

SEND ME

Global Outreach Experience



OCTOBER 30, 2022 / "SEND ME" MESSAGE #1 / PASSAGES FROM JONAH

THE MONTH-LONG "SEND ME" SERIES AIMS TO ENCOURAGE OUR CHURCH TO BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND WORLDWIDE. WE ARE STARTING THIS SERIES BY LOOKING AT THE BOOK OF JONAH. THIS BIBLICAL STORY FORCES US TO SEE GOD'S HEART AND OUR BROKEN CONDITION. JONAH IS NOT SIMPLY THE STORY ABOUT A PROPHET GETTING SWALLOWED BY A FISH AND LIVING TO TELL THE TALE. INSTEAD, IT IS THE PERSONAL STRUGGLE OF SAYING "YES" TO GOD AND GETTING TO THE ROOT OF PRIDE.

1. This week's sermon started with a quote from Rick Warren, "I believe that you measure the health or strength of a church by its sending capacity rather than its seating capacity." What does this quote mean to you? Do you agree or disagree?
2. Have you ever experienced God calling you to take a step of faith for Him? If so, what did that experience teach you?
3. Read Jonah 1:1-4. Jonah hears God's call and runs the opposite way. When have you run from God's call in your life?
4. Read Jonah 1:17. Jonah is placed in an uncomfortable situation. Have you ever been placed in an awkward circumstance that developed your character? If so, how?
5. Read Jonah 2:8-10. Jonah eventually acknowledges his need for God and says "yes" to Him. What is a "yes" that you have said to God recently?
6. Read Jonah 3:3-5. God uses Jonah's reluctant "yes" to do amazing things. Do you tend to limit God's ability to work through you? Have you ever seen Him use you beyond your natural gifts and abilities? If so, how?
7. Jonah 4:1-3 reveals Jonah's true heart condition. He complains that God is merciful and loving to his enemies. Have you ever felt this way? If anyone is feeling brave, they can share their experience with the group.
8. Jonah ends in a cliffhanger (Jonah 4:11). How do you think Jonah responded? How would you like to respond?
9. Spend time asking God to reveal your Tarshish (where you go to distract yourself from God's call) and your Nineveh (the people God is calling you to reach). Ask God to speak to you individually and share corporately as you feel led.