I, send me.***”

CONCLUSION: **WHERE, WHAT** is your “*Nineveh*”?

- You can avoid the “*storm*”!