Jonah



Dr. Jeff King Christ Lutheran Church Southwick, Massachusetts

Part 4: When You're Emotions are Out of Control

•	If you want to run from God, the devil will always offer
	you a ride.

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time. (Jonah 3:1)

They repented and God relented ...

But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord, "Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That's why I ran away ... I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love; I knew how easily You could cancel Your plans for destroying these people." (Jonah 4:1-2)

"Please kill me right now, Lord; I'd rather be dead than alive when nothing that I told them happens!" (Jonah 4:3)

•	It's possible to do the	of God
	without the	of God.

So, Jonah went out and sat sulking on the east side of the city, and he made a shelter out of leaves to shade him as he waited to see if anything would happen to the city. (Jonah 4: 5)

And when the leaves of the shelter withered in the heat, the Lord arranged for a vine to grow up quickly and spread its broad leaves over Jonah's head to shade him. This made him comfortable and very grateful. (Jonah 4:6)

But God also prepared a worm! The next morning the worm ate through the stem of the plant, so it withered away and died. (Jonah 4: 7)

Then when the sun was hot, God ordered a scorching east wind to blow on Jonah, and the sun beat down upon his head until he grew faint and wished to die. For he said, "Death is better than this!" (Jonah 4:8)

Jonah's Root Issues

- Erratic mood swings
- Entitlement tendencies
- Depressive symptoms

Then the Lord said, "You feel sorry for yourself when your shelter is destroyed, though you did no work to put it there ... So why shouldn't I be sorry for a great city like Nineveh with its 120,000 people in utter spiritual darkness?" (Noah 4:10-11)

"A gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love." (Jonah 4:2)

When Jesus arrived, the Bible said: "Now something greater than Jonah is here." (Matthew 12:41)

Jesus said, "As Jonah was in the belly of that great fish for three days, I will be in the heart of the earth for three days and then I will rise up out of that tomb victorious!" (See Matthew 12:40)

• Every <u>chance</u> from God demands a <u>choice</u> from you.