

2¹ ^(a) From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God.

² He said:

*"In my distress I called to the LORD,
and he answered me.
From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help,
and you listened to my cry.*

³ *You hurled me into the depths,
into the very heart of the seas,
and the currents swirled about me;
all your waves and breakers
swept over me.*

^{6b} *But you, LORD my God,
brought my life up from the pit.*

⁷ *"When my life was ebbing away,
I remembered you, LORD,
and my prayer rose to you,
to your holy temple.*

⁸ *"Those who cling to worthless idols
turn away from God's love for them.*

⁹ *But I, with shouts of grateful praise,
will sacrifice to you.*

What I have vowed I will make good.

I will say, 'Salvation comes from the LORD.'"

¹⁰ *And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited
Jonah onto dry land.*

Introduction: God's Faithfulness tells us that He will never change and He will never forsake us. It tells us that though we may run God will not give up on us. But why does it feel like we are alone when we choose to ignore God? Where is God in the midst of our unfaithfulness?

The importance of our study:

*"What comes into our minds when we think about
God*

is the most important thing about us."

- A.W. Tozer, The Knowledge of the Holy

A Working Definition of the Faithfulness of God

God's steadfast _____ and
_____ to those who have accepted
the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (No Matter What!)

1 The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: 2 "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me."

3 But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.

-People who run from God run to the strangest
_____.

-Why? Because when we run from God we disconnect ourselves from the _____ of _____ and truth.

-You run from people and places that represent that _____ and truth.

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."

-Runners are often the last to make the _____.

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."

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.

-You can run from God but you can't _____ God.

-How you view the _____ and the _____ will determine how you view God's faithfulness.