

# Northside Church of Christ

“God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”  
John 4:24



## Jonah Was “Swallowed Up” By Mike Riley

As Christians, we’ve all heard and studied the story of Jonah and the great fish. But do we know that the disobedient prophet was “swallowed up” – not once, but three times?

- 1) Jonah was “swallowed up” by prejudice – The Ninevites were a wicked and idolatrous people (Jonah 1:2), and God wanted Jonah to preach repentance to them. But Jonah wanted them to feel God’s wrath (Jonah 4:2), so he boarded a ship and headed in the opposite direction (Jonah 1:3).
- 2) Jonah was “swallowed up” by the sea – A wild storm was battering the boat, so the superstitious sailors cast lots to find out who was to blame, and “the lot fell on Jonah” (Jonah 1:7). He said, “Throw me into the sea” (Jonah 1:12). As the swirling waters engulfed him, he sank toward certain death.
- 3) Jonah was “swallowed up” by a large fish that God had prepared to rescue him (Jonah 1:17) – Inside the fish 3 days, he confessed his sin and promised to obey God (Jonah 2:1-9). After he was delivered, he followed God’s directive and preached judgment to Nineveh, and all the people repented (Jonah 3:1-5).

Sometimes God allows us to face frightening circumstances so that we will learn to trust and obey Him. It’s always best to obey the Lord right away – then we won’t be “swallowed up.”

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

No Bible Study This Week

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service  
10:00 AM

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Family Bible Study  
7:00 PM

Mark 7:24-30  
Mark 7:31-37



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“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

Northside Church of Christ  
4217 Highway 39 N  
Meridian, MS 39301

Place Stamp Here

# A Letter to Everyone

By Josh Blackmer

Dear Reader,

Let me start by saying that science says there is one human race with many ethnic groups—none of which are better than any other, all of which Christ died for. If we keep making racial distinctions, we will stay divided. A house divided cannot stand.

We also need to put things into perspective. The issue of hate, prejudice, and bigotry is not unique to the United States. Anywhere there are different ethnic groups living in close proximity to one another there are issues. A cursory web search of global current events will prove this point. The issue of hate, prejudice, bigotry is not unique to our time. Since Cain and Able this has been a problem that has plagued the human race. History is rife with wars, oppression, genocides and other deplorable acts based on ethnicity. We are our own worst enemy. Even inside an ethnic group there are prejudices based on social status, origin of birth, accent, even being too white, too black, too brown. These things have always happened and, unless there are huge changes in mankind, will continue to happen. Does that make it okay? Of course not!

We obviously need answers. However, the answer is not found in finger pointing, shaming, or bringing up past atrocities. We can't move forward if we continue to carry the burden of the past. Every ethnic group is guilty of past prejudices and hate. Let he who is without sin cast the first stone.

Change needs to start with ourselves. We need to stop with the "They always do this" and "They always do that" over-generalizations. Those things promote division and teach future generations the same mindset. We need to see crimes that are committed as crimes against humanity. The odds are high that every day in America an individual of every ethnic group commits a crime against another ethnic group. We can focus on the ethnicity and continue to be divided or we can focus on the problem and move toward change.

The problem is a lack of empathy, respect, and concern for the well-being of others. If we all really want change, I'm not convinced everyone wants to change. If we all showed basic common respect and decency, the Bible calls it love, toward one another (Rom. 13:10 - "Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."). If we all treated each other as we would like to be treated (Matt. 7:12 - "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."), then, only then, could we make real change. As long as there are evil people doing evil things to innocent people there will be in injustice. As long as people consider themselves to be superior to others, there will be prejudices. We can't let this be in our hearts, in our homes, and in the church. "Love one another" - Jesus (John 13:34 - "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.").

## Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments (Serrie Smith, Connie Montgomery, Ken Williams)
- All those affected by COVID-19
- Julia Juliano
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## Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2020 is in foyer

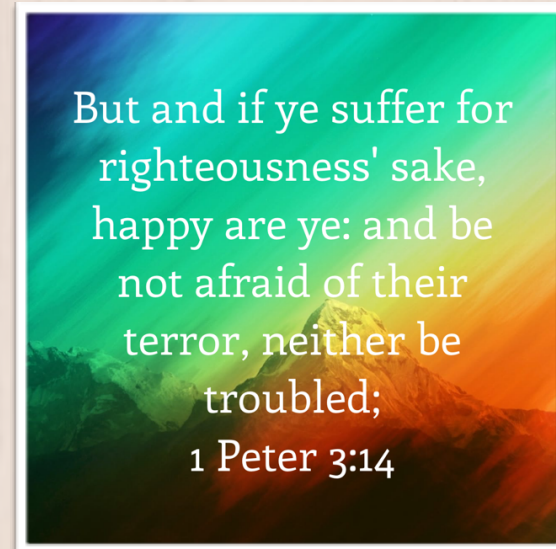
## Announcements

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## June Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Frances Hall - 11th
- Don/Marilyn Potts - 9th
- Anthony/Julia Juliano - 24th

Every Sunday Morning  
@ 6:00 AM  
on WTOK-TV



## Men to Serve

### Sunday Morning

- Announcements/Opening Prayer - Don Potts
- Scripture Reading - 1 Peter 3:13-17
- Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell
- Head of Lord's Table - Larry Montgomery
- Scripture Reading - John 19:13-19
- Assist on Lord's Table - Chuck Rowell
- Closing Prayer - Greg Powell

- Comcast Cable 8
- Comcast Cable 438
- Comcast Cable 1012
- DirecTV 12
- Dish Network 9306
- Dishnet Local 49
- Over-the-air 11.3