

Part 1: The Heart of a Runaway

Matthew Zamudio, Pastor, Windsor Park Baptist Church, Desoto Tx. May 20, 2018. All scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

1. GOD'S CALLING: TO OBEY

Jonah 1:1-2 (ESV)-<u>Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah</u> the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me."

2. JONAH'S RESPONSE: TO RUN

A. The Heart of a Runaway is Disobedient

i. Leads to Hiding

Jonah 1:3 (ESV)-But Jonah <u>rose to flee to Tarshish</u> from the presence of the LORD. <u>He went down to Joppa</u> and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and <u>went down into it</u>, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

ii. Has a Cost

Jonah 1:3 (ESV)-But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

iii. Impacts Others

Jonah 1:4-5 (ESV)-But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them.

B. The Heart of a Runaway is Distant

Jonah 1:6 (ESV)-So the captain came and said to him, "What do you mean, you sleeper? <u>Arise, call out to your god!</u> Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish."

C. The Heart of a Runaway is in Denial

Jonah 1:7 (ESV)- And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us." <u>So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah</u>.

D. The Heart of a Runaway is Drifting

Jonah 1:9 (ESV)-And he said to them, "<u>I am a Hebrew</u>, and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.

E. The Heart of a Runaway is Defiant

Jonah 1:12 (ESV)-He said to them, "<u>Pick me up and hurl me into the</u> <u>sea</u>; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you."

3. GOD'S RESPONSE: PURSUIT

Jonah 1:1-2 (ESV)-Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "<u>Arise, go to Nineveh</u>, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.

Jonah 1:4-5a (ESV)-Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. <u>All the sailors were afraid</u> and each cried out to his own god.

Jonah 1:17 (ESV)-And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah.

<u>Here Is The Point</u>: God is after the heart of runaways!