

Two Ways We Can Run From God

Jonah: God's Amazing Mercy, part 1

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The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: 'Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are.'

Jonah 1:1-2 (NLT)

Two ways we can run from God

1. We overtly reject God

But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction to get away from the Lord. He went down to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping to escape from the Lord by sailing to Tarshish.

Jonah 1:3 (NLT)

But the Lord God warned him, 'You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.'

Genesis 2:16-17 (NLT)

He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Genesis 3:1 (NLT)

2. We dutifully obey God

Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip.

Romans

1:29 (NLT)

You who call yourselves Jews are relying on God's law, and you boast about your special relationship with him. You know what he wants; you know what is

right because you have been taught his law.

Romans 2:17-18 (NLT)

As the Scriptures say, 'No one is righteous— not even one. No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God. All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one.'

Romans 3:9-12 (NLT)

Then the Lord spoke to Jonah a second time: 'Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh, and deliver the message I have given you.' This time Jonah obeyed the Lord's command and went to Nineveh.

Jonah 3:1-3 (NLT)

This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry.

Jonah 4:1

(NLT)