"JONAH"

Ву Terry Stanley

Synopsis

This modern day Jonah encounters the same experiences as the biblical Jonah; running from God and being swallowed by a large fish for three days. Like the original Jonah, today's Jonah finally acknowledges God's call for him to proclaim the Word of God.

Scripture

Book of Jonah

Ministry Lesson

We can't run or hide from God. God wants us to be obedient.

Ministry Focus

Obedience

Genre: Comedy

Cast and Characters

Father: Age any - (shows little emotion)
Mother: Age any - (highly emotional)
Jonah: Age 17 - (shaken)

Costumes

Normal everyday wear. Jonah should wear a wet tee-shirt.

Time: 6 mins.

Props

Table and 2 chairs Newspaper Lounging Robe Smoking Pipe Telephone White Towel

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JONAH

INT. FAMILY ROOM - EVENING

FATHER IS WEARING A LOUNGING ROBE WITH A SMOKING PIPE IN HIS MOUTH (UN-LIT, OF COURSE). MOTHER IS PACING THE FLOOR OBVIOUSLY WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING.

MOTHER

(worried)

Henry, it's 9:00 p.m. Where in the world is Jonah? (no answer) HENRY!

FATHER

(unconcerned)

Stop worrying about the boy, he can take care of himself.

MOTHER

He hasn't' been home all weekend. I'm getting worried. Maybe I should call the police.

FATHER

This is not the first time Jonah hasn't come home

MOTHER

Maybe for one night, but never three whole days.

FATHER

He's probably over Michael's house. He stays over there more than he stays home.

MOTHER

I called Michael's mother this morning and she hasn't seen him.

Honey, I think something is wrong. It's so dangerous out there in the streets.

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FATHER

The boy is grown. Leave him alone.

MOTHER

NEARLY grown. He's only 17. Things nowadays aren't like they were when we were young. People are so full of evil. (beat) I'm going to call the Police.

JONAH ENTERS AS MOTHER IS ON THE PHONE. JONAH IS VISIBLY TIRED AND SHAKEN UP. PART OF HIS CLOTHING AND FACE ARE WET.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Jonah, where in the world have you been? (hangs up phone) Jonah! My God you're all wet. Your clothes, shoes, your hair. Baby, are you alright?

JONAH

(exhausted)

Yeah, I'm alright Ma. I'm just tried.

FATHER

See, the boy is just tired Bev. Give him some Tylenol.

MOTHER

(WRAPS A TOWEL AROUND JONAH)

Oh my goodness. You'll catch a death of cold in these wet clothes. (beat)

Jonah, you had us worried to death.

Where in the world have you been for the past three days?

JONAH

I've been on the run.

FATHER

See, I told you to leave those boys alone, didn't I.

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JONAH

I wasn't running from any boys, I've been running from God.

MOTHER

(frantic)

Oh my goodness! I'm going to call the Police right now. (picks up phone)

JONAH

No Ma, they'll just think I'm crazy.

Besides, God already caught me and let

me go.

MOTHER

Well baby, what happened?

JONAH

I don't want to talk about it.

FATHER

Alright now boy, your mother asked you a question. Don't get too big for your britches. Now you answer your mother.

MOTHER

Henry, calm down. Psychologists recommend that we talk calmly to our children, not shout at them.

HELPS JONAH SIT DOWN

Now Jonah, just tell me what happened.

JONAH

A couple weeks ago, God told me to go to Nineveh.

MOTHER

Nineveh! Where in the world is Nineveh?

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FATHER

(interrupts)

Isn't that down there in south side of Chicago [insert your local area]. Now Jonah, I told you about hanging out in Nineveh.

JONAH

No Dad, its not like that. God wanted me to witness for Him in Nineveh.

FATHER

(defensive)

A witness! Oh no. You just tell God you didn't see anything and you don't know nothin'. I heard what they do to witnesses down in Nineveh.

Jonah explains what happened, to his parents surprise. In the end he comes to the realization its best to be obedient to God.
