



RECOVERING PESSIMIST

NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER | JUNE 26, 2022  
TOMMY MCKIERNAN | PATTERSON

Jonah 3:1-10, Jonah 4:1-10

*“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.”*  
1 Corinthians 13:4-7

See Jonah 4:2

*“The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed but wants everyone to repent.”* 2 Peter 3:9

**1. Fighting God can be \_\_\_\_\_ to those \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“But the Lord hurled a powerful wind over the sea, causing a violent storm that threatened to break the ship apart. Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors shouted to their gods for help and threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship.”* Jonah 1:4

**2. Fighting God can be \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Now the Lord had appointed a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the fish three days and three nights.”*  
Jonah 1:17

**3. Aligning with \_\_\_\_\_ gives me a \_\_\_\_\_.**

See Jonah 4:7

*“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.”* Romans 8:28



Jonah 3:1-10, Jonah 4:1-10

*“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.”*  
1 Corinthians 13:4-7

See Jonah 4:2

*“The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed but wants everyone to repent.”* 2 Peter 3:9

### 1. Fighting God can be **DESTRUCTIVE** to those **AROUND ME**.

*“But the Lord hurled a powerful wind over the sea, causing a violent storm that threatened to break the ship apart. Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors shouted to their gods for help and threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship.”* Jonah 1:4

### 2. Fighting God can be **DESTRUCTIVE** to **ME**.

*“Now the Lord had appointed a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the fish three days and three nights.”*  
Jonah 1:17

### 3. Aligning with **GOD** gives me a **NEW OUTLOOK**.

See Jonah 4:7

*“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.”* Romans 8:28



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### RECOVERING PESSIMIST

#### [CONNECT]

Have you ever stopped to think about the little miracles happening around us every day?

What kind of miracles have you noticed?

#### [ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

#### [GROW]

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines Miracle as “an extremely outstanding or unusual event...”. Jonah found himself surrounded by many events that were both extremely outstanding and very unusual, yet he was running from God.

**Read Jonah 3 & 4 as a group out loud together.**

- If you were in Jonah’s situation, do you think you would have seen the events as miracles?
- Like Jonah, have you ever found yourself fighting against God?
- The book of Jonah ends without really giving us the rest of the story. Can you think of other times in the bible where the story isn’t complete?
- Why do you think God would leave out the rest of the story of Jonah?

#### [LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Make a list of two or three ways that could help you align with God. Think of ways that would remind you to focus on Jesus when you are feeling overwhelmed or discouraged.