

SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Join Us For A 5 – Week Bible Study Based On The Movie:

OVERCOMER

WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?



Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm – Starting 10/2/2019

SOLID ROCK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

8000 DERRY STREET (REAR)

HARRISBURG PA 17111

OVERCOMER

WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

Study Schedule October 2019

Date	Session Title
10/2/2019	Who are You?
10/9/2019	You Are Broken
10/16/2019	You Are Chosen
10/23/2019	You Surrender
10/30/2019	You Declare

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WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

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Session 2: You Are Broken

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The effects of the factory closing continue to upset John. Amy, his wife knows something is wrong, but has a less than gracious way to deal with it.

During a moment of marital reproof, difficult words are exchanged and the brokenness in John's heart is exposed.

Questions

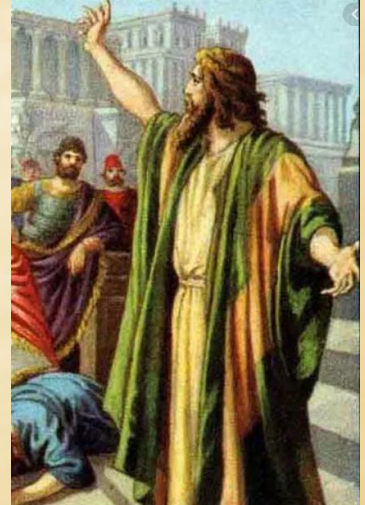
- Whose is the most difficult situation - John's or Amy's Explain your response?
- How do you think John felt when her heard those words from Amy?
- Do you find it easier to be the person offering reproof or the person receiving it?

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Highlights of The Book of Jonah

- He does not wish to go to Nineveh (Assyrians) to preach repentance to the people, as God has commanded.
- Instead he boards a ship for Tarshish, which is in the opposite direction.
- During a great storm, the crew throw him overboard, and he is swallowed by a great fish.
- In its belly for 3 days and 3 nights, Jonah repents of his sin to God, and the fish vomits him up on dry land.
- Jonah then makes the 500-mile trip to Nineveh and leads the city in a great revival.
- But the prophet is displeased (actually pouts) instead of being thankful when Nineveh repents.



The Prophet Jonah

Note: Jonah is a type of Christ. In Matthew 12:40-41, Jesus declares that He will be in the grave the same amount of time Jonah was in the whale's belly

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Jonah 3:1 – 6 (NKJV)

1 Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying,

2 “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.”

3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey in extent.

4 And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

The People of Nineveh Believe

5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.

6 Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes.

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Jonah 3:7 – 10 (NKJV)

7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying,

Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water.

8 But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. **9** Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

10 Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

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WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

1. What happened when Jonah delivered God's message to the Assyrians of Nineveh?

- **The People Received the Word and the Message.**
- **The People Reflected on the Word They received.**
- **The People Recognized their own Sin and Guilt (Brokenness).**
- **The People Responded with Genuine Individual and Corporate Repentance.**

Christian repentance consists of (1) a true sense of one's own guilt and sinfulness; (2) an apprehension of God's mercy in Christ; (3) an actual hatred of and turning from it to God; and (4) a persistent endeavor after a holy life in a walking with God in the way of his commandments.

Today, if you will
hear His voice,
do not harden your

HEART



Hebrews 3:15

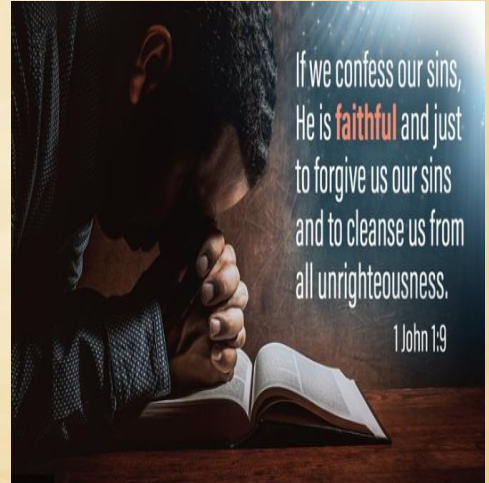
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2. How did God respond to the Ninevites?

