



Letting Go of Our Pride

INTRODUCTION: We see in the book of Jonah that God is a gracious, patient, and compassionate God Who desires to do great things in us, through us, and for us for His glory and purposes. However, many never experience this because, like Jonah, we choose to go our own ways. In this message we discover a subtle but powerful temptation that we must daily overcome in order to honor God with our lives.

READ: Jonah 1:17-3:1

DISCUSSION:

1. What are some ways that we see pride in the lives of famous athletes and actors? What makes them so commonly fall to pride? How does it affect your attitude towards them?
2. Why is it easy to detect pride in the lives of others, when we can easily blind to our own?
3. What are some ways that pride might manifest itself in our lives? List them out and then examine yourselves to see if any are present in your life. If so, repent and seek God's grace.
4. As a group, take time to read Proverbs 6:16-19; 16:18-19; Proverbs 18:12; 1 Peter 5:5-6.
 - Discuss what each passage teaches about pride.
 - Discuss how you have learned these principles are true.
5. Jonah clearly understood that God caused the storm, the fish, the depths that engulfed him, etc. What does this teach us about God's dealing with rebellious children? How is this similar to God's dealing with David after he sinned?
6. How would you describe what Jonah must have felt in Jonah 2:3-6? Have you ever experienced anything similar?
7. As a group, read Psalm 139:7-10. What does this teach us?
 - How do we see this truth revealed in Jonah's circumstance?
 - How does this encourage you today?
8. What key phrase in Jonah 2:8 was the turning point in the passage? Why is this step so important?
9. This message revealed four ways to rely on the compassion of God. List them. Which stands out the most to you and why? Which do you need to apply personally to your life today?

CLOSE: What area of your life needs to be surrendered to the Lord? Make it so this week.

READING LIST:

Monday: Psalm 31:19-24 / **Tuesday:** Psalm 32:1-11 / **Wednesday:** Psalm 33:1-12 / **Thursday:** Psalm 33:13-22 / **Friday:** Psalm 34:1-7 / **Saturday:** Psalm 34:8-14 / **Sunday:** Psalm 34:15-22