

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VISION MEETING AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE

Everyone is invited to stay for our brief vision meeting to discuss our plans, goals and objectives in bringing renewal to Hillcrest Church. Our focus will be the goals we have for raising money for missions at the Indian dinner.

THE EAST INDIAN DINNER IS SATURDAY, AUGUST 28th, 5:30 at HILLCREST CHURCH

Everyone is invited to join the Hillcrest family for a time of great fellowship, food and mission's awareness. Feel free to invite a friend. In 2019, we raised \$8,333 which was divided between the Great Commission Fund (GCF) and the school in Uganda. A special offering will be taken during the dinner. In the next few weeks we will be giving you more information about the school and the GCF. August is mission's awareness month!

JOIN US ONLINE FOR

Tuesday Bible study at 6:30, Wednesday study & Prayer at 6:30.  Click the "online meeting room" link on the home page of the website Hillcrestroseville.com

FACILITY

We continue to make significant progress on the transformation of our facility. Special thanks to Robert Kraft for running the Ethernet cable through the snake.

YOGA OUTREACH – SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 10:00 – 11:30

Pastor Bruce is a certified Yoga instructor and will be offering a seminar for beginners at the Hillcrest facility. This is open to anybody, so invite a friend. Bring a yoga mat, if you have one, a towel, and a water bottle. Times will be determined to teach classes during the week.

Welcome

to

Hillcrest Church!

Giving God Our Best! 2021

*I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God,
slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who
relents from sending calamity.*

Jonah 4:2

*August 15, 2021
Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD*

“GOD’S LOVE FOR THE NATIONS”

Jonah

For many years the Israelites lived under the threat of invasion from their northern enemy the Assyrians. They were known to be a brutal militaristic people who were feared by the nations. The numerous atrocities they were guilty of reached the eyes of the Lord and He had enough! God gave them one last chance to get it right by sending the prophet Jonah to the capital city of Nineveh. Through Jonah’s preaching the greatest revival in world history occurred, but Jonah was not happy with this! How could this be? Pastor Bruce will explain why.

#1. THE CALL OF GOD FOR JONAH – PREACH AGAINST NINEVEH, 1:1-16

- A. Jonah’s response – he ran away from God, vv. 2-3
- B. Jonah’s disobedience caused a storm in his life, v. 4
- C. Jonah’s disobedience affected other people, vv. 5f

#2. THE TRANSFORMATION OF JONAH – A NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE, 1:17-2:10

- A. An example of God’s sovereignty, vv. 1:17, 2:10
- B. An awareness of God’s grace, v. 2:9
- C. Anticipation of the resurrection of Christ, (cf Matt 12:40)
- D. A transport to Nineveh, v. 10

#3. THE WORD GOD TO JONAH – REPENT OR DIE, 3:1-10

- A. The Ninevites believed God, vv. 4-5
 - 1. All levels of society repented - greatest to the least, v. 5
 - 2. The King’s decree - repentance is a law, vv. 7f
 - 3. They had an insight into their sinfulness, v. 8b
 - 4. They had an insight into God’s compassion, vv. 9-10
- B. The preaching of Jonah resulted in the greatest revival in world history

#4. THE RESPONSE OF JONAH – DISPLEASED & ANGRY, 4:1-4

- A. Jonah wanted to see the Assyrians punished, v. 2 (cf Luke 6:27-28)
- B. Jonah knew God was so compassionate that He would forgive Israel’s worst enemy, vv. 2-3
- C. Jonah was in the pit of despair, vv. 3, 8
- D. Jonah’s heart was poisoned!

#5. THE LESSON GOD TAUGHT JONAH, 4:5-11

- A. Jonah was waiting for God to “nuke” the city, v. 5
 - B. God used a vine to serve as a lesson, vv. 6-11
 - C. God wants everybody to repent, (cf 2 Pet 3:9b, Mat 24:14)
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How did the Israelites view the Assyrians?
2. Why did Jonah run away from God?
3. How did the disobedience of Jonah effect the others on the ship?
4. In what way(s) was being swallowed by the great fish a transformative experience for Jonah?
5. Discuss the word that God gave to Jonah? (3:1-4)
6. Discuss the conversion of the Ninevites. (3:5-10)
7. Why was Jonah so upset after the Ninevites repented?
4:1-5
8. What was the problem with Jonah’s heart?
9. Why is it that we don’t have the option of withholding the gospel from people that we don’t like?
10. Jesus said that we are to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. How does that tie into Jonah’s situation?
11. What would a modern-day Jonah look like?
12. What is your takeaway from this teaching?