



From the message on April 27, 2025

**Series Title:** Missionally Engaged: A Matter of the Heart

**Text:** Jonah

### From the Message

No one is beyond God's mercy if they turn to Him. This is easy to receive personally but hard to apply to people who are different from us. Jonah challenges readers to rejoice in salvation even for those they consider undeserving because God Himself takes pity on the most wicked when they humble themselves.

### Opening Interaction

Do you know a story of someone who you thought would never become a Christian, but actually became one?

### Read Jonah 1-4 and discuss:

#### 1. Where do we see ourselves in Jonah's story?

Jonah receives God's mercy but resents it being extended to the Ninevites. When have you struggled with the idea of God showing grace to people you consider "undeserving"? What does this reveal about your heart?

#### 2. Are we sabotaging God's mission—intentionally or not?

Jonah obeys God outwardly but does so with a hardened heart. Have you ever done the "right thing" spiritually while inwardly resisting what God was doing? What does it look like to sabotage God's work in our own city or community?

#### 3. Do we share God's compassionate concern for all people?

God's steadfast (hesed) love reaches both sailors and Ninevites—outsiders to Israel. Do you tend to limit God's mercy to people different than you? How might God be calling you to reflect His heart towards people who are different than you?

#### 4. How can we become bridge-builders and peacemakers like Jesus?

Jonah's story exposes religious pride and invites us to partner in God's mission to the nations. In what ways can you join God in crossing barriers—cultural, racial, political, or social—to extend grace, truth, and reconciliation?