

## WHAT REALLY HAPPENS WHEN WE RUN FROM GOD?

1. RUNNING FROM GOD HARDENS US
2. RUNNING FROM GOD WILL ALWAYS LEAD US TOWARDS DISCOURAGEMENT.

*Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me* **Jonah 1:1-2 (ESV)**

*He went down to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping to escape from the Lord.* **Jonah 1:3 (NLT)**

*When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, He relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.*  
**Jonah 3:10 (NIV)**

3. RUNNING FROM GOD IS NOT ENOUGH FOR GOD TO STOP RUNNING AFTER YOU.

*Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship* **Jonah 1:4-5 (NIV)**

Not all running looks the same...

*These are the commands, decrees and laws that the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe, ... so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord... and enjoy long life. Hear Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you*  
**Deuteronomy 6:1,3 (NIV)**

So how will we know if we are running from or resisting God?

How do we stop running from God?

*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.* **Jonah 2:2-3 (NIV)**

*He must become more, I must become less* **John 3:30**