

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW

(Jonah 1:17 KJV) Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

(Jonah 2:1 KJV) Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God.

There used to be a TV commercial where two people are trying to talk on a cell phone but the lines are not clear. One person assumes that the other person is not in a good position, so he takes a few steps and when he thinks he is in a better position, he says, "Can you hear me now".

Well, God had given Jonah a purpose in life and Jonah ignored God. So He put Jonah in a difficult position and spoke the famous words, "Can you hear me now".

And He does the same thing to and for you today.

1. How did Jonah respond to God? (Jonah 1:3)

2. Notice Jonah's disobedience caused trying times for other (the sailors). This is true with leaders of a nation, in a home or everyday relationships.

a) Can you think of a situation in which you were affected by someone's disobedience?

b) Can you think of a situation in which your disobedience affected someone else?

3. Even though Jonah messed up, he knew if his heart was right, it's never too late to pray. With cell phones, when the signal seems weak, we often move to a place of better reception. What moves do you need to make to keep a strong signal of communication with God? (Such as moving from areas of bitterness, deceit, greed, envy.....)

4. Having acknowledged his sin, notice Jonah's attitude in the midst of his condition. Why was Jonah able to have such an attitude? (Jonah 2.9)

5. Jonah knew that his sin may break fellowship with God, but once he was in Christ, it could never break his _____ with God. And this should be a reason to rejoice, even during times of punishment, persecution, etc.