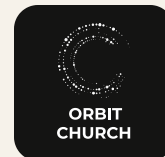


What to Do with a Second Chance

2024-05-06 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Jonah 3:1-5

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

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time. That little phrase is the whole gospel of this chapter: God gives second chances. But a second chance produces the same result as the first unless something changes. Pastor Matt named four things that have to move: the words you listen to, your posture, your patterns, and what you believe God for. Same calendar, same town, same job, and everything different once Jesus is at the center of it.

To get started

- What second chance were you given that you have not fully used yet?

Looking back at the message

The comparison-voice section is the most personal part of this message. Start there.

- 1 Pastor Matt named the voice he personally fights: comparison, the one that sends him to study other churches and come back discouraged. What voice are you trying to get rid of?
- 2 Pastor Matt said we look at what someone else has and invent reasons why they have it and we do not, and it never once makes us feel better. Why do we keep doing it?
- 3 Pastor Matt said if you change a pattern, your perspective follows, like how changing a physical routine changes how you feel. When have you found that? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Jonah 3:1-5. The phrase a second time is the whole hinge of the book.

- 4 Read Jonah 3:1-3. What is different about this call compared to the first one in chapter 1?
- 5 Jonah's whole sermon in verse 4 is one sentence, and the city still turned around. What does that tell you about who does the real work?
- 6 Read Romans 8:1. What does it say about condemnation?
- 7 Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. What goes away, and what comes? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

The four changes are words, posture, patterns, and belief. Work through them one at a time.

- 8 Of the four changes, the words you listen to, your posture, your patterns, and what you believe for, which one do you need most?
- 9 What would have to move in your calendar for Jesus to be at the center instead of in a time slot?
- 10 What shame are you carrying that Scripture flatly contradicts?
- 11 What are you believing God for that you have never said out loud? OPTIONAL

The group together

Second chances usually need witnesses to stick.

- 12 Who gave you a second chance you did not deserve?
- 13 Who in your life needs one from you?
- 14 How could this group keep each other from repeating the same old pattern?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What one pattern will you change this week so your second chance produces something different?

You might pray about

- For freedom from comparison
- For people who feel they have used up their chances
- For patterns that need to change rather than intentions that need repeating