

Zoar Baptist Church — Sunday, September 28, 2025

Sermon Series: **JONAH: Living in a World with God & Sinners**

Sermon Title: *When the Darkness Shuts Out the Light*

Main Scripture Passage: Jonah 2:1-10 NLT

Main Point: Sometimes all we see is a problem, when it's actually God's providence.

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures & Points

When the Darkness Shuts Out the Light

Jonah 1:17 NLT

Sometimes all we see is a **problem**,
when it's actually God's **providence**.

Much of the time, before God does something
for you, He is trying to do something **in you**.

Hard times teach us new ways to depend on
God.

Jonah 2:1-2 NLT

Jonah 2:3-4 NLT

Jonah 2:5-7 NLT

God will take you where you don't want to go,
to get you where you need be.

Jonah 2:8 NLT

Jonah 2:9 NLT

While you're waiting, God is working.

Matthew 12:39-40 NLT

Jonah 2:10 NLT

Will you do what God is asking you to do?

James 5:13-16 NLT

**Hurt People, Hurt People.
Forgiven People, Forgive People.
Healed People, Heal People.**

Church, in faith, will you do what God is
asking us to do?

Start talking. Find a conversation starter to get you talking.

- What are you most afraid of in the dark?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get you thinking.

- Read **Jonah 2:8**. What false gods do people tend to turn to instead of God? (Think about where people turn to for relief or to feel better.)
- Read **James 5:13-16**. How does this passage say we will embrace forgiveness and receive healing? Do you think people have confidence or doubt as to whether this works?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Jonah had to fall really far before returning to God. Share about a time in your life when you fell away from God and the turning point when you came back to God.
- Share whether you have seen the church create a culture of forgiveness and healing or a culture of hurt. Share your personal experiences. Has the church caused you hurt? Has the church helped you find forgiveness and healing?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for knowing and acting in our best interest, even when we don't like it in the moment. Teach us to pray Your Word and open our eyes to see Your truth and embrace Your grace. Thank You for forgiving us. Thank You for healing us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Choose one situation you're facing to praise, follow, and trust God before He gives you an answer or works out the situation. Share your decision with a trusted believer for accountability.