- God saw their Works – Fasting, Repentance (Even the Beasts), Seeking the Lord.
- God saw their hearts – Sorrow For Sin, Acts of Contrition.
- God heard their Cries – Confession. Consecration, Cries For Mercy.
- God relented – did not bring the Judgement that was Proclaimed.

When God threatened punishment, He provided a dark backdrop on which to etch most vividly His forgiving mercies. This emphasized His grace most forcefully to the sinners' hearts



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Jonah 4:1 – 4 (NKJV)

1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry.

2 So he prayed to the Lord, and said, “Ah, Lord, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore, I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.

3 Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live!”

4 Then the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

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Jonah 4:9 – 10 (NKJV)

9 Then God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” And he said, “It is right for me to be angry, even to death!”

10 But the Lord said, “You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night.

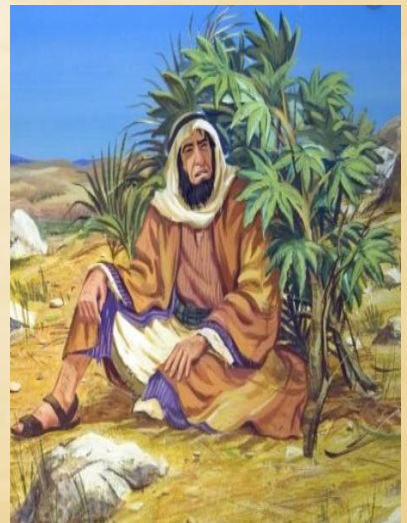
11 And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left—and much livestock?”

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3. How did Jonah feel about the God’s mercy toward the Ninevites? Do you think he was justified?

- Jonah hoped God would rain down judgement on the people of Nineveh – because in his mind they deserved it.
- Jonah although sent to do the mission of preaching God’s to the Assyrian Ninevites when God had mercy on them, he was upset, mad.
- He was so upset that God did not do what he wanted him to do, that he did not even want to live anymore.
- Jonah was not justified – especially when you consider he was just graciously forgiven for his own disobedience toward God.
- We will find it easier to forgive and accept others when we consider how much the Lord has forgiven us.



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Highlights of The Book of Jeremiah

- After the death of King Josiah, Judah had abandoned God and His commandments.
- Jeremiah was called and sent to warn Judah that God's judgment was at hand.
- Jeremiah records the conquests and destruction of Judah by King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian armies.
- Jeremiah is also known as the "Weeping Prophet" and the writer of the Book of Lamentations.



The Prophet Jeremiah

Note: Jeremiah 23:5-6 presents a prophecy of the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ. The prophet describes Him as a Branch from the house of David (v. 5; Matthew 1), the King would reign in wisdom and righteousness.

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Jeremiah 2:1 – 5 (NKJV)

1 Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

2 "Go and cry in the hearing of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the Lord: "I remember you, The kindness of your youth, The love of your betrothal, When you went after Me in the wilderness, In a land not sown.

3 Israel was holiness to the Lord, The firstfruits of His increase. All that devour him will offend; Disaster will come upon them," says the Lord.' "

4 Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob and all the families of the house of Israel.

5 Thus says the Lord: "What injustice have your fathers found in Me, That they have gone far from Me, Have followed idols, And have become idolaters?"

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Jeremiah 2:6 – 9 (NKJV)

6 Neither did they say, ‘Where is the Lord, Who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, Who led us through the wilderness, Through a land of deserts and pits, Through a land of drought and the shadow of death, Through a land that no one crossed And where no one dwelt?’

7 I brought you into a bountiful country, To eat its fruit and its goodness. But when you entered, you defiled My land And made My heritage an abomination.

8 The priests did not say, ‘Where is the Lord?’ And those who handle the law did not know Me; The rulers also transgressed against Me; The prophets prophesied by Baal, And walked after things that do not profit.

9 “Therefore I will yet bring charges against you,” says the Lord, “And against your children’s children I will bring charges.

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Jeremiah 2:10 – 13 (NKJV)

10 For pass beyond the coasts of Cyprus and see, Send to Kedar and consider diligently, And see if there has been such a thing.

11 Has a nation changed its gods, Which are not gods? But My people have changed their Glory For what does not profit.

12 Be astonished, O heavens, at this, And be horribly afraid; Be very desolate,” says the Lord.

13 “For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.

