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☞ **Prelude**

☞ **Invocation:** In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, we worship together on this Sunday Morning.

✠ **我要頌揚 I Will Give My Praises**

♪ I will give my praises to God that makes me see
For He sees all that happens on this earth
I will give my praises to God that makes me hear
For He hears all my heartfelt prayer

♪ I will give my praises to God that is righteous
His Kingdom is of power and glory
I will give my praises to God that shows His love
He is faithful that never change

Chorus:

♪ [(Hallelujah!*2)He is almighty God, He is able.]*2

✠ **神真是我力量 God Is The Strength Of My Heart**

♪ Whom have I in heaven but You
There is nothing on earth I desire beside You
My heart and my strength many times they fail
But there is one truth that always will prevail

♪ [(God is the strength of my heart) x3
and my portion forever, forever] *2

✠ **何等恩典 How Could it Be**

♪ With a truthful heart, Lord, I come before Thee
Open my eyes, so I can see
With a grateful heart, Lord, I come to receive
Your spirit of humbleness and grace

♪ How could it be, that You would care for me
How could it be, Your blood was shed for me

♪ How could it be, You've crowned me
with your grace and glory
O my soul, sing praises to the king

♪ You have removed, my bondage, my chains
You have removed, my burdens and shame
You have removed, my sorrows and pain

♪ O my soul, sing praises to His name

☞ **Responsive Reading: Psalm 146:1-2, 5-10**

1 Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, my soul.
2 I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise
to my God as long as I live.

5 Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God.

6 He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and
everything in them— he remains faithful forever.

7 He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives
food to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free,
8 the LORD gives sight to the blind, the LORD lifts
up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the
righteous.

9 The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains
the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the
ways of the wicked.

10 The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for
all generations. Praise the LORD.

☞ **Praise**

✠ **祢真偉大 How Great Thou Art**

♪ O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

♪ (Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.) *2

♪ When through the woods, and forest glades I
wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

♪ (Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.) *2

♪ And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

♪ (Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.) *2

♪ When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,
And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

♪ (Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.) *2

☞ **Special Music**

✠ **當答案不夠時 When Answers Aren't Enough**

♪ You have faced the mountains of desperation,
You have climbed, you have fought, you have won,
But this valley that lies coldly before you,
Casts a shadow you cannot overcome.
And just when you thought you had it all together
You knew every verse to get you through,
But this time all that sorrow broke more than just
your heart
And reciting all those verses just won't do.

Chorus

♪ When answers aren't enough there is Jesus,
He is more than just an answer to your prayer,
And your heart will find a safe and peaceful refuge,
When answers aren't enough, He is there.

♪ Instead of asking why did it happen,
Think of where it could lead you from here.
And as your pain is slowly easing you can find a
greater reason,
To live your life triumphant through the tears.

Chorus

♪ When answers aren't enough there is Jesus,
He is more than just an answer to your prayer,
And your heart will find a safe and peaceful refuge,
When answers aren't enough, He is there.

♪ He is there
When answers aren't enough there is Jesus,
He is more than just an answer to your prayer,
And your heart will find a safe and peaceful refuge,
When answers aren't enough x3

He is there
When answers aren't enough. He is there x2

🔗 Scripture Reading:

Romans 5:1 Right With God

We have been made right with God because of our faith. So we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jonah 4:3-4

3 So now, Lord, just kill me. It is better for me to die than to live."

4 Then the Lord said, "Do you think it is right for you to be angry?"

9 But God said to Jonah, "Do you think it is right for you to be angry just because this plant died?"

Sermon: Reconciliation with God

– Pastor Tung

Reconciliation with God" determines your present life and eternity, and it should never be taken lightly! God loves us deeply! Our relationship with God may be fragile and strained, but why is that so? And how can we mend it?

I. Assertion: God does things badly.

Jonah 3:10 God saw what the people did. He saw that they stopped doing evil. So God changed his mind and did not do what he planned. He did not punish the people.

Jonah 4:1 Jonah was not happy that God saved the city. Jonah became angry.

Genesis 50:19-20 Then Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. I am not God! I have no right to punish you. **20** It is true that you planned to do something bad to me. But really, God was planning good things. God's plan was to use me to save the lives of many people. And that is what happened.

Romans 5:2-5 Through our faith, Christ has brought us into that blessing of God's grace that we now enjoy. And we are very happy because of the hope we have of sharing God's glory.

3 And we are also happy with the troubles we have. Why are we happy with troubles? Because we know that these troubles make us more patient.

