

STUDY 2 – JONAH 2:2 GOD DEALS THE DETAILS FOR THE DESPONDENT

Wherever you go God is there. on campus, in ur car, worshiping from home, at work, coffee shop - golfing– **IN THE BELLY OF A FISH**

- **HE'S EVEN there when you are on the run – COORDINATING DETAILS**

God commissions the resistant - coordinates details for the despondent - He empowers the reluctant – His Stubborn Love is Triumphant - **JONAH**

FABLE – FAIRY TALE - **PUT IT TO REST JESUS CONSIDERED JONAH FACT**

Matthew 12:40 For as Jonah **was three** days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be **three days and three nights** in the heart of the earth.

FACT TO FACT - SIGN OF THE RESURRECTION

College Prof: Young lady I have a question for you. You're a Christian. That book in your hand is a bible. You believe the bible and all the stories.. all the miracles. I suppose you believe in the story of Jonah – that he was swallowed by a fish and lived to tell about it. And he said how can it be true? When I get to heaven I'll ask him. What if he isn't in heaven? Then you ask him.

GOD'S LOVE: sent a great wind, prepared a great fish, spoke to the fish, gave Jonah a word, prepared a plant, prepared a worm – **ENGAGED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY**

MP: No matter how low you go; God will always be there to meet you with mercy if you turn to Him.

- It took him 3 days in the deep - **What does it take for you Turn to God**

We can do this the easy way or the hard way..(SLEEVES)

JONAH HIT ROCK BOTTOM

JONAH HAD BEEN SINKING - Sleeping in the hull of the ship, despondent concerning wanting to live. **Disobedience brings spiritual depression**

- **Running from God is exhausting, and it will make you miserable.**
- **STORM...FISH – YET GOD INTERVENES PATIENTLY ORCHESTRATING**

God is always working – **“EVEN WHEN I DON'T SEE IT YOU'RE WORKING”**

- **GOD'S eyes never left Jonah** - Prodigal son's father's **eyes scan horizon**

God's providential care continues even when you are drifting from HIM.

OTHERS MAY QUIT ON YOU – GOD WILL NEVER QUIT ON YOU

BECAUSE GOD LOVES YOU HE WILL APPLY PRESSURE – LEAD YOU TO TURN

DOESN'T LOVE U ONCE – **NOT FOR AN INSTANT BUT CONSTANT**

WAVE W NO EBB – Day with no night – eternal spring always blossoming never fading

- Even in Correction

Hebrews 12:5 My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; ⁶For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.

- **DEEP: Pressure on WEEDS: Wrapped in circumstances – FINALLY TURNED**

Q: The hardest thing to believe isn't that there was a fish that was big enough to swallow a man, but that a man swallowed by a fish would resist God for 3 days.

JONAH FINALLY GAVE IN! when my soul fainted w/i me – then I remembered LORD
Q: Giving in to God isn't weakness it's wisdom.

- **The Belly of the Whale became the Altar of his repentance – RIGHT NOW
YOU CAN TURN BACK TO GOD ANYWHERE**

GOT GOD'S MERCY

Jonah 2:2 He answered me

The lord spoke to the fish – released from **THE PRISON**

- GOD WAS READY TO GO – Didn't need to retrace, penance, purgatory, fix his errors, **BRAND NEW START – not saying that there aren't**

Lamentations 3:22 *Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. ²³They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.*

God can turn even your self-inflicted trial into a miracle. **CHOICE IS YOURS**

If God is willing to be merciful to be so should we.