

Where is Your Nineveh?

Jonah 1:1-3

Introduction: What do you think of when I say Jonah?

Everyone has a place like Nineveh.

You have a Nineveh in your personal life.

Jonah was a man of real talent but there was one place he would not go. My friend Joe Granger: two places I won't go. Jonah ran from God because he did not want to go to Nineveh. Nineveh scared him = pride? Prejudice? I think he was scared to death!

Tarshish – as far as he could go. (2500 miles) To get out of the reach of the Lord. How did that work out for him? V. 3 "To flee from the Lord."

**The most important call you can say yes to is God's Call To (Your) mission.

I. Everyone Has a Nineveh.

A place where he was needed – Individual responsibility

A place where his talents fit

God had given you gifts to fit the needs of the place to which He calls you. A place, situation, circumstance, an opportunity to which God calls.

ILL. Boy with finger in Dyke

God does not put a person in Nineveh to take up space.

Around the world, Ft. Worth, Next door

II. No one can forget Nineveh

He ran as hard as he could – but couldn't escape.

Jonah ran but Nineveh was always on his mind.

When God is ready, it is clear where Nineveh is.

III. Rebels Run Fast away from Nineveh.

Run, run, run but you can't hide!

Ship – blend into the woodwork

Storm – last minute

Fish – 3 days

Run but couldn't escape

Nineveh was the point!

ILL. Elijah ran

Workaholics – pleasure – sports – Run but you can't escape.

IV. Repentants Return to Nineveh

There is no victory in Nineveh until Jonah got there and was obedient to God.

III. – William Carey – India Cobbler – trade to open door.

Martin Luther said "I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands; that I still possess."

Conclusion: The issue is not whether or not Jonah could live in a fish for three days. It is rather whether or not the spirit of Jonah lives in us!