

HALF-HEARTED

HALF-HEARTED REPENTANCE

JONAH 2

April 23, 2023 - Ted Voltmer

THE BIG IDEA:

God loves us too much NOT to allow difficulty in our lives, and He uses our trials and tests to take our focus off ourselves and back onto Him.

CONVERSATION STARTER:

Share a time when you:

- Found yourself in a difficult situation or a time of testing. What was God trying to teach you through those circumstances?
- Struggled to remain hopeful during difficult times. How did you get through this?

READ & DISCUSS:

Read Jonah 1:17 through 2:1-10

- 1. Read Jonah 1:17 to 2:3.** Why do you think Jonah waited three days in the fish before praying to God? Have you ever found yourself in the middle of a trial, but were not able to pray about it? How did you overcome this?
- 2. Read Jonah 2:7, 8.** Pastor Ted pointed out that Jonah included himself when he talked about “those who cling to worthless idols”. What are some “idols” we wrestle with today? Do you agree that idolatry is the basis of all other Sin? Why or why not? Ted offered several questions that can help reveal idols in our life. Which one of these impacted you the most?
- 3. Read Romans 8: 28, 29.** Pastor Ted suggested that instead of focusing on your situation – on the trial you are in – we should focus instead on what God is doing in you, through the situation you are in. What does Paul say in Romans 8 about this? What are some ways God can use trials and difficult times to make us more like Jesus?
- 4.** Pastor Ted explained that Hesed love is God’s “covenantal love” for us. God loves us because He loves us, and nothing can ever change that. How does this faithful love give us hope in the midst of difficult circumstances? Pastor Ted gave the example of Admiral Stockdale, and how he “never lost faith in the end of the story.” How does knowing the end of our story in Christ give us hope?

LIVE IT OUT:

Use the diagram below to record your step(s) in the right direction. Think of a difficult situation you are going through right now. List ways that God may be using these circumstances to grow and stretch you. What are some things God may want you to change to become more like Jesus?

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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.
