

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road
Grand Island, New York www.bfcgi.org 716-773-3748

THE LORD'S DAY

February 12, 2017 8:30 & 10:15AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude Carol Dammann
Piano Wendy Baldwin

MEDITATION

“Jonah’s Reaction to God’s Grace” Jonah 4:1-3 - opposite page

Announcements		Ron Mock
Doxology		
Prayer and Scripture Reading		Psalm 25
Hymn 11	“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”	
Pastoral Prayer		
Hymn 338	“Wonderful Grace of Jesus”	
Solo	“The Treasure of Jesus”	Lisa McLeod
Message	“KNOWING WE KNOW HIM”	
	I John 1:1-2:17	Pastor Cal VanderMey
Hymn 575	“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”	Benediction

THE MINISTRY OF MISSION

For the glory of God, Bible Fellowship Center is committed to spreading the Good News of salvation, **equipping the believers**, that they might become more Christ-like, worship God and enjoy Him forever.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Youth Group Monday at 6:30pm
Tuesday Precept at 6:30pm on James – Wendy Baldwin teaching
No Tuesday Bible study: - Pastor Cal teaching
Wednesday Men’s Bible study – Jim O’Rourke teaching
Thursday Precept at 9:15 on Romans – Margaret Was teaching
Ladies fellowship Thursday at 10am – Elsa Peters
Adult Bible study Friday at 7pm - John Woodell teaching
The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary
Sunday messages are available online, CD or e-mail. See Bill Schultz

Jonah 4:1-3

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry. ²So he prayed to the LORD, and said, “Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You *are* a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm. ³Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for *it is* better for me to die than to live!”

Just like Adam and Eve in the Garden after God’s accusation about their sin, Jonah also plays the blame game.

Unlike Adam and Eve, it is not blaming God for being harsh, but rather blaming God for being lenient. Jonah now reviews the whole scene of his desire to go to Tarshish rather than preach in Nineveh. Here is the parable of the Prodigal Son, and Jonah is the older brother with Nineveh as the son. In a sense, Jonah ruins the beautiful moment of God’s unmerited favor toward Nineveh with his selfish complaint. Jonah had no compassion on the people of Nineveh. Jonah had just been spared from destruction himself, and yet does not want the same treatment for the hundreds of thousands living in Nineveh.

Verse 2 gives us a glimpse of Jonah’s accurate knowledge of theology—the study of God. God is gracious and merciful, meaning that He possesses an unlimited supply of Grace. “Lovingkindness” is the special word (*chesed*) that defines one of God’s greatest attributes, and yet it defies a one word English equivalency. It speaks of God’s loyal love that is unswerving, and that kindness that provides all of our needs as far as salvation is concerned.

Someone has said that suicide is the most selfish act there is. If that is true, then verse 3 confirms our analysis of the selfishness of Jonah. He has been successful in his ministry in Nineveh—everyone repented, and the city was spared. Yet, his anger prompts him to ask God to kill him.

Anyone interested in joining the choir please see Dawn Fraser

Choir practice is this Wednesday at 7pm