

Night - \_\_\_\_\_

Summer - \_\_\_\_\_

Jonah - \_\_\_\_\_

*A Struggle with God's Grace.*

Responding to God's Call  
Jonah 1:1-4, 12

I. God calls all His people to serve Him in some way (v.1).

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A. Jonah was called to be a prophet.

I. God calls all His people to serve Him in some way (v.1).

A. Jonah was called to be a prophet.

B. We are all called to serve God in some way.



What is your way?

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Your S.H.A.P.E.:

Your S.H.A.P.E.:  
Spiritual Gifts

Your S.H.A.P.E.:  
Spiritual Gifts  
Heart

Your S.H.A.P.E.:  
Spiritual Gifts  
Heart  
Abilities

Your S.H.A.P.E.:  
Spiritual Gifts  
Heart  
Abilities  
Personality

Your S.H.A.P.E.:  
Spiritual Gifts  
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Experiences

II. God sometimes calls His people to serve Him in difficult ways (v.2).



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A. God called Jonah to proclaim His Word of judgment to one of the most powerful, ruthless, and ungodly nations on earth.

1. It was unprecedented.

*“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it (v.2).*

“It was a call for a Hebrew prophet to leave Israel and go out to a Gentile city. Up until then prophets had been sent only to God’s people. While [some] pronounced a few prophetic oracles addressed to pagan countries, they are brief, and none [were] actually sent out to the nations in order to preach.” - Tim Keller

1. It was unprecedented.

2. It was unexpected.

“The Assyrian kings were proud of their cruel and terrible reputation and went to great trouble and expense to record their exploits for posterity. . . . They made parades of heads, requiring friends of the deceased to carry them elevated on poles. They boasted of their practice of stretching live prisoners with ropes so they could be skinned alive.” – James Bruckner

B. God may call us to serve Him in a way that will take us far beyond our comfort zone.

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1. It may be unprecedented.

2. It may be unexpected.



III. God's call can be disobeyed, but it cannot be quietly dismissed (vv.3-4, 12).

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A. God allowed Jonah to defiantly disobey His call (v.3).

*But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. (v.3)*

# 4 Locations Mentioned in Jonah



*But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord.*

“Jonah . . . attempted to flee to a place where no fellow believers would be found, hoping that this would help ensure that God’s word would not come to him again. If he stayed in Israel, he could expect to hear more from [God], but if he left, he might hear nothing further.”

- Doug Stuart

B. God did not allow Jonah to quietly dismiss  
His call (vv.4, 12):

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His call (vv.4, 12).

*But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea,  
and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so  
that the ship threatened to break up. (v.4)*



B. God did not allow Jonah to quietly dismiss His call (vv.4, 12).

*He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” (v.12)*

“Sin will take you farther than you want to go,

“Sin will take you farther than you want to go,

keep you longer than you want to stay,

“Sin will take you farther than you want to go,

keep you longer than you want to stay,

and cost you more than you want to pay.”