

SATURDAY, FISH GUTS, AND COVID-19

April 19, 2020

Most people don't like silence. Even those who claim to crave it, grow weary of it if it lasts too long. In a world filled with noise, silence can be deafening, even disturbing. We especially don't like it when God is silent. We may even assume that God's silence means that He is absent. But there is evidence throughout the scriptures that God often chooses to work through the silent seasons of our lives. Join us online for part 4 of Pause where we examine the story of Jonah in the belly of a fish to see how God may be using times of silence and isolation to rescue us.

Passage (READ):

"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 1:17 (NIV)*

Principles (KNOW):

Sometimes God delivers you from the _____ and sometimes God uses the _____ to deliver you.

Practices (DO):

Make a list of fish God has used to save you. Do you feel trapped in the belly of a fish now? How might God be using that fish to save you? Is that fish making you better or bitter?

What to do if you're swallowed by a large fish:

1. Don't waste time being _____ at the _____ .
2. Thank _____ for the _____, He may be using it to _____ your _____ !
3. Don't _____ through the _____ of a _____ .
4. Be _____ to _____ the fish.

SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR "PAUSE":

40 Days to Lasting Change: An AHA Challenge, Kyle Idleman

40 Days of Purpose, Rick Warren

A Call to Die, David Nasser

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, Peter Scazzero

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Day by Day, Peter Scazzero

Ninety Days with the Disciple Jesus Loves, Gary Lee Webber

My Utmost for His Highest, Oswald Chambers

Morning and Evening, Charles Spurgeon

Other sermons you may want to check out at ssbc.org

Awakening (2015)

Prayer Journey (2018)

One (2017)

The Disciple's Journey (2018)

Jonah: Welcome to Nineveh (2012)



TEXT

Text the word UPDATE to 904-441-8650 to stay up to date on what's going on at Southside.

GIVE

You can give online through ssbc.org, directly through your financial institution, or through the mail. Call the church office if you need more information.

WATCH US LIVE

Join us LIVE! on Sundays at

- 9:00 a.m. on Facebook
- 10:30 a.m. on ssbc.org

Dial-A-Sermon is a new resource we've made available. Just call 904-447-3021.

If you would like a CD of Sunday's message, please call the church office to request one.

CONTACT

 904-396-6633

 info@ssbc.org

 1435 Atlantic Blvd.,
Jacksonville, FL 32207

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (WEEK OF APRIL 19-25, 2020)

HANGOUT (Warming up to the topic)

1. Do you have any lingering questions or thoughts related to this week's teaching or daily readings?
2. Have you ever experienced a "Silent Saturday" or lived for a time in the belly of a fish? What was it like?

HEAR (Listening to God through scripture)

3. Read Jonah 3.
 - What happened after Jonah was vomited back onto the shore?
 - What was different this time?
 - How would you characterize Jonah's sermon (verse 4)? What was the outcome?
4. Read Jonah 4:1-4.
 - What was Jonah's reaction to Nineveh's response?
 - How did Jonah's knowledge of God actually lead him to disobedience? Have you ever shared Jonah's problem with God?
 - Read 2 Peter 3:9. How is God's reaction to Nineveh consistent with this verse? What does this tell you about God's character and nature?
5. Read Jonah 4:5-11.
 - How do you characterize and explain the difference between Jonah in chapter 2 and Jonah in chapter 4?
 - While we are in the midst of a hardship, we often say, that "If God gets me through this, I will be different!" In your experience, do people actually change post-crisis? Was that true for Jonah?
 - Can you think of a crisis that brought about a significantly positive and lasting change?
 - We always hear about Jonah in chapters 1-2, but seldom discuss the end of the story. What are some of your takeaways from this book and how does it relate to our current situation?

HUDDLE (Making it personal and praying together - in huddles)

6. Are you now or have you ever run away from God? What happened? How would you describe the general direction of your life right now? Moving away from or closer to God's will? Talk about it, invite accountability, and take time to pray.

DAILY READING:

Jonah's prayer in Jonah 2 is a compilation of quotes from various Psalms of thanksgiving. This reminds us of Paul's admonition in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 to "give thanks in all circumstances." As we continue to press through the COVID-19 pandemic, use this week's scripture readings from Jonah 2 and the Psalms to inspire you to give thanks!

Monday: Jonah 2

Tuesday: Jonah 2:2 (Psalm 18:6 and Psalm 30:3)

Jonah 2:3 (Psalm 42:8, Psalm 88:7, Psalm 11:4)

Wednesday: Jonah 2:4 (Psalm 31:22)

Jonah 2:5 (Psalm 69:1-2 and Psalm 18:4-5)

Thursday: Jonah 2:6 (Psalm 40:2, Psalm 71:20, Psalm 88:6)

Jonah 2:7 (Psalm 18:6)

Friday: Jonah 2:8 (Psalm 31:6 and Psalm 106:36)

Jonah 2:9 (Psalm 50:14 and Psalm 66:13-14)

Saturday: Matthew 12

Sunday: Luke 11