Title: “A Whale of a Journey”
Text: Jonah 1-4

Target: Jonah is considered by many as fable, but because we believe it’s factual (Luke 11:30; Matthew 12:39-40) we are able to discover God’s faithfulness.

1. A Call to Go: “Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, “Arise, go...” (Jonah 1:1-2)
   a. To a Place: “to Nineveh” (1:2) *Capital of Assyria *Mosul, Iraq
   b. To a People: “for their evil has come up before me” (1:2)
   c. To a be a Preacher: “call out against it” (1:2)

2. A Place to Run: “But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish” (1:3)
   a. Far from the Place: “He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish” (1:3) *Tel Aviv
   b. Far from the People: “So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish” (1:3) *Southern Spain
   c. Far from His Presence: “away from the presence of the LORD” (1:3)

3. A Storm that Blows: “But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea,” (1:4)
   a. Causing Fear: “Then the mariners were afraid” (1:5)
   b. Creating Faith: “each cried out to his god” (1:5)

4. A Crew that Knows:
   a. Roll of the Dice: “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” (1:7)
   b. Revelation of Defiance: “For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.” (1:10)

5. A Fish to Catch: “And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah” (1:17)
   a. Prayer of Distress: “I called out to the LORD, out of my distress” (2:2)
   b. Purpose to Deliver: “And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.” (2:10)

6. A City that Repents: “And the people of Nineveh believed God.” (3:5)
   a. A Second Chance: “Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time” (3:1)
   b. A Sermon that’s Concise: “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” (3:4)
   c. A Scene of Compassion: “God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.” (3:10)

7. A Preacher that Quits:
a. **His Complaint:** “But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry” (4:1)

b. **God’s Comfort:** “God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort” (4:6)

c. **His Criticism:** “Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die” (4:9)

8. **A God who Cares:** “And should not I pity Nineveh, ... more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle” (4:11)

   a. **God’s Plan**
   b. **God’s Pursuit**
   c. **God’s Patience**
   d. **God’s Provision**
   e. **God’s Pleasure**

**Take Away:** Everything detail in the story of Jonah is obedient to God except for Jonah. However, He is a God of second chances that turns what we think are mistakes into miracles.