

HALF-HEARTED

HALF-HEARTED OBEDIENCE

JONAH 3

April 30, 2023 - Ted Voltmer

THE BIG IDEA:

When confronted with God's Word, the softness of your heart determines the strength of your response.

CONVERSATION STARTER:

Share a time when you:

- Felt like God was asking you to do something that you were not prepared to do. How did you handle that situation?
- Took a step of faith and saw God work through that situation. What happened and what did you learn?

READ & DISCUSS:

Read Jonah 3

- 1. Read Jonah 3:1-4.** How do you think Jonah felt when God called him the second time to go to Ninevah? Do you think he responded "half-heartedly" or with excitement? Has God ever asked you to do something a second time, after you didn't do it the first time?
- 2. Read Jonah 3:4.** Ted pointed out that Jonah's message to the Ninevites was only eight words (only five in the original Hebrew)! Does this seem like a complete "gospel message" to you? Where do we see God's grace in this brief message?
- 3. Read Jonah 3:5-9.** Were you surprised by the Ninevites response? How would you (and Jonah!) have expected them to respond? The word "repentance" doesn't show up anywhere in this passage, but what evidence do we see that the king and his people understood what they had to do?
- 4. Read Jonah 3:10.** Were you surprised by God's response?
- 5.** In light of Jonah's experience in Chapter 3, Ted challenged us to be ready whenever God asks you to do something, even if you can't see what will happen, or completely understand what He's asking you to do. Can you think of someone that God may be prompting you to reach out to this week

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?

HALF-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.
