

WHAT YOU RESIST PERSISTS

The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. Jonah 1: 1-3

Change is not often easy. It is much more comfortable to stay in the status quo. It is easier to follow the path of least resistance. Jesus said that many will take the path that is wide and broad and follow the crowd (Matt 7: 13-14). But He challenged us to take the narrow road that leads to life.

One Sunday Bob Marshall brought a 2 liter bottle of Sprite to his home meeting. When it came time to do the bible study he brought out the bottle and asked if anyone would like a drink. Some did, so he poured the contents into a glass and gave it out. When the recipients took a drink they were not happy. It was water. Yuck! His point was well taken. We can shape up the outward appearance to look like a Christian, talk like a Christian and walk like a Christian, but it is what's on the inside that counts. In the same vain, James says that salt water and fresh water cannot flow from the same spring (James 3:11).

Jonah received a word from the Lord that was going to change his life and also the people of Nineveh. However, he had some issues with this word and resisting it, he changed locations so that he did not have to be responsible with to what the Lord had said. What is the Lord saying to you? Where is He calling you to change or to follow Him?

The Spirit of the Lord would not leave Jonah until he fulfilled what the Lord wanted. As you know, Jonah ended up in the belly of a whale until he obeyed. The longer he resisted, the more the problem persisted.

Do you think that the Lord still does things like that? Well, maybe not making us whale food but maybe we are in certain immobile circumstances until we obey the word of the Lord to us. Maybe we have been procrastinating on something. Maybe we are trying to hide our head in the sand, hoping a problem will go away. Maybe we are too fearful to confront the difficulty. Maybe you have seen something about you that the Lord wants to change from the inside out.

It's time for you to breakthrough your personal barrier. Change is half seeing the need and half changing your mind to operate with a Jesus mindset. When you challenge your barrier the status quo will beckon you. You will feel like running or giving up. Decide to have faith and courage instead of fear. Be real with yourself. Don't put yourself down for not being perfect. Don't allow yourself to go to emotional addictions that prolong the process. Persist. His mercies are new every morning! Set a personal goal to overcome this barrier and challenge the mindset that says it is impossible. Jesus is an equal opportunity God. His power and love are yours today. You often get from life what you expect from life. Expect more. Remember, what we give our attention to grows. What we ignore persists. How many diets does it take to lose weight? Only the one you stick to. May His power be made perfect in your weakness today (1 Corinthians 12:9).