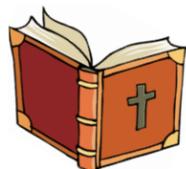
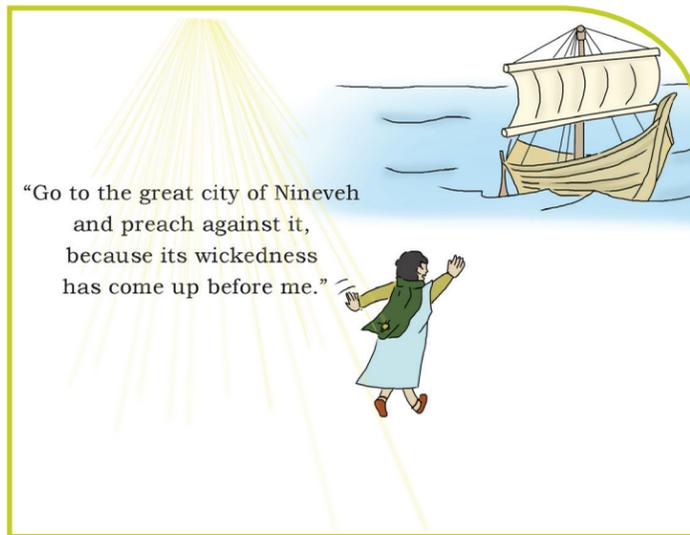
