

The PRISM



Sunshine Church of Christ

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July 30, 2006

Vol. 41 — Issue 31

Jonah Swallowed by the Fish -- Repentance

There is a story in the Bible that is as hard for some people to believe as believing God created everything. A big fish swallowed a man and the man lived. This is the story in an Old Testament book all its own -- Jonah.

How could a fish swallow a full grown man, hold him in its belly for three days and then vomit him up safely on the beach three days later, as the Bible says happened to Jonah?

Well, like explaining the creation, I don't know, but I believe it happened, just like I believe the creation happened by God. In comparison to the creation, Jonah is a much smaller thing to believe, like a grain of sand among all the sands of the world.

It is not just the story: I would like to make some application to us today with the Jonah story. There are many that we could make.

Jonah was a preacher for God. That is recorded for us in 2 Kings 14:25, where it tells us that the Lord, God of Israel spoke through his servant Jonah. This was about 800 years before Christ, according to historians.

In the book of Jonah, God assigned Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh and preach against it, because of its wickedness. But for some reason, Jonah did not want to go. He went the other way.

Maybe he was afraid. Nineveh was in enemy territory at the time for Jonah's homeland. Maybe he didn't want them to repent and find favor with God. We are not given that answer.

Rather than obey God, though, Jonah boarded a boat and headed for a place a long way off. But God followed him and caused a great wind, which was about to make the boat Jonah had hitched a ride on sink. Jonah was not getting away from God.

In this case, the saying, "You can run but you can't hide," seems relevant.

Sailors at sea are by nature superstitious. When the wind came up and the waves rolled, the sailors thought there was something more than a storm at sea, and they were right. The ship was near a break-up and they wanted to know why.

It turns out that it was Jonah and his running from God that caused the rough seas. Jonah admitted it and told the sailors they could save themselves by throwing him overboard. While they hesitated to follow his guidance, they eventually did it.

When Jonah hit the water, God caused a "great fish" to swallow him. Jonah was inside the fish's belly for three days and nights, most of it, it seems, praying to God from whom he ran.



Prayer Requests

For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

For our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

For the lost in our families and community.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri

For Tim and Jennifer in the adoption process

Gwen Skaggs is suffering with serious breathing problems at home and other serious complications.

Praise Report: Don Wise (Terry Sullivan's brother in law) has been transferred to Golden Years for rehabilitation after lingering near death for over a month. Praise the Lord.

Lillian Knore is in Elbrooke Pavilion for one week while some modifications are made at her home. At that point, she will be able to go home.

Sharon Rogers is scheduled for foot surgery at Grant Hospital on August 11. She will be homebound for several weeks following. Pray for her healing.

Robin Church (Esther Crisp's daughter in Florida) is suffering with abnormal weight loss and depression.

Lindsey Falls (friend of Jacob Miller) 18 yrs of age, heart problems.

Matt Cason (nephew of Cathy Coriell, in Springfield, OH) serious trouble with the law and drugs.

Sam Miller is in Survivors School. He asks his brothers and sisters to pray for him.

Joanne Miller has had a positive med report in one area. More testing is required in other areas.

Derek Miller is in Kandahar and is scheduled to fly to Dubai on Tuesday. Wednesday evening he makes it to the Columbus airport. Pray for safe passage.

Earl Hale (Julie Gahm's father) has been diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Praise Report: Jenny Dyer (friend of Eric McLaughlin) has been on our prayer list for serious complications following a 4-wheeler accident. God has blessed her with a wonderful recovery.

Verla Burns has been moved to Elbrooke Pavilion. The cause of her blackouts has not been determined.

Norma Lavendar (Geneva Miller's sister-in-law) is losing her sight and hearing.

Darryl Pinkerton (minister at Elm Grove church) has been having some serious health problems.

Sharon Stewart (Patsy Graff's sister) has an MRI scheduled for this Friday to determine the cause of some foot problems.

Mary Collins asks for prayer concerning her work. Some of the jobs are being outsourced to India.



Teen Devo

Terry and Debbie's house, Tuesday, August 1, at 6:30 pm. There will be a special "Back To School" devo on Aug. 15th, more details in next week's bulletin.

Next Junior Devo

Thursday, August 3, 6:30 pm at Jared & Jonas McCray's house.

Devo Hosts Needed

Please see the sheets on the bulletin board to sign up for hosting a Junior or Senior devo. Many dates are open at this point and some hosts are needed as soon as possible for both groups.

Bible Curriculum

Sunday

7/30 Luke 1:1-25

8/6 Luke 1:26-56

8/13 Luke 3:23-38

Matt. 1:1-17

8/20 Luke 1:57-80

8/27 Matt. 2:1-18

Wednesday

8/2 1 Sam. 24-25

8/9 1 Sam. 26-27

8/16 1 Sam. 28-29

8/23 1 Sam. 30-31

8/30 2 Sam. 1-2

Looking Ahead at Sunshine

7/30 Deacon's meeting, 5 pm, annex.

