

**Don't Run From God!
Run With Purpose, Pt. 3
Jonah 1:4-16
April 14, 2024**

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

Proverbs 29:1, Whoever remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy.

Proverbs 28:13, Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Galatians 6:1, Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. **2** Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ... **4** Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else

Why You Don't Want to Run From God:

1. God Will Send Storms to SHAKE You Up!

Jonah 1:4, Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. **5** All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship.

Galatians 6:7, Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. **8** Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. **9** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

2. God Will Use Others to WAKE You Up!

Jonah 1:5, ...But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. **6** The captain went to him and said, “How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish.”... **10**...(They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.)

3. God Will SINGLE You Out!

Jonah 1:7, Then the sailors said to each other, “Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity.” They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. **8** So they asked him, “Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?”

4. You Will Forget WHO You Are!

Jonah 1:9, He 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?”

Philippians 3:20, But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

5. You Will Forget Your PURPOSE in Life!

Jonah 1:11, *The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"* **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."*

1 Kings 19:4, *while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."* **5** *Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat."*

6. Others Will Have to COVER for You!

Jonah 1:13, *Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before.* **14** *Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, LORD, do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, LORD, have done as you pleased."*

7. Others Will See God's POWER One Way or the Other!

Jonah 1:15, *Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm.* **16** *At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him.*

1 John 1:9, *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*