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4. Sin and rebellion or callous and uncaring heart. To you, is one more dangerous than the other? If so, why?

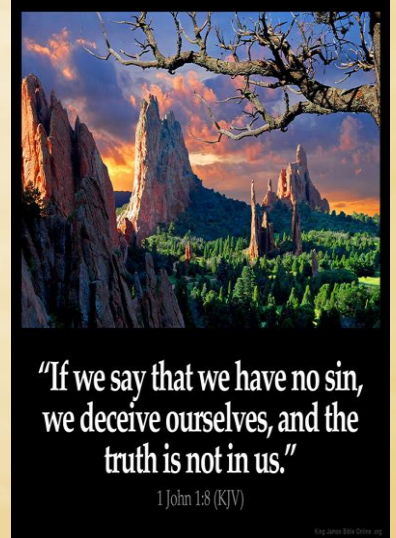
Sin and Rebellion – Open sin and rebellion

- Creates an environment to influence others to disobey God.
- Provides the opportunity for people to mock God.
- Sets up the sure, swift and stinging Judgement of God.

Callous and Uncaring Heart

- Creates a false sense of Moral and Spiritual Superiority.
- Creates a lack of compassion for others.
- Creates a barrier to genuine intimacy with God.

Both are extremely dangerous – but in my opinion, the uncaring heart is more dangerous because it is hidden, and more subtle and harder sometimes for us detect in others or especially in ourselves.



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5. What differences and similarities do you see in the ministry of Jeremiah and Jonah?



Jonah

Differences

- Jonah was sent to preach to Gentiles (did not know God) Jeremiah was sent to preach to God's people (who knew God).
- The Ninevites responded in repentance, the Israelites responded with resistance.
- Jeremiah wanted to see Judah saved – Jonah wanted to see Nineveh destroyed.
- Jonah initially ran from God's calling, Jeremiah was faithful to the call.

Similarities

- Both were sent to preach messages of judgement.
- Both were sent to preach to people living in sin
- Both were called to preach to a specific people (Ninevites, Judah)
- Both had specific encounters with the Lord



Jeremiah

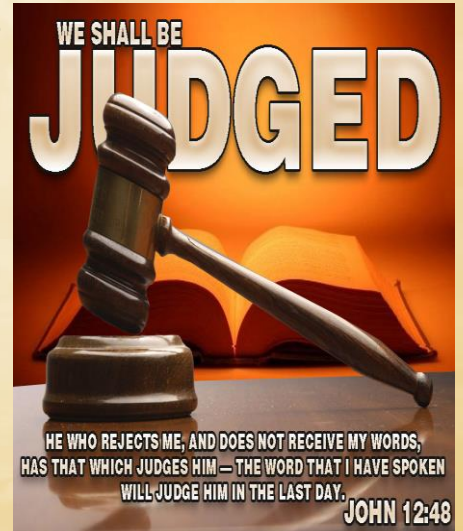
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6. What are the charges that Lord brings against His people?

- They totally forgot the Lord and what He has done for them – going through the motions of worship and relationship with Him.
- They turned away from the One True God that loves and blesses them.
- They fell into Idolatry They began to make false God's for themselves – that could only provide superficial and temporary joy or pleasure.

"For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.



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7. What are some gut reactions when God allows what we don't like or expect? What does our response reveal about our character and identity?

Negative Responses

- Fear
- Doubt
- Anger/Cursing
- Questions (Why me?)
- Depression
- Taking our frustrations out on others
- Sin (sex, drugs, alcohol)

Positive Responses

- Trust
- Faith/Prayer
- Worship/Praise
- Acceptance of God's Will
- Hope in things getting better
- Doing Good for others
- Repentance

Pressure can burst a pipe, but pressure also makes diamonds



My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. (James 1:2 – 3)

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8. Why is it good when our brokenness or idolatrous identity is revealed?

- It helps us to see the areas in our walk with God where we fall short and need to change or grow.
- It helps us to recognize our weaknesses and depend totally on God's strength.
- It will help have a fuller view of God's Nature and Character.
- It helps to remain humble before the Lord and others.
- It will enable to be more patient and compassionate with others who may be falling short as well.



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Dear Heavenly Father, Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Empower me with your Holy Spirit To Live for You as You promised You would do if I asked in faith.

I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.