

"JONAH"

By
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Synopsis

This modern day Jonah encounters the same experiences as the biblical Jonah; running from God and being swallowed by a large fish for three days. Like the original Jonah, today's Jonah finally acknowledges God's call for him to proclaim the Word of God.

Scripture

Book of Jonah

Ministry Lesson

We can't run or hide from God. God wants us to be obedient.

Ministry Focus

Obedience

Genre: Comedy

Cast and Characters

Father: Age any - (shows little emotion)
Mother: Age any - (highly emotional)
Jonah: Age 17 - (shaken)

Costumes

Normal everyday wear

Time: 6 mins.

Props

Table and 2 chairs
Newspaper
Lounging robe
Smoking Pipe
Telephone
White Towel

JONAH

INT. FAMILY ROOM - EVENING

FATHER IS WEARING A LOUNGING ROBE WITH A SMOKING PIPE IN HIS MOUTH (UN-LIT, OF COURSE). MOTHER IS PACING THE FLOOR OBVIOUSLY WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING.

MOTHER

(worried)

Henry, it's 9:00 p.m. Where in the world is Jonah? (no answer) HENRY!

FATHER

(unconcerned)

Stop worrying about the boy, he can take care of himself.

MOTHER

He hasn't been home all weekend. I'm getting worried. Maybe I should call the police.

FATHER

This is not the first time Jonah hasn't come home

MOTHER

Maybe for one night, but never three whole days.

FATHER

He's probably over Michael's house. He stays over there more than he stays home.

MOTHER

I called Michael's mother this morning and she hasn't seen him.

Honey, I think something is wrong. It's so dangerous out there in the streets.

FATHER

The boy is grown. Leave him alone.

MOTHER

NEARLY grown. He's only 17. Things nowadays aren't like they were when we were young. People are so full of evil.
(beat) I'm going to call the Police.

JONAH ENTERS AS MOTHER IS ON THE PHONE. JONAH IS VISIBLY TIRED AND SHAKEN UP. PART OF HIS CLOTHING AND FACE ARE WET.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Jonah, where in the world have you been?
(hangs up phone) Jonah! My God you're all wet. Your clothes, shoes, your hair. Baby, are you alright?

JONAH

(exhausted)

Yeah, I'm alright Ma. I'm just tired.

FATHER

See, the boy is just tired Bev. Give him some Tylenol.

MOTHER

(WRAPS A TOWEL AROUND JONAH)

Oh my goodness. You'll catch a death of cold in these wet clothes. (beat)
Jonah, you had us worried to death. Where in the world have you been for the past three days?

JONAH

I've been on the run.

FATHER

See, I told you to leave those boys
alone, didn't I.

JONAH

I wasn't running from any boys, I've
been running from God.

MOTHER

(frantic)

Oh my goodness! I'm going to call the
Police right now. (picks up phone)

JONAH

Naw Ma, that ain't gonna do no good.
They'll just think I'm buggin'.
Besides, God already caught me and let
me go.

MOTHER

Well baby, what happened?

JONAH

I don't want to talk about it.

FATHER

Alright now boy, your mother asked you a
question. Don't get too big for your
britches. You ain't too old for me to
take my belt, and ...

MOTHER

Henry, calm down. Psychologists
recommend that we talk with our
children, not abuse them.

FATHER

Look, if the boy's got a mental problem,
give him a Tylenol.

But, for any other problem, I got the answer right here (pointing to his belt).

MOTHER

Jonah, just tell me what happened.

JONAH

A couple weeks ago, God told me to go to Nineveh.

MOTHER

Nineveh! Where in the world is Nineveh?

FATHER

(interrupts)

Isn't that down there in South Baltimore [*insert your local area*]. Now Jonah, I told you about hanging out in Nineveh.

JONAH

Naw Pop, it ain't like that. God wanted me to witness for Him in Nineveh.

FATHER

(defensive)

A witness! Oh no. You just tell God you didn't see nothin' and you don't know nothin'. I heard what they do to witnesses down in Nineveh.

JONAH

I know Pop, that's why I tried to hide. Later I met up with these guys that were going on a fishing trip. I thought for sure God would never find me out on the water. The next thing I know, we're in a storm and the boat started to sink.

It was wild, 'cause half the guys didn't know how to swim. They started throwing stuff overboard; food, drinks, even their boom box and CDs. But the boat kept on sinkin'. Then everyone started crying and praying and asking God why all this was happening. So I broke down and told them that I was running from God. The guys got mad. So they picked me up and threw me in the water.

MOTHER

(upset)

Henry, did you hear that! They just threw your son in a hurricane. He could have drowned.

FATHER

(calms down)

Bev, the boy knows how to swim. If he gets sick because he swallowed too much salt water, just give him a Tylenol.

JONAH

Then while I was in the water...

- End of Preview -

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