



When God Interrupts

Jonah 1:1-8

The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh! Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are."

But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction in order to get away from the Lord. He went down to the seacoast, to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping that by going away to the west he could escape from the Lord.

But as the ship was sailing along, suddenly the Lord flung a powerful wind over the sea, causing a violent storm that threatened to send them to the bottom. Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors shouted to their gods for help and threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship. And all this time Jonah was sound asleep down in the hold. So the captain went down after him. "How can you sleep at a time like this?" he shouted. "Get up and pray to your god! Maybe he will have mercy on us and spare our lives."

Then the crew cast lots to see which of them had offended the gods and caused the terrible storm. When they did this, Jonah lost the toss. "What have you done to bring this awful storm down on us?" they demanded.

All text New Living Translation unless marked (NIV) New International Version

When God Interrupts

1. God's calling _____ my life

"The Lord gave this message to Jonah.. **"Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh!"** (1:1-2)

2. God's calls me out of my _____

"go to the great city of **Nineveh! Announce my judgment** against it because I have seen how wicked its people are." (1:2)

3. God's interruptions force me to

- o Face my _____
- o Risk my _____
- o Strengthen my _____

4. I can try to evade God's Mission by

- o Deliberate _____
"But Jonah got up and went in the **opposite direction**" (1:3)
- o Artful _____
"Jonah went...to get **away from the Lord**... he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping that by going away to the west he could **escape from the Lord**." (1:3)
- o Careless _____
"All the sailors were **afraid**... But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a **deep sleep**." (1:5 NIV)

5. When I run from God

- o I _____
"But Jonah...**went down** to...the port of Joppa" (Jonah 1:3)
"**What have you done** to bring this awful storm down on us?" (1:8)
- o Others _____
"Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors...**threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship**." (1:5)

6. When I evade God _____

"the **LORD sent** a great wind...and such a violent storm" (1:4 NIV)
"The **Lord provided** a great fish to swallow Jonah" (1:17 NIV)
(prepared, appointed, arranged, sent)



Assyrian monuments - slide one



Assyrian monuments - slide two

