

Introduction

- Image
 - Watching football film in HS
 - This is how the book of Jonah works, especially this chapter
 - Last week, we looked at Jonah and God / This week we're looking at an important subplot / How Jonah relates to the pagan sailors he finds himself with
 - We learn here how not to reach those who are far from God with the love of God
- Need: This is a diagnosis of why the church is not more effective in reaching the lost
- Subject: Why does the church sometimes fail in its mission to the world?
- Text: Jonah 1:1-17
- Preview: Three mistakes Jonah makes

Body

- Wakes Up To Their Neighbor's Cries
 - The world we live in is a storm battered boat because of sin
 - Storms around us (the literal storm)
 - Storms in us (the sailors riddled by fear)
 - The world is crying out to their God's for help
 - The sailors begin to cry out to their gods
 - The world is crying out to all kinds of things to save them
 - Work (rowing), New Age (lots)
 - The church is often asleep in the boat
 - MTR: Wake up to the cries of the world (You sleeper, arise!)
 - Proximity: Jonah didn't hear because he had chosen to dissociate
 - Are we living in our own corner of the world or are we moving towards others?
- Embraces Their Full Identity
 - Jonah begins to hear their cries, but he doesn't do anything about it
 - He refuses to claim his full identity
 - He claims the covenant name of God
 - But he refuses to claim his role as an ambassadors of God's kingdom
 - We often see mission as an activity vs. an identity
 - What keeps us from embracing our full identity?
 - Many Things: Don't want to be uncomfortable / Fear of rejection
 - Jonah's Us vs. Them Mentality (the most important part of his identity was that he wasn't one of those people / I'm a Hebrew first / If you base your fundamental identity on anything that you've achieved (political affiliation, religious affiliation, ethnic identity) than you will never be effective at reaching the people that don't share that identity factor. Why are people so passionate about politics? It's more than just conviction. They're fighting for an identity. When they scream, they're saying, "I'm not like you and therefore, I have value."

- Our culture is fragmented into many self-contained media bubbles and each one encourages us to be like Jonah on the daily
 - Gimli and Legolas illustration (When you are embraced by someone gloriously beautiful, you begin to embrace others who are different than you)
 - MTR: Reclaim our true identity
 - I used to say, "I'm a beloved son."
 - What if you said this every day? "I am a beloved son of God sent into the world to show and to share his love for runaways"
- Voluntarily Sacrifices Themselves For the Sake Of Others
 - The storm only subsides when when Jonah reluctantly sacrifices himself
 - External storm calmed
 - Internal storm calmed (The sailors are converted through seeing the sacrifice of Jonah)
 - Mission only advances through sacrifice
 - It requires sacrifice to wake up to the cries of the world
 - It requires sacrifice to embrace our full identity
 - How do we find the power to do that?
 - The two stories are almost direct parallels except for one details ([Mark 5](#))
 - In the account of Jesus, the storm is calmed, but without a sacrifice
 - Why? Because the ultimate sacrifice was coming. The cross is Jesus being thrown into the waves of God's judgment against human evil to calm the ultimate storm of sin and death
 - His sacrifice for us to calm the ultimate storm is our pattern and our power for sacrificing ourselves

Conclusion

- Summary:
- Pastoral Plea: