



The Honest Stories of Men from the Bible

Jonah - Jonah 1-4

1. What did God tell Jonah to do? (Jonah 1:1)

2. What did Jonah do instead? (Jonah 1:3) _____

3. Two times we see the same phrase in Jonah 1:1-3. What is it?

"from the _____ of the _____."

*Notice one word that repeats twice as Jonah is fleeing. It shows the direction he is really going: **DOWN** to the city of Joppa; **DOWN** into the ship*

4. How do we know that he was **depressed**? (Jonah 1:5)

"But Jonah had gone _____ into the _____ parts of the ship, had _____ down, and was _____."

*He probably wanted to die. He **ignored God**, ran the opposite direction, **ran from God**, hid in the bottom of a ship going somewhere he did not even want to go, and he put other people in harm's way.*

5. Y N Have you ever ignored God?

6. Y N Have you ever run from God (yes, the opposite way)?

7. Y N Have you ever tried to hide from God?

8. Y N Have you ever **put other people in harm's way**?

9. Y N Maybe, you might have wanted to die during those times?

10. God told Jonah to go to Nineveh (capital of the Assyrian Empire) to preach against them. How did God describe Nineveh? (Jonah 1:2)

11. Why do you think Jonah ran from God and did not want to go to Nineveh?

A few ideas: The Assyrian Empire had been a mighty force since 1800 BC.

They had powerful rulers all through those years.

Their armies could march into Jerusalem within 30 days.

They were a vicious, brutal, vulgar and evil enemy.

One of their rulers, Tiglath-Pileser, had already been down hassling Israel.

12. Why would Jonah feel **worthless & wanting to die**?
 (Jonah 1:3) He _____ from God.
 (Jonah 1:3) He ran and hid in the bottom of a _____.
 (Jonah 1:8) He caused _____ for the ship crew.
 (Jonah 1:10) He had to admit what? _____
 (Jonah 2:5) The waters (trouble) _____ him.
 (Jonah 2:4) "I have been _____ out of your _____ (presence).
13. When God told Jonah in Jonah 1:2 that He was planning to judge Nineveh, **did Jonah really believe** that? (Jonah 4:2) Explain.
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14. Y N At that moment of fear when God told Jonah to go to Nineveh, **do you think Jonah cared** about the 120,000 unsaved people living in Nineveh?
15. After **Jonah got mad at God** for not immediately judging Nineveh, What did Jonah do? (Jonah 4:5) _____
16. Y N A man would have to **totally hung up on himself** and cold toward God to ignore God, run from God, not believe God, and hope some unsaved people would get judged.

Be careful! Don't get critical toward Jonah. You and I are just as selfish as he was. Check it out. Jonah was angry at God when this book began (1:1), and he was still angry when this book ended (4:11).

17. Twice Jonah wanted to die.
- (Jonah 4:3) "Take my _____ from me."
 - (Jonah 4:3) "It is better for me to _____ than to _____."
 - (Jonah 4:8) "Then he wished _____ for himself."
 - (Jonah 4:8) "It is better for me to _____ than to _____."
18. However, even though Jonah wasn't paying attention, God was ministering & strengthening him. How?
- (Jonah 1:17) "The Lord prepared _____."
 - (Jonah 2:10) The Lord heard Jonah from _____."
 - (Jonah 2:10) The fish vomited him on _____."
 - (Jonah 4:6) "The Lord prepared _____."

THE LORD DID NOT WANT JONAH TO DIE. EVERYTIME JONAH RAN FROM GOD, GOD RAN AFTER HIM WITH LOVE AND FORGIVENESS.