

Great Stories of the Bible Part 3

The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are." But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction to get away from the Lord. He went down to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping to escape from the Lord by sailing to Tarshish. But the Lord hurled a powerful wind over the sea, causing a violent storm that threatened to break the ship apart. Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors shouted to their gods for help and threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship. But all this time Jonah was sound asleep down in the hold. So the captain went down after him. "How can you sleep at a time like this?" he shouted. "Get up and pray to your god! Maybe he will pay attention to us and spare our lives."

Then the crew cast lots to see which of them had offended the gods and caused the terrible storm. When they did this, the lots identified Jonah as the culprit. "Why has this awful storm come down on us?" they demanded. "Who are you? What is your line of work? What country are you from? What is your nationality?" Jonah answered, "I am a Hebrew, and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land."

*The sailors were terrified when they heard this, for he had already told them he was running away from the Lord. "Oh, why did you do it?" they groaned. And since the storm was getting worse all the time, they asked him, "What should we do to you to stop this storm?" "Throw me into the sea," Jonah said, "and it will become calm again. I know that this terrible storm is all my fault." **Jonah 1:1-12***

You Need A Second Chance From God When --

*We all, like sheep, have gone astray. **Isaiah 53:6***

Jonah didn't fear the hard parts
of separation from God

Others Suffer When We Sin

What Do You Do For A Second Chance

Now the Lord provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God. He said: 'In my distress, I called to the Lord and He answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry. **Jonah 1:17-2:2**

- He'll provide _____

God said this once and for all; how many times have I heard it repeated? Strength comes straight from God. **Psalm 62:11 (Msg)**

Those who fear God get God's attention; they can depend on His strength. **Psalm 47:11 (Msg)**

- He'll provide _____

God is my helper! The Lord is the provider of my life. **Psalm 54:4 (GWT)**

- He'll provide _____

You protect the helpless when they are in danger. You are like a shelter from storms. **Isaiah 25:4 (NCV)**

There is no one like our God. He rides across the heavens to help you, across the skies in majestic splendor. The eternal God is your refuge, and his everlasting arms are under you. **Deuteronomy 33:26-27 (NLT)**

When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. **Romans 5:6 (NLT)**

- He'll provide _____

The Lord wants to show His mercy to you. He wants to rise and comfort you. The Lord is a fair God and everyone who waits for His help will be happy. **Isaiah 30:18 (NCV)**

Today, if you hear my voice, do not harden your heart. Hebrews 3:15

And the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time ... Jonah 3:1

God hates sin (because of what it does to you, because of what it does to others)
but He loves to forgive even more!

God desires to forgive more
than He desires to condemn!

*God I knew that you are gracious. You are compassionate. You are filled with loving-kindness.
Jonah 4:1-2*

*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him
will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the
world but to save the world through Him. John 3:16-17*

God's Plan/Purpose For My Life

First, that you would come to love Jesus and trust Him.

Second, as a demonstration of your love and trust, that you would live your life for Him.

God used (and uses) people to change the world.
People! Not saints or super humans or geniuses, but people.
Crooks, creeps, lovers, liars - He uses them all. And what
they may lack in perfection, God makes up for in His love.

God doesn't need me, but He wants me!