



Finish Strong Series

## Group #6: I'm the Problem, PT 1

### Jonah 1: 12 NASB

12 He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm *has come upon you.*"

**Pastor's Big Point:** There are some well-known biblical scholars who believe the stories of Jonah and Job are moral fiction. They don't believe there is fish large enough to have swallowed Jonah for this story to be true. But our Pastor is clear in his belief—that Jonah is a real dude, who was swallowed by a real fish, and saved by a real God. There should be no limits for what God can save us from. No matter what is lost, we believe God can bring recovery. No matter the test, we can stick with God and believe He has the power to bring us through. And just like for Jonah, no matter the situation, God is a rescuer. No matter how deep and dark the day may seem, the morning has to come. We must choose to believe the word of our all-powerful God.

### QUOTE:

*"If the Bible had said that Jonah swallowed the whale, I would believe it."*

*--William Jennings Bryan--*

Table  
Discussion

In the next 2 group lessons, we will be walking through the text of Jonah's journey in the belly of the whale. But there are countless, seemingly unbelievable Bible stories of miracles, signs, and wonders. What's your favorite and why?



Finish Strong Series

## Group #6: I'm the Problem, PT 1

### Pastor's Teaching Points

1. Arise
2. Then Go
3. The Great City
4. A Uncomfortable Order
5. Jonah Fleed

Consider how the following scriptures may tie our lesson.

#### **Romans 5:19 NLT**

**Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.**

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Did you ever "run away" from home as a child? What happened?
  - a. Can you share other points in your life when you were running in a direction away from God? What did you learn from that situation?
2. Why do you think people run away from God? What is it about God and the Christ-like life that prompts people to run away rather than to Him?
3. Jonah's disobedience was rooted in his disdain for the people of Ninevah. The Lord was fully aware of their wickedness and was sending Jonah to cry out against it. He had every reason to think he would be mocked, attacked, and possibly killed in Ninevah. In all honesty, what would you have done in this situation?