8/5 Wedding shower for Crystle & Eric

8/19 Reception for Josh & Christian

9/30 Spirit Club Big Bash

Fitness Class

On Tuesday as usual. Thursday class will be a video class.

Quarterly Deacon's Meeting

Today at 5 pm, all deacons are requested to meet in the Annex for their quarterly meeting.

Invitation to Reception

Josh Coriell and Christian O'Rourke will be married in a private ceremony on Saturday, August 19. We are all invited to the reception which will follow at 6 pm at the church annex. If you plan to come, please sign the list on the bulletin board ASAP.

Shower for Crystle & Eric

Crystle Price (former member of Sunshine, now living in Nashville) will be married to Eric Steffens on October 7, 2006, in Nashville, TN. There will be a wedding shower for them here at Sunshine on August 5, 4 pm, in the annex. They are registered at Wal-Mart, Penney's and Target. For more details see Stephanie Copas or Debbie Sullivan. Also see the information sheet on the bulletin board.

Lily Chapel Needs Some Help

For the next 6 to 8 months, Mike Lemon, the minister at Lily Chapel, will be traveling to and from a construction project in the Caribbean several times. During this time Lily Chapel will need help with song leading and speaking. If any of the men here at Sunshine would be willing to lead singing and/or preach for the church at Lily Chapel on either Sunday morning or Sunday evening, see Steve Miller for details or call Kenny Bartley (574-6288) who is handling the scheduling of speakers, etc.

Fifth Sunday Singing at Lily

Lily Chapel church of Christ invites us over to their building this evening for Fifth Sunday Singing. Services start at 6:30 pm. Song leaders and singers are invited to come and enjoy the evening.

Sunday PM Services

To be announced.

Continued from page 1

Finally, Jonah seems sufficiently converted. The fish vomits him up on the beach, and he goes to do what God said do in the first place.

There is more, of course, and you can find it in the book of Jonah. But this is enough for the lessons I wanted to make:

Sometimes even preachers don't see it like God wants it seen. Preacher or not, many of us are like Jonah. God says do one thing; we do the opposite. This characteristic is wrong.

God is longsuffering, as he was with Jonah. He did not give up on him right away. He gave him the chance to turn, though he also provided some motivation. God is like that with us, I believe.

It is not too late to obey God until we breath our last. Eventually, when that time comes, then it is too late.

God saves when we turn. This is perhaps the greater lesson.

He brought Jonah's life up from the pit, Jonah said, and Jonah acknowledged the grace of God.

Those Who Serve

Sunday Morning

Bible Class Text
Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Lord's Supper - Server 6
Server 5
Server 4
Wine
Bread
Server 3
Server 2
Server 1
Message
Closing Prayer

July 30

Luke 1: 1-25
Don Coriell
Scott Gamp
Aaron Franke
Mark Gamp
David Gamp
Matt Gamp
Barry Hayward
Mike Gamp
Aaron Kallner
Matt Hoskins
Jack Jennings
Price Gammon
Jon Coriell
Steve Miller

August 6

Luke 1:26-56
Jon Coriell
Ralph Gamp
Matt Cram
Troy Gahm
Chuck Allison
Ryan Coriell
Tim Coriell
Jeff Hayward
Jamie Riley
Brent Frazie
Barry Gamp
Dale Gamp
Steve Miller
Mark Risner

Sunday Evening

Song Leader
Opening Prayer
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer

Aaron McCray
Gary Glispie
Eric McLaughlin
Travis Scott

Rich Book
Tim Gamp
Terry Sullivan
Nick Gamp

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

August 2

Jacob Miller
Jamie Riley
1 Samuel 24-25

August 9

Shawn Gragg
Zach Sims
1 Samuel 26-27

Scheduled Services

Sunday

Bible Study - 9:45 am
Worship - 10:30 am
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

The Prism is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover.

Deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. Friday. News items may be called to Al Graff or Steve Miller or e-mailed to:

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or

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Elders

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Wayne Gamp	820-3444	wgamp@sunshine-church.org
Tom Kelley	259-2258	tkelley@sunshine-church.org

Ministers

Steve Miller	820-4379	smiller@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0156	
Jamie Riley	820-3348	jriley@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0158	
Terry Sullivan	776-7056	ply642002@yahoo.com
Cell	935-7056	

Building	820-3415
Building Fax	820-5450
Campus Ministry	355-3186

Church Office Hours
8-12 M-F

Deacons & Areas of Ministry

Rich Book	820-3213	Education, Elbrooke Services, Library
Jason Coriell	820-4739	Treasurer, Benevolence
Scott Gamp	820-3545	Worship, Special Events
Gary Glispie	776-4279	Church Directory, Program of Work
Alan Graff	776-7905	Bulletin, Advertising, Front Sign, Computers
Dick Havens	456-5009	Building Maintenance, Supplies
Shaun McCray	776-7738	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Homer Miller	776-7550	Funerals, Hospital Visitation, Attendance
Eugene Risner	820-2256	Fire, Health, Seniors, Joy of Giving
Willis Shumway	820-2833	Building Use & Security, Baptistry