

Dangerous Exchange

My Way For God's Way

Jonah 1:1-3 The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”³ 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. (NIV)

1. We all exchange our way for God's way

3 Reasons We Go Our Way Instead of God's Way

1. We don't like what God planned
2. We think we know what's best
3. We get mad at God

2. Our way is always the wrong way

Jonah 1:3 But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. (NIV)

Proverbs 21:2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts. (NKJV)

Proverbs 12:15 Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others. (NLT)

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. (ESV)

3. Our way leads to drama

Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. (ESV)

1. We experience the drama of storms

Jonah 1:4 Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. (NIV)

2. We create drama for other people

Jonah 1:6–8 The captain went to him and said, “How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish.”

⁷ Then the sailors said to each other, “Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity.” They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸ So they asked him, “Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?” (NIV)

3. We create drama for ourselves

4. It’s never too late to go God’s way

Jonah 2:8–9 Those who worship false gods turn their backs on all God’s mercies.

⁹ But I will offer sacrifices to you with songs of praise, and I will fulfill all my vows. For my salvation comes from the LORD alone.” (NLT)

Jonah 3:1–3 Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ² “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.” ³ Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. (NIV)