



May 4 & 5, 2019

The Call: Jonah 1

¹The 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.”

1. God calls each of us to a unique place of mission.

³But 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. ⁴Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. ^{5a}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.

2. When we run from God we put ourselves and others at risk.

^{5b}But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. ⁶The 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.”

3. When we run from God he does not easily give up on us or His purposes.