

The God of the Second Chance

Jonah 3:1,2

We are to answer God's call to service even if we've already resisted it, because His purpose hasn't changed. Consider what we learn about...

God's Persistence

God has determined that we serve Him no matter what the cost

God's Patience

God uses imperfect people by the power of His love

God's Pardon

God even uses our disobedience to equip us for service

God's Purpose

God purposes always succeed because He is sovereign

There's no second chance of salvation after you die

Failure for the Christian is never final

Take the Gospel to the Ninevites in your life

Tabletalk Questions

For 8-22-10 sermon

"The God of the Second Chance" Jonah 3:1,2

Compare the opening verses of chapter 1 with the opening verses of chapter 3. What does this tell you about the development of the plot and Jonah's character?

Why did God clarify that He would tell Jonah the message he would proclaim to Nineveh (3:2)? Why do we still need this caution in our day (Gal.1:6-10)?

Was Jonah's attitude toward Nineveh any different after he was vomited up by the fish? What should be our attitude toward unbelievers after we have experience God's mercy?

Christian, are you surprised by your conversion, or does it feel like "a given"? Why is *every* conversion as remarkable as Jonah's deliverance through the great fish?

If you are ever tempted to feel that some sin you committed in the past (or continue to struggle with) puts you beyond the reach of God's grace, what encouraging news does the book of Jonah have for you? How can you encourage others who struggle with the same temptation?