JONAH
A GOD WHO PURSUES

Building Fund

Digital Bulletin

Capital Campaign Goal = $450,000
May – November 2026 - $ 349,045

Jonah | Jonah 3 | 11.1.26

Big idea: God mercifully pursues us and works despite our weaknesses, calling us to humbly turn from sin, desire what He desires, and obey what He commands.

- Jonah's delayed obedience and flawed repentance continue to affect his life and ministry. Though his **actions** now follow God's command, his **heart** still opposes God's love and compassion.

  → Jonah's unwilling heart only further highlights God's powerful work. God used a deeply flawed and resistant messenger to bring an entire city to repentance, demonstrating God's power to convict and change hearts. This truth frees us to share the gospel joyfully and confidently having been freed from the pressure of trusting in our own abilities. Our responsibility is to faithfully proclaim the truth and trust God with the results. If God could use Jonah's extremely flawed message to save a city, He can use each of us despite our imperfections.

- Nineveh's genuine **repentance** stands in striking contrast to Jonah's unchanged **heart**. As they genuinely turn from their sin, his lack of sincere repentance becomes even clearer.

  → Jonah reminds us that knowing a lot about God means little if that knowledge does not transform our hearts. It is possible to know what is true about God while resisting what He desires. Truth must flow from our heads to our hearts, shaping our desires to reflect His own and move us to go where He sends us and do what He commands.

- True repentance responds in **humility,** grieves over sin, and embraces the discomfort of laying aside sin to turn to God.

  → The king of Nineveh rose from his throne, covered himself in sackcloth, and sat in ashes. He offered no excuses for their wickedness and made no demands for mercy. Instead, he humbled himself before God, called his people to turn from their evil, and entrusted their future to God's mercy…True repentance does not cling to pride, defend sin, or fight to maintain comfort. It humbly bows before God and turns from sin, whatever the cost.

- Nineveh's genuine repentance is met with God's mercy, while Jonah's unresolved sin sets the stage for further confrontation with God.

  → God's mercy is displayed both in His forgiveness of Nineveh and in His continued pursuit of Jonah. He hears those who humbly cry out to Him, and He lovingly confronts and pursues His wondering children. The same mercy that welcomes all who repent refuses to leave the one who strays.

Luke 6:46-49, *"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say? 47 Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. 49 But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."*

A great many learned men are defending the gospel; no doubt it is a very proper and right thing to do, yet I always notice that, when there are most books of that kind, it is because the gospel itself is not being preached. Suppose a number of persons were to take it into their heads that they had to defend a lion, a full-grown king of beasts! There he is in the cage, and here come all the soldiers of the army to fight for him. Well, I should suggest to them, if they would not object, and feel that it was humbling to them, that they should kindly stand back, and open the door, and let the lion out! I believe that would be the best way of defending him, for he would take care of himself; and the best "apology" for the gospel is to let the gospel out.

- C.H. Spurgeon

11.7.26 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study | Dangerous Men of God | Register w/ QR code

Men's Breakfast

12.5.26 Ladies' Christmas Tea | General ticket sales begin November 8!

12.12.26 Stockings for Seniors | A fun family event @ GBC 6-7:30pm. Register →

Stockings for Seniors

1.10.27 State of the Church Dinner | 5-6:30

1.24.27 **Need to Know** Apologetic Conference – 4-6pm, with dinner to follow.

* Featuring Biblical Archaeologist Corey Peterson! Sign-ups coming soon!