

Title: **An Unexpected Response**  
Text: **Jonah 3:5-10**  
Date: **June 26, 2022**

Find the sermon manuscript to follow along with online at [mercyhillchurch.org](http://mercyhillchurch.org).



## Big Idea

True biblical repentance is a response to God's Word and reflects a change in "perception" and "direction" rooted in the Gospel.

In Jonah 1, Jonah runs away from God as Jonah refuses God's command to go to Nineveh. But as Jonah is drowning in an ocean in Jonah 2, Jonah cries out and runs toward God in prayer. In Jonah 3, Jonah runs with God in obedience as Jonah finally preaches God's word to the city of Nineveh....but how will people of Nineveh respond to God's Word?

### 1. The Unexpected Response of Nineveh (v.5)

B\_\_\_\_\_ in God's W\_\_\_\_\_

### 2. The Unexpected Response of the King (v.6)

B\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrated Through His A\_\_\_\_\_

R\_\_\_\_\_ & H\_\_\_\_\_

### 3. The Unexpected Decree (vv.7-8)

R\_\_\_\_\_ : a Change in P\_\_\_\_\_ & D\_\_\_\_\_

### 4. The Unexpected Attitude of the King (v.9)

Not P\_\_\_\_\_

### 5. The (Un)Expected Response of God (v.10)

M\_\_\_\_\_



## Reflection Questions

- Who are the people in your life that you would be surprised to hear came to saving faith in Jesus (i.e. became a Christian)? Why would it be surprising to you? What are the pre-conceived notions you might have about who God can save - and can't?
- How does this passage help you to better understand what true biblical repentance looks like? What aspects do you sometimes neglect (or forget) about in regards to repentance?
- What are some areas in your life where you need to respond to God in repentance? Does your life reflect the realities of an (ongoing) repentant heart ("perception") and life ("direction")?
- In what ways have you become presumptuous of God's mercy and grace?
- Who are the people in your life that you can be praying for to respond to God in belief and repentance?
- For Parents: Repentance is a critical component of the Christian faith. Spend some time this week to help your child(ren) better understand what repentance is - and looks like. What are some ways you can model out to your child(ren) what repentance is -- and isn't?

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## Our Mission & Values

*Mercy Hill Church exists to help restore us to God, neighbor, and city through the good news of Jesus Christ.*

**FAITH:** The Way Back to God | We are redeemed to enjoy intimate relationship with him. This value presses our church *upwards* in love

**COMMUNITY:** The Way Back to Christ, adopted in the Beloved relationship with his people. This value presses our church *inwards* in love for

**MISSION:** The Way the Embassy of Christ, Savior to be his value presses our church *outwards* in love for the

the Bride of Christ, created and relationship with him. This value for God.

Neighbor | We are the Family of and brought into covenantal This value presses our one another.

Back to City | We are commissioned by the ambassadors. This church *outwards* unbelieving.

## Your Next Steps

When approaching the Christian faith and life, it can be confusing to know where to even begin. Come find us at the Next Steps Table after the service—it would be our joy to help you along in the journey! And if you're a visitor, we have a special gift bag for you. Don't miss it!



**Mail:** PO Box 23806, San Jose, CA 95153  
**Phone:** (408) 320-7080  
**Email:** [info@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:info@mercyhillchurch.org)  
**Web:** [mercyhillchurch.org](https://mercyhillchurch.org)



Welcome to Mercy Hill Church.  
We are so glad you've joined us today!

## Announcement Spotlight

### All Church Hangout - Next Sunday!

Meaningful community is hard to find in Silicon Valley, even in the church. Our congregation is spread out all over the city. But there is one day of every week when we all commit to gather together and worship our God: Sunday. It seems strategic to take this pre-existing momentum and work with it in an attempt to develop deeper community within our body. Therefore, on occasional Sundays throughout the year we will invite the church to enjoy picnic-style afternoons together immediately following the service.

*The Plan: TBD. We might just run as normal where you bring/buy your own lunch. But we're tossing around the idea of doing a BBQ for the 4th. Anyone interested? Want to help? Let us know. One thing's for sure: it will be a good day to hang and enjoy time together. Stay tuned. Updates will come in this week's newsletter and online.*

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at [info@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:info@mercyhillchurch.org).

### Family Service - Next Week!

On occasion, we hold Family Services where children sit in the service with their parents. That's what we have next Sunday, July 3rd! We know this can be a bit challenging for parents, but we also recognize that it is a very good thing for kids to participate with the larger church family in worship. To help, we will provide coloring sheets and pre-packaged crayons for you to make use of. The Mother's Room adjacent to the Sanctuary is a space families can utilize as well if necessary.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at [kids@mercyhillchurch.org](mailto:kids@mercyhillchurch.org).

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