

# Sermon notes

November 1, 2009

**Running for God** | *Jonah 3:1-10*

*Jamie Rasmussen, senior pastor*

1. First and foremost: be utterly clear about the message you bring to others.
2. Allow the message to flow out of your knowledge and experience.
3. Remember: it is God who changes hearts not us.
4. Don't feel like you have to do everything right.
5. Allow evangelism to be a process.

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**ESV Jonah 2:1-10** Then the Word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the Word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish." When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it.

# Trusting God for His Financial Provision

Since February of this year we have been calculating and reporting our budget in a new way. Previously, we simply divided our annual budget by 52 to get a weekly need. In reality, we do not receive or spend the same amount each month—it varies significantly over the course of a year. During the months of July to December we receive over 57 percent of our annual support; December alone typically accounts for over 16 percent of our annual giving (see chart below). Our weekly bulletin budget/reporting now reflects this historical pattern of giving and expenditures throughout the year.

In the coming weeks, you will see a sharp increase in projected need (and thereby, any shortfall). Essentially, we need \$2.5 million to come in during the months of November and December to keep on budget. Please be mindful that these figures express the anticipated dollars needed to finish out the year.

As always, we are committed not to spend more than we receive. We are trusting God to work through His people at Scottsdale Bible to meet the financial needs of this church. Thank you for your generosity, continued support and confidence in our leadership. Should you want more detail, please call the Finance Office at 480.824.7208.

