

Review: When we run from God we shift away from the more we were made for.

⁴ Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵ 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.

But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. ⁶ The 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."

⁷ Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"

⁹ He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."

¹⁰ This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.)

¹¹ The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"

¹² "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."

¹³ Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. ¹⁴ Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, LORD, do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for You, LORD, have done as You pleased." ¹⁵ Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. ¹⁶ At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to Him.

¹⁷ Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 1:4-17

God uses _____ in our life to shift us _____ to the more we were made for.

The source of storms:

- The storm of a _____ . Genesis 3
- The storm of _____ . 1 Peter 5:8-9
- The storm of _____ . Galatians 5:7-9
- The storm of _____ . Hebrews 12:5-6

God in the middle of the storm:

³⁵ That day when evening came, He said to His disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." ³⁶ Leaving the crowd behind, they took Him along, just as He was, in the boat. There were also other boats with Him. ³⁷ A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸ Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

⁴⁰ He said to His disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

⁴¹ They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!"

Mark 4:35-41

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Jonah 1:4-17. How did God use the storm to draw the sailors to Himself? And similarly Jonah to his purpose?
2. How do you typically respond to “storms” in your life?
3. Take a moment to identify the ‘storms’ in your life. How might God be using them? And why?
4. How does knowing the source of your current ‘storm’ help change your attitude?
5. How is God leading you to trust Him today? What steps will you take to draw near to Him?