4 And this patience is proof that we are strong. And this proof gives us hope.

5 And this hope will never disappoint us. We know this because God has poured out his love to fill our hearts through the Holy Spirit he gave us.

Assertion: God's actions are not good, only what I consider good is good.

Resulting in: I become extremely exhausted, miserable, full of anger, and feel life has no meaning, leading to extreme suffering!

How to break free from this whirlpool?

Reaffirmation: "Whatever God thinks is right, is right; whatever God considers good, is good!"

What are some things right now that I am treating God like Jonah?

If Joseph faced these things, how would he respond to God and to these situations?

II. Feeling: God is unkind to me. Jonah 4:3,

Jonah 2:5-7 "The seawater closed over me. The water covered my mouth, and I could not breathe. I went down, down into the deep sea. Seaweed wrapped around my head.

6 I was at the bottom of the sea, the place where the mountains begin. I thought I was locked in this prison forever, but the Lord my God took me out of my grave. God, you gave me life again!

7 "My soul gave up all hope, but then I remembered the Lord. I prayed to you, and you heard my prayers in your holy Temple.

Jonah felt that God was treating him unfairly:

Chapter 1: God allowed him to be thrown into the deep sea

Chapter 2: God had a fish swallow Jonah for three days and nights

Chapter 3: God treated Jonah's enemies better than him!

Chapter 4: God gave and took away from me, and even intensified my troubles!

God was actually very good to Jonah:
Chapters 1 and 2: God dealt with his rebellious nature
Chapters 3 and 4: God patiently corrected his heart,
which lacked compassion and was ignorant to the
point of being ridiculous (**Jonah 1: 9, 3, 5**)

How to break free from this whirlpool? Seek the Holy Spirit to continually give us heavenly wisdom and perspective Regularly count God's blessings

Jonah 1: 9, 3, 5

9 Jonah said to them, "I am a Hebrew. I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the land and the sea."

3 But Jonah tried to run away from the Lord. He went to Joppa[c] and found a boat that was going to the faraway city of Tarshish. Jonah paid money for the trip and went on the boat. He wanted to travel with the people on this boat to Tarshish and run away from the Lord.

5 The men wanted to make the boat lighter to stop it from sinking, so they began throwing the cargo[d] into the sea. The sailors were very afraid. Each man began praying to his god.

Jonah had gone down into the boat to lie down, and he went to sleep.

III. Neglecting people.

Jonah 4:10-11 And the Lord said, "You did nothing for that plant. You did not make it grow. It grew up in the night, and the next day it died. And now you are sad about it.

11 If you can get upset over a plant, surely I can feel sorry for a big city like Nineveh. There are many people and animals in that city. There are more than 120,000 people there who did not know they were doing wrong."

Jonah 3:10 God saw what the people did. He saw that they stopped doing evil. So God changed his mind and did not do what he planned. He did not punish the people.

Jonah 4:1-5 God's Mercy Makes Jonah Angry

1 Jonah was not happy that God saved the city. Jonah became angry.

2 He complained to the Lord and said, "Lord, I knew this would happen! I was in my own country, and you told me to come here. At that time I knew that you would forgive the people of this evil city, so I decided to run away to Tarshish. I knew that you are a kind God. I knew that you show mercy and don't want to punish people. I knew that you are kind, and if these people stopped sinning, you would change your plans to destroy them.

3 So now, Lord, just kill me. It is better for me to die than to live."

4 Then the Lord said, "Do you think it is right for you to be angry?"

5 Jonah went out of the city to a place near the city on the east side. He made a shelter for himself and sat there in the shade, waiting to see what would happen to the city.

John 3:16 16 Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him would not be lost but have eternal life.

Romans 5:7 Very few people will die to save the life of someone else, even if it is for a good person. Someone might be willing to die for an especially good person.

Luke 11: 9-13 So I tell you, continue to ask, and God will give to you. Continue to search, and you will find. Continue to knock, and the door will open for you.

10 Yes, whoever continues to ask will receive. Whoever continues to look will find. And whoever continues to knock will have the door opened for them.

11 Do any of you have a son? What would you do if your son asked you for a fish? Would any father give him a snake?

12 Or, if he asked for an egg, would you give him a scorpion? Of course not!

13 Even you who are bad know how to give good things to your children. So surely your heavenly Father knows how to give the Holy Spirit to the people who ask him."

Luke 11: 5-7 Ask God for What You Need

5-6 Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you went to your friend's house very late at night and said to him, 'A friend of mine has come into town to visit me. But I have nothing for him to eat. Please give me three loaves of bread.'

