

# Selections from the book of Jonah

<sup>10</sup> God saw what they had done, that they had turned away from their evil lives. He *did* change his mind about them. What he said he would do to them he didn’t do.

**4** <sup>1-2</sup> Jonah was furious. He lost his temper. He yelled at God, “God! I knew it—when I was back home, I knew this was going to happen! That’s why I ran off to Tarshish! I knew you were sheer grace and mercy, not easily angered, rich in love, and ready at the drop of a hat to turn your plans of punishment into a program of forgiveness!

<sup>3</sup> “So, God, if you won’t kill them, kill *me*! I’m better off dead!”

<sup>4</sup> God said, “What do you have to be angry about?”

<sup>5</sup> But Jonah just left. He went out of the city to the east and sat down in a sulk. He put together a makeshift shelter of leafy branches and sat there in the shade to see what would happen to the city.

<sup>6</sup> God arranged for a broad-leafed tree to spring up. It grew over Jonah to cool him off and get him out of his angry sulk. Jonah was pleased and enjoyed the shade. Life was looking up.

<sup>7-8</sup> But then God sent a worm. By dawn of the next day, the worm had bored into the shade tree and it withered away. The sun came up and God sent a hot, blistering wind from the east. The sun beat down on Jonah’s head and he started to faint. He prayed to die: “I’m better off dead!”

<sup>9</sup> Then God said to Jonah, “What right do you have to get angry about this shade tree?”

Jonah said, “Plenty of right. It’s made me angry enough to die!”

<sup>10-11</sup> God said, “What’s this? How is it that you can change your feelings from pleasure to anger overnight about a mere shade tree that you did nothing to get? You neither planted nor watered it. It grew up one night and died the next night. So, why can’t I likewise change what I feel about Nineveh from anger to pleasure, this big city of more than 120,000 childlike people who don’t yet know right from wrong, to say nothing of all the innocent animals?”

# Deep Sheet

[a place for notes]

Why was Jonah furious?

Today’s passage, Jonah 4, talks of God changing his mind. How does that sit with you?

Is God “fair?”

Other Notes:

## February Weekly Bible Readings

| Date | Day | New Testament | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Special Prayer | Old Testament   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|------|-----|---------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 02   | Su  | Mark 8        |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 15 |                                     |
| 03   | Mo  | Mark 9        |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 16 |                                     |
| 04   | Tu  | Mark 10       |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 17 |                                     |
| 05   | We  | Mark 11       |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 18 |                                     |
| 06   | Th  | Mark 12       |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 19 |                                     |
| 07   | Fr  | Mark 13       |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 20 |                                     |
| 08   | Sa  | Mark 14       |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 21 |                                     |
| 09   | Su  | Mark 15       |                                     |                | 1 Chronicles 22 |                                     |

LOSERS, LIARS AND LUNATICS





February 2, 2025

## Laketon Bethel’s Core Values:

### A. ACCEPTANCE:

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

### B. BIBLE:

The teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings with open minds and the best scholarship available.

### C. CONNECTION:

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

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# Questions, Part 2

*This is a new adult Bible study based on the questions you have asked. Put these dates on your calendar and hold on to your hat because we will be exploring some of the nitty-gritty topics addressed in Scripture.*

## February 5

The Salvation Debate: Does God want everyone to be saved or just those he chooses? Or, is it up to us?

## February 12

The Destiny of the Unevangelized Debate: Do those who don't know about Jesus have a chance at eternal life? What about those who reject Jesus? What about Jews and Muslims? What about rednecks who don't go to church?

## February 19

The Charismatic Gifts Debate: What about speaking in tongues, getting slain in the spirit, getting words of prophecy, etc? Do these things continue in modern days or are they something that ended with the apostolic age? Is your neighbor really speaking in tongues or do they need an increase in medication?

## February 26

The Women in Ministry Debate: Are girls created to serve boys and be submissive? Are we created equal with complimentary roles? Is gender irrelevant for spiritual authority?

## March 5

The Millennium Debate: When will Jesus return? Should I only take short-term investments? Will there be a rapture? Will there be a physical return of Jesus to this earth?

## March 12

This final session will be a potluck with "preacher's pork" and time to discuss the next Bible Study.

For this session we will talk about "The Hell Debate: Does hell exist?" Does God mandate unending torment of the wicked? Do we simply cease to exist after we die if we reject Jesus?

# Announcements

**Membership Class** We will have a Membership Class on February 16<sup>th</sup> in the Parlor following the Second Service. Lunch will be provided. If interested, please sign up on the sheets located in the entryway.  
**Jr. & HS Youth Group** Students 6<sup>th</sup> grade - 12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us for dinner, a lesson and lots of fun. We meet tonight from 5:00-7:00pm. For any questions, please see John or Ashley Wierenga.

**Family Profile Project** If you would like to participate to have your family highlighted, please pick up the profile form and send a picture and information to Mike Lyons at [lyonsmike61@gmail.com](mailto:lyonsmike61@gmail.com).

**Jr. High J.A.M.** Students in grades 6<sup>th</sup> and up are welcome to enjoy a lesson during the Crosstalk the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. We will start a new study that's focused on answering the question Jesus asked his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" Our Jr. High JAM group will also get together during our time to support Hand2Hand.

**Women's Divorce Group** We're offering a women's support group one Wednesday a month at 6:30pm at Park Meadows. The next one will be February 19<sup>th</sup>. We will gather in the small meeting room on the east end. For any questions, please contact Heather Wilke at (231) 215-8593.

# Service Opportunities

**Children's Church** We are looking for helpers for set-up, classroom assistance, and clean up. More info and sign-up sheets are located on the table in the entryway.  
**Sacred Suds** Sacred Suds is an organization that helps the homeless. It offers showers, laundry, technology and housing by appointment. They are in need of many items and the list is on the table in the entryway. For any questions, please see Lois Cordle or call her at (231) 286-5700.

**Books for Kids** We are asking for new or gently used children's books to establish our "Books for Kids" lending library. The age groups are from early childhood to 10 years old. There is a collection bin in the entryway. For any questions, please see Deborah Groenveld or call her at (231) 206-0198.

# Volunteers

**1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server:** DecoTec  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server:** Deco Tec  
**1<sup>st</sup> Service Nursery:** Amy Kunnen  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Service Nursery:** Sally Hendrixon & Hillary Crandall

# Order of Worship-9:00am

Gathering Song  
"You're Worthy of My Praise"  
Call to Worship  
"We Have Come Into His House"  
"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"  
Welcome & Announcements  
Congregational Prayer  
Worship in Song  
"Grace Greater than Our Sin"  
"Amazing Grace"  
Crosstalk - "Losers, Liars, and Lunatics"  
Communion  
"Jesus Paid It All"  
"Come Share the Lord"  
Offering  
"This I Believe"  
Benediction  
"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

# Order of Worship-11:00am

Call to Worship  
"Hosanna"  
Welcome & Announcements  
Congregational Prayer  
Worship in Song  
"Your Grace Finds Me"  
"This Is Amazing Grace"  
Crosstalk - "Losers, Liars, and Lunatics"  
Communion  
"Jesus, You Gave It All"  
"You Are My King"  
Offering  
"So Will I"  
Benediction  
Deco Tec

**Special Senior: Ardie Pulsipher**  
*Please sign the cards located on the table in the entryway.*