

## MESSAGE OUTLINE

### Called By Mercy

#### Jonah 2:1-10 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God. <sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> I said, ‘I have been banished  
from your sight;  
yet I will look again  
toward your holy temple.’

<sup>5</sup> The engulfing waters threatened me,  
the deep surrounded me;  
seaweed was wrapped around my head.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> “When my life was ebbing away,  
I remembered you, Lord,  
and my prayer rose to you,  
to your holy temple.

<sup>8</sup> “Those who cling to worthless idols  
turn away from God’s love for them.

<sup>9</sup> 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.’”

<sup>10</sup> And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

### The Bottom of the Bottom

Down into the water, down into the fish’s throat, down into the bottom  
of the sea.

Fishers of People vs. Fishfood

### The gift of Desperation

“God’s address is at the end of our rope.” -Dallas Willard

“Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what  
happened, and what we are like now. If you have decided you want what we  
have and are willing to go to any length to get it—then you are ready to take  
certain steps.

At some of these we balked. We thought we could find an easier, softer way.  
But we could not. With all the earnestness at our command, we beg of you to  
be fearless and thorough from the very start. Some of us have tried to hold on  
to our old ideas and the result was nil until we let go absolutely.” -*Alcoholics  
Anonymous: The Story of How Many Thousands of Men and Women Have  
Recovered from Alcoholism*. 4th ed., Alcoholics Anonymous World Services,  
2001. (Ch. 5 How It Works.)

### Swallowed up in Grace

Jonah was three days and three nights in the stomach of a big fish. The Son  
of Man will be three days and three nights in the grave also. -Matthew 12:40

### NOTES: