

You Gotta Go All Three!

2024-05-13 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Jonah 3:3-5

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Nineveh was so large it took three days to walk across. Jonah went one day in, preached one blunt sentence, and stopped. Revival broke out anyway, but Jonah missed whatever the other two days held. Pastor Matt called this the problem with the partial: we step in, taste some benefit, and scale back before the rest arrives. He admitted it took him about three years to discover that salvation is not the only benefit of following Jesus. The good stuff often sits on day two and three, if we keep going.

To get started

- What did you quit right before it would have gotten good?

Looking back at the message

This was preached on Mother's Day, and the selflessness of mothers is the working example of going all three days.

- 1 Pastor Matt admitted he stayed in church at first mostly because he had nowhere else to go. What kept you coming back?
- 2 Pastor Matt said it took him three years to realize salvation was not the only benefit of following Jesus. What benefits beyond salvation have you found?
- 3 Pastor Matt said our instant-gratification wiring makes us quit when we see some good but not all of it, like serving once and expecting the miraculous. Where have you done that? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Jonah 3:1-5. The one-day detail against the three-day city is the whole point.

- 4 Read Jonah 3:1-5. How far into the city did Jonah actually go, and how far was he sent?
- 5 The whole city responded anyway. What does that tell you about who does the real work?
- 6 Read Philippians 3:12-14. What is Paul pressing on toward?
- 7 Read Luke 9:23. What does taking up a cross daily actually involve? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

Do not turn this into guilt. He said explicitly there is grace for people who are new.

- 8 Where are you currently on day one of something God asked of you?
- 9 What benefit might be waiting on the other side of not quitting?
- 10 Pastor Matt named five pathways for meeting God: gather, grow, group, give, and go. Which one have you gone partial on?
- 11 What would going all three days look like for you, specifically? OPTIONAL

The group together

Persistence is easier with witnesses. Get specific about what happens next month.

- 12 Who do you know who has kept going for decades? What do you notice about them?
- 13 What good thing has this group started that could quietly fade out?
- 14 How could this group check in on each other three months from now?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What is the one thing you will not scale back on this month?

You might pray about

- For endurance in the hard middle of something
- For those who are tired of doing the right thing without seeing results
- For maturity rather than only a starting point