

HALF-HEARTED

HALF-HEARTED PROPHET

JONAH 1

April 16, 2023 - Cesar Tapia

THE BIG IDEA:

Regardless of the difficult assignments that He gives us, we can trust God to be GOOD.

CONVERSATION STARTER:

Share a time when you:

- Found yourself running away from God, as Jonah did. What was the outcome?
- Followed God's call, even though it was difficult. How did it turn out?

READ & DISCUSS:

Read Jonah 1:1-17

- 1. Read Jonah 1:1-3 and Jonah 4:1-2.** Why did Jonah refuse to go to Nineveh? Have you ever been angry or rebellious because of God's forgiveness / grace / compassion towards someone else (maybe an enemy)? If so, why? How does knowing the Lord relentlessly pursues those who rebel against Him affect how you relate to Him and to others?
- 2.** Cesar used the two brothers (the parable of the prodigal son) to illustrate two different forms of running from God: **running through disobedience or through extreme obedience.** Jonah ran by both. Discuss the differences between the two different forms of running. Which of the two do you identify with the most? Why?
- 3.** When we find ourselves running from God, we need to realign our hearts with the will of God for our lives. This means taking a step toward trusting that God is good. How do we see Jonah do this (see verses 10-16)? What does his one-step in the right direction bring about?
- 4. Read Jonah 1:17.** The Lord provided for the half-hearted prophet. How does that encourage you? When we take a step in obedience towards trusting that God is good, regardless of the difficulty of our assignment, we are met with His grace and mercy. Cesar shared what this looks like for his life (to be fully present and love them even though it might be painful). What does your step in trusting God's goodness look like?

LIVE IT OUT:

Use the diagram below to record your step(s) in the right direction. Think of an assignment in your life that God is calling you to – a difficult one, one that calls you out of your comfort and into trusting God’s good will for you and those around you. List ways you might be responding half-heartedly. What could you do to respond in whole-heartedly?

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PRAY

Write out your prayer, asking God for the grace and power to walk in wholeheartedly this week. Pray this for yourself and others.
