



## Episode Six

# The Redemption of Jonah

Matthew 12:38-42

### Summary of Jonah's Bungles

Runs away from God's command to go to Nineveh  
Misleads the sailors as to the character of Yahweh  
Expresses relief rather than repentance front the belly of the whale  
Preaches the shortest and most unhelpful sermon to Nineveh  
Disappointed by Nineveh's repentance and resents God's mercy  
Exhibits a self-serving kind of love as contrasted with God's self-costing love

### The Sign of Jonah, the Redemption of Jonah's Story

The intensity of Pharisee opposition rising up to a pitch (Matt 12:14)  
The Pharisees ask Jesus for a sign (not a sincere request but a test)  
The Sign of Jonah: three days for three days (Matt 12:38-42)  
God was working a future good right in the middle of Jonah's mess  
Jesus links Jonah's story with His death and resurrection  
He uses the failed prophet as His marketing image!  
This redeems bungling Jonah undeservedly to a place of honor in God's economy

### God's Specialty as Redeemer

A strong God could prohibit all evil  
A stronger God allows the free agency of evil and bends it toward His good purposes  
The grenade that rolls back downhill: Psalm 7:14-16  
This is what happened at the cross! 1 Corinthians 2:8  
Reminding us that our failures and sins do not have the last word on our destinies  
Reminding us that all things work together for good: Romans 8:28  
God can redeem anything and anyone and loves to be invited into redemption work

Step One	Name a specific area in your life that you need redemption and know that God sees it!
Step Two	Lament the reality of brokenness
Step Three	Name the reality of Jesus the Redeemer
Step Four	Communion
Step Five	Giving thanks for the redemption that Jesus is working in our lives
Step Six	The Tying of the Red Thread