



June 30 – SCUBA...Jesus is a Friend Forever

Friendships come and go. If you're lucky you have friends who have known you for a long, long time. Been with you in the ups and downs. But other friends were part of your life for a season and now that season is over. We all long to be loved and be known. We need relationships in our lives that carry us, rejoice with us, weep with us and do life with us. Sometimes, it seems God is a distant force, but not really part of the everyday. Join us this weekend as we dive into the truth that God is with us forever, no matter what!

Scripture:

Jonah 3:1-10

Then the Lord spoke to Jonah a second time: ²"Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh, and deliver the message I have given you." ³This time Jonah obeyed the Lord's command and went to Nineveh, a city so large that it took three days to see it all. ⁴On the day Jonah entered the city, he shouted to the crowds: "Forty days from now Nineveh will be destroyed!" ⁵The people of Nineveh believed God's message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap to show their sorrow. ⁶When the king of Nineveh heard what Jonah was saying, he stepped down from his throne and took off his royal robes. He dressed himself in burlap and sat on a heap of ashes. ⁷Then the king and his nobles sent this decree throughout the city: "No one, not even the animals from your herds and flocks, may eat or drink anything at all. ⁸People and animals alike must wear garments of mourning, and everyone must pray earnestly to God. They must turn from their evil ways and stop all their violence. ⁹Who can tell? Perhaps even yet God will change his mind and hold back his fierce anger from destroying us." ¹⁰When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their evil ways, he changed his mind and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened.

I John 4:7-11

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. ⁸But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. ¹⁰This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. ¹²No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.

Questions:

- Have you ever felt like God wasn't with you? Or that perhaps God had it "in" for you? Have you cried out to God and ask, "Why did you do this to me?" If so, what was the situation(s)? What happened?
- The people of Nineveh could easily have decided God had already forgotten about them. But when they heard God's Word, they chose to believe. Do you purposefully choose to see God in the midst of life with you?
- How might your perspective change if you chose to believe that God wants to be in relationship with you – always and forever no matter what?

Reading for the Week:

Monday: John 15:14-15

Thursday: James 2:21-23

Tuesday: Psalm 25:14

Friday: Colossians 3:12-14

Wednesday: Acts 13:22