

Can I Get a Redo?

The Book of Jonah

Have you ever wanted a redo at something? Have you ever wanted to redo a situation? Sure you have! During Covid-19 I've heard story after story of people being in a zoom meeting with a coat and tie on with Pajama pants. No one knew until they got up to get coffee that they were in their PJs. As people were laughing that the head of the sales department was wearing Mickey Mouse Pajama bottoms, that person was thinking, "Can I get a redo?" One thing that I'm certain of, regardless of what you've done, God's love never fails! I really didn't understand this concept until I became a parent. We may disappoint our parents, but they will never stop loving us! God loves His children! He loves us so much that He doesn't leave us the same as when we became His! The life of Jonah is a story of redemption, both for Jonah and the people of Nineveh. Jonah wanted a redo and God granted him one! God's love never fails.

The Problem: Our Disobedient Self (Jonah 1:2-3) We have a sin problem that by nature separates us from fellowship with God! I want you to see on this map just how far Tarshish is from Nineveh.

The Process: Our Discipline Through Suffering (Jonah 1:17) When we make bad decisions, we suffer. Even maybe we didn't do anything, we still suffer because we live in a fallen world. Maybe we're serving God and we are persecuted. We're not ever going to celebrate sin or suffering, but know that our choices have consequences. In fact all of those in the Bible other than Jesus have messed up, yet after repentance they were used by God in amazing ways! His love is so great, we get a redo! "Can I have a redo? Yes you can!" Here is a list of a few people that messed up.

Adam, the first man, was a blame shifter who couldn't resist peer pressure. (Genesis 3:12)

Eve, the first woman, couldn't control her appetite? (Genesis 3:6)

Cain, the first born human being, murdered his brother. (Genesis 4:8)

Noah, the last righteous man on earth at the time, was a drunk. (Genesis 9:20-21)

Abraham, the forefather of faith, tried to take God's promises into his own hands. (Genesis 12 and 20)

Isaac, who was nearly killed by his father, talked his wife into concealing their marriage. (Genesis 26)

Rebekah, the first "mail order bride," turned out to be a rather manipulative wife. (Genesis 27)

Jacob, who out-wrestled God, was pretty much a pathological deceiver. (Genesis 25, 27, 30)

Moses, the humblest man on the face of the earth (Numbers 12:13), had a very serious problem with his temper. (Exodus 2, 32:19; Numbers 20:11)

Samson, who put Rick Flair, John Cena and Dwayne The Rock Johnson to shame, was hopelessly enmeshed with a disloyal wife—and ended up taking his own life. (Judges 16)

Eli, who ruled over Israel, lost his sons to immorality—and to an untimely death. (1 Samuel 2, 4)

David, the friend of God, concealed his adultery with a murder. (2 Samuel 11)

Peter, had a temper and cut a guy's ear off and He denied Christ three times (Matthew 26:69)

This is a great reminder that we all fail, but God's love is greater than us! ***Romans 3:23-24 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,"*** Can I get a redo? Yes you can!

The Prayer: Our Desperation for a Savior (Jonah 2:1-8) Romans 10:11 "For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

The Promise: Our Delight in Salvation (Jonah 2:9-10) Romans 8:35-39 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

The Progress: Our Devotion to Serve (Jonah 3:1-10) Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Although we have all done stupid things, it's great that we have a Savior who will forgive us, renew us, and reignite us for His service when we repent and turn to Him! He loves us that much! Can I get a redo? Yes you can!