

JONAH'S ASSIGNMENT

As preached on Sunday, March 2nd

Read: Jonah 1:1-3

1. We're going to spend the next 6 weeks studying Jonah's story together. Have you spent much time in the book of Jonah? What is your impression of his story?
2. What were the two major movements of his story that were mentioned Sunday? In what way(s) does Jonah fail at each of those movements?
3. How do you imagine the word of the Lord (Jonah's assignment) was delivered to him? Have you ever received a direct assignment from God? How did you respond?
4. Why did Jonah resist God's direction? Have you ever resisted something you sensed God was asking you to do because of who would be blessed by your actions?
5. Eugene Peterson suggests that, "Jonah used the command of the Lord to avoid the presence of the Lord." What does he mean?
6. Why would someone want to flee from God's presence?
7. How can we find fulfillment in modest, daily obedience when Tarshish Fever is calling us toward a kind of exotic escapism from God's commands?