

**TURN IN YOUR
POSTCARDS FOR
MOTHER'S DAY
RIGHT AWAY!**

For all the times
YOU'VE BEEN THERE...
MOMS, GRANDMAS, MOTHERS-IN-LAW
those who are like **MOTHERS**



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY | SUNDAY, MAY 08

SURGERY SCHEDULED

Kevin Knoepfle is scheduled to undergo back surgery to repair bulged and herniated discs on May 11 at Provena St. Joseph's.
Please be in prayer!

CARD FOR BONNIE

Please sign the card for Bonnie Taylor in the foyer. Take a moment to send her a greeting!



(UN)QUALIFIED
HOW GOD USES BROKEN PEOPLE
TO DO BIG THINGS

Bible Study

by Steven Furtick

Continues
Tuesdays
@ 7:00 p.m.
(except May 3)

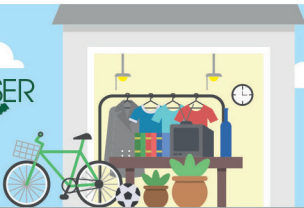


SATURDAY, APRIL 30 9 AM – 2 PM

AT 5 NEIGHBORING CHURCHES IN DOWNTOWN ELGIN
BEGIN AT 220 DIVISION ST.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED for volunteers. Sign up now at:
www.LoveElginDay.org

**MISSIONS
FUNDRAISER**



**GARAGE
SALE** 491 RIVER
BLUFF ROAD
MAY 13-14

**If you would
like to donate
items, contact
Kenny or Rod.**

CONNECTION CARD

Each week everyone will be asked to fill out a Connection Card in order to **"MEASURE"** our church in five key areas. There will be a summary report each week in the bulletin that identifies those five key metrics.

Please turn in your card each week. Members, leaders and guests will be asked to turn these in.



April Teaching Series

Jonah



GOD'S RELENTLESS LOVE

Apr 03 » Man on the Run
Apr 10 » The Perfect Storm
Apr 17 » New Life Drama Team
Apr 24 » Jonah's Stinky Prayer
May 01 » Sent to Love

PRAYER REQUESTS

Breanna V.	► Health Issues
Lily M.	► Dementia
Anabelle G.	► Lung Cancer
Andrew H.	► Health Issues
Noe F.	► Health Issues
Elizabeth S.	► Health Issues
Kenny D.	► Neurological Damage
Trevor W.	► Deployed to Afghanistan
Danny L.	► Peace Corps Assignment
Ralph H.	► Fluid in the brain
Moe M.	► Lung Cancer
Ruth S.	► Undiagnosed Health Issues
Mary H.	► Mobility Issues
Suzie S.	► Health Issues
Peggy H.	► Rheumatoid Arthritis
Lotz Family	► Grief/Loss of Parents
Barb D.	► Bone Cancer
Phyllis L.	► Health Issues
Dale G.	► Blood Clot
Persecuted Christians	► Hostilities/Suffering

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Solitude is a chosen separation for refining your soul. Isolation is what you crave when you neglect the first." —Wayne Cordeiro

04/17/16

METRICS
THAT MATTER

52

ATTENDANCE

\$281

GIVING

4

GUESTS

18

VOLUNTEERS

0

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST



A CRISIS OFFERS

A Life-changing Lesson

> GOD RESCUES THOSE WHO ARE **DESPERATE**

- The fish was God's rescue plan... completely God-appointed. Jonah prays in the depths of the sea and in the belly of the fish.
- The story is not about the fish—it's about God and Jonah.
- Jonah is a rebel who is on the run from God until—he is thrown overboard. Then he is in over his head.
- When he booked ship for Tarshish, he never imagined he would find himself in the bottom of the Mediterranean.
- Of all the places that people prayed, the depths of the sea and the belly of the fish are some of the most unusual places.

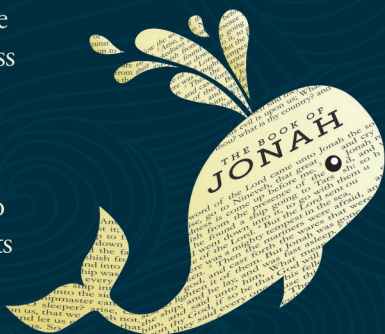
The Dynamics of Jonah's Prayer



AWAKENING:

Owning up to his true condition

¹ From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God. ² He said: "In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From *deep in the realm of the dead* I called for help, and you listened to my cry. ³ You hurled me into the depths, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. *Jonah 2:1-3*





BELIEVING: Battling for faith in God

⁴ I said, ‘I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.’ ⁵ The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. ⁶ To the roots of the mountains I sank down; *the earth beneath barred me in forever.* But you, LORD my God, brought my life up from the pit. *Jonah 2:4-6*



REPENTING: Releasing idols, laying hold of grace

⁷ “When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and *my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple.* ⁸ “Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God’s love for them. ⁹ But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, *‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’”* *Jonah 2:7-9*

Jonah Prays

- In desperation, he prays like David: “This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.” *Psalms 34:6*
- In desperation, he prays like Hannah: “In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly.” *1 Samuel 1:10*
- In desperation, he prays like Jeremiah: “⁵⁴ the waters closed over my head, and I thought I was about to perish. ⁵⁵ I called on your name, LORD, from the depths of the pit. ⁵⁶ You heard my plea: “Do not close your ears to my cry for relief.” *Lamentations 3:54-56*
- In desperation, he prays like Jesus: “And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. *Luke 22:44*
- In desperation Jonah prays—exactly as God would have us to pray: “Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.” *James 5:13*

The good news is that God does not ask us to change so that we can come to Christ. *He invites us to come to Christ so that we can change!*