7 Your friend inside the house answers, 'Go away! Don't bother me! The door is already locked. My children and I are in bed. I cannot get up and give you the bread now.'

God loves people deeply, cherishes them, and treasures them! Those who do not treat people as treasures cannot have a good relationship with God. God shows mercy to sinners and forgives those who repent!

Those who do not show mercy to those who offend them, and those who do not forgive those who repent, cannot have a good relationship with God. How can we love, cherish, show mercy, and forgive people like God does?

First: Seek God (**Jonah 4:10-11**)

Jonah 4:10-11 And the Lord said, "You did nothing for that plant. You did not make it grow. It grew up in the night, and the next day it died. And now you are sad about it.

11 If you can get upset over a plant, surely I can feel sorry for a big city like Nineveh. There are many people and animals in that city. There are more than 120,000 people there who did not know they were doing wrong.”

Second: Learn from God ([Jonah 4:11](#); [Matthew 18:33](#); [John 13:34](#); [1 Corinthians 16:17-18](#))

1. Fill in others' deficiencies
2. Bring happiness and joy to them

[Matthew 18:33](#) So you should have given that other man who serves with you the same mercy I gave you.”

[John 13:34](#) “I give you a new command: Love each other. You must love each other just as I loved you.

[1 Corinthians 16:17-18](#) I am happy that Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus have come. You are not here, but they have filled your place.

18 They have been a great encouragement to me and to you as well. You should recognize the value of such people.

Third: Recognize our own shortcomings
([1 Timothy 1:15](#))

[1 Timothy 1:15](#) Here is a true statement that should be accepted without question: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, and I am the worst of them.

The Key within the Key:

[Luke 7:37-47](#) There was a sinful woman in that town. She knew that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house. So the woman brought some expensive perfume in an alabaster jar.

38 She stood at Jesus' feet, crying. Then she began to wash his feet with her tears. She dried his feet with her hair. She kissed his feet many times and rubbed them with the perfume.

39 When the Pharisee who asked Jesus to come to his house saw this, he thought to himself, “If this man were a prophet, [a] he would know that the woman who is touching him is a sinner!”

40 In response, Jesus said to the Pharisee, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” Simon said, “Let me hear it, Teacher.”

41 Jesus said, “There were two men. Both men owed money to the same banker. One man owed him 500 silver coins. The other man owed him 50 silver coins.

42 The men had no money, so they could not pay their debt. But the banker told the men that they did not have to pay him. Which one of those two men will love him more?”

43 Simon answered, “I think it would be the one who owed him the most money.” Jesus said to him, “You are right.”

44 Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? When I came into your house, you gave me no water for my feet. But she

washed my feet with her tears and dried my feet with her hair.

45 You did not greet me with a kiss, but she has been kissing my feet since I came in.

46 You did not honor me with oil for my head, but she rubbed my feet with her sweet-smelling oil.

47 I tell you that her many sins are forgiven. This is clear, because she showed great love. People who are forgiven only a little will love only a little.”

God loves the world, and those who love Him more will receive even more of His love! Who will love God more, love Him with all their might, and have a greater love for Him? Those who know that they have many sins!

When my thoughts contradict God's, I choose to believe that God's words are right. In times of adversity and defeat, I believe that God is truly good to me.

Learning to love others as God loves them seems like an impossible task, beyond reach. This is also a key reason for Jonah's strained relationship and inability to reconcile with God. Thank God for providing us a way out - [Luke 7:37-47](#) - knowing ourselves and knowing God!

Jonah: Clearly lacked reverence for God, wasn't in the best state, yet was self-righteous! No one knows if he truly repented in the end.

Job: Feared God, completely upright, stayed away from evil, highly regarded, yet in the ashes, he regretted and despised himself!

Reasons for Being Distant from God:

1. Thinking that God does things wrong.
2. Believing that God is unkind to me.
3. Not loving others.

Ways to Make Things Right with God:

1. Understand yourself.
2. Ask God for help.
3. Learn from God's ways.
4. Accept that what God thinks is right is indeed right.

Believe that what God sees as good is truly good.
Acknowledge: You are truly good to me.

🎵 **Responsive Hymn**
🎵 **Announcement**
🎵 **Offertory**
🎵 **Baptism**
🎵 **The Lord's Prayer**
🎵 **Doxology**
🎵 **Benediction**



Today, our worship service together is coming to an end. Emmanuel! May our good Lord bless you!