

LESSONS FROM A RELUCTANT MISSIONARY

Part 1

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 11.19.17

The book of Jonah has only 4 chapters. Chapters 1-4 can be summarized as: 1) Running from God, 2) Running to God, 3) Running with God, and 4) Running Against God.

This story is not primarily a story about a man and a great fish. It is more than a fable about waves, a whale, a worn out preacher, and a worm. It's about a reluctant prophet, a rebellious people, and a relentless God. It's about pride and prejudice; it's about running away but never being able to outrun God. It's a story about you and me when we disobey God and believe that we've gotten away with it.

CHAPTER ONE: WHAT'S IT GOING TO TAKE?

God's "word to you" may be something you'd rather not do.

You can always find a boat sailing in the wrong direction

God may send a storm to grab your attention; it might be exactly what you need.

Two types of storms: storms of perfection and storms of correction

Apply: Don't sleep through your storm!

CHAPTER TWO: DOES GOD HAVE YOUR ATTENTION?

"Repentance" Greek: *metanoeo*—to change one's mind about something; literally "to perceive afterwards"

Apply: The story of Jonah is meant to be a wake-up call. It is meant to shock us. If a prophet of God needed to repent and faced judgment by God, how much more do we?

GOD CHOSE YOU TO BE A BLESSING TO THE NATIONS!