

GOD OF SECOND CHANCES

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Four keys to returning to God...

I. RETURN TO GOD WITH HONEST _____.

JONAH 2:1 NIV

From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God.

A. Jonah is "In _____"!

JONAH 2:2 NIV

He said: "In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave I called for help, and you listened to my cry.

B. Hit Rock Bottom? Don't run _____ God, run _____ God.

PSALMS 120:1 NIV

I call on the LORD in my distress, and he answers me.

II. RETURN TO GOD WITH HEARTFELT _____.

JONAH 2:3-4 NIV

You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. 4 I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.'

A. We must humbly _____ God.

JAMES 4:10 NIV

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

III. RETURN TO GOD WITH HUMBLE _____.

JONAH 2:5-7 NIV

The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head.

6 To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God.

7 When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.

A. Jonah literally hits rock bottom...but _____.

B. Never stop _____ God!

MATTHEW 7:7-8 NIV

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

IV. RETURN TO GOD WITH HAPPY _____.

JONAH 2:8-9 NIV

Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.

9 But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD."

A. Praise and worship are _____ to returning to God!

PSALMS 100:4 NIV

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

PSALMS 50:23 NIV

He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God."

V. CONCLUSION ...

A. We serve a God of _____!

JONAH 2:10 NIV

And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

B. When life hits rock bottom, _____!