



# FREEDOM MINISTRIES

of the Quad Cities

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*Jonah 1:1-3 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. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.*

The story of Jonah concerns a disobedient prophet who rejected his divine commission, was cast overboard in a storm, swallowed by a great fish, rescued in a marvelous manner, and returned to his starting point. Now he obeys and goes to Nineveh, the capital of Israel's ancient enemy. The Ninevites listen to his message of doom and repent immediately. All, from king to lowliest subject, humble themselves in sackcloth and ashes. Seeing their repentance, God does not carry out the punishment planned for them.

We usually focus our attention on Jonah in this story, but...the thought occurred to me that the sailors on the ship were fearful for their lives in the midst of the terrifying storm. They were lightning the ship by throwing everything overboard that would help their precarious situation. They were crying out to their gods for help to no avail. They eventually cast lots to see who, if any one of them was responsible for this life threatening experience.

Of course it fell on Jonah who confessed it was his fault. What's amazing is that he was willing to pay with his life for his disobedience by having them throw him overboard. He believed only his death would satisfy God's wrath and calm the storm.

The sailors finally realized nothing they could do and nothing their pagan gods could do would solve the raging storm that threatened to destroy the ship and them. So, with true repentance and real fear of the God of Israel, they apologetically and obediently threw Jonah overboard!



Their faith was honored when the storm immediately stopped and the waves became calm!

Imagine if you were one of those sailors who saw the power of the living God in that storm and how faith in Him brought peace and security into their lives. Imagine

sharing among yourselves the incredible events of that fateful day. Imagine retelling the story to everyone who would hear when you reached shore, other sailors, your friends and family!

I imagine and believe some of those men truly turned their hearts to the living God and chose to surrender their lives to Him because of that harrowing experience. Our God, I'm sure, was concerned about the lives of those sailors as well as rebellious Jonah and the Ninevites who needed to repent of their violent sinful lives. I believe He

### Mission

Freedom Ministries of the Quad Cities exists to help couples and individuals experience freedom in Christ through identifying and resolving spiritual and emotional conflicts thus strengthening, empowering and helping fulfill their relationship with Jesus Christ and others.



### Trivia

Did you know?

**The first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox is always Easter.**

glorified Himself through saving those sailor's lives and perhaps, even using some of them to be his unlikely ambassadors.

What about you and me? Are we willing to be used of God to impact others for the Gospel? Are we willing to be transparent, share our failures, tragedies, calamities, maybe even sacrifice our own life, like Jonah, to be used by God as a testimony to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus?

## *Testimony*

*Thank you, Wayne and Jeanine, for the way you both make the world a better place by giving us and all those you have helped tools to take care of hearts and overcome through remedying our love issues. Now we can enjoy a successful marriage!*

## *CFFH Zoom Conference*

### **WE INVITE YOU TO OUR CARING FOR THE HEART ZOOM CONFERENCE April 18-19, 2022**

**This Zoom WEBINAR will be: APRIL 18 & 19, 2022 (Monday & Tuesday Evenings)** This Webinar will focus on "Issues Women Struggle With" featuring different topics presented by women. Visit our [www.caringfortheheart.com](http://www.caringfortheheart.com) website for updated information on topic titles and registration information.

### **WORKSHOPS SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2022**

**We will offer three separate Workshops.** These Workshops will each feature a different topic, will start at different times and each will have a separate Zoom Meeting link. There will be a \$15 registration fee for each workshop and each workshop will have a capacity limit of 90 registrations. To register go to [www.caringfortheheart.com](http://www.caringfortheheart.com).

## *Praise and Prayer*

### **Praise**

- ◆ That God knows what he is doing, that he loves us and will accomplish His will.
- ◆ That when we dwell in the shelter of the Most High, we can rest in the shadow of the Almighty! Psalm 91

### **Prayer**

- ◆ For wisdom in guiding each on who comes to us to Jesus for healing and freedom to connect with Him.
- ◆ For softened hearts in couples who are hurting in their marriages.

## *Birdies for Charity*

If you have a desire to help individuals and couples find freedom in Christ, please prayerfully consider using the enclosed form to donate to Freedom Ministries of the Quad Cities. The John Deere Classic Charitable Corporation sponsors Birdies For Charity in association with the John Deere classic golf tournament, June 27—July 3, 2022. The goal of the program is to obtain pledges (donations) for non-profit organizations. Only flat donations will be accepted, they will no longer be accepting per birdie pledges. You may pledge a one-time flat donation or send your check along with your form.

You may still guess the number of birdies for a chance to win a two year lease on a 2022 Lexus! The deadline for contest entries is June 10, 2022. All final pledges are due by July 1, 2022.

Donating through the "Birdies For Charity" event is easy and 100% of your donation, plus additional BONUS BUCKS, go directly to us. Simply fill out the enclosed pledge form, noting the amount you wish to give, your name and address and mail the left half of the form to Freedom Ministries in the enclosed envelope.

**Thank you!**



If you no longer want to receive the newsletter, please contact us. Our email address is: [freedomministries@att.net](mailto:freedomministries@att.net) or write to: Freedom Ministries, P.O. Box 953, Moline, IL 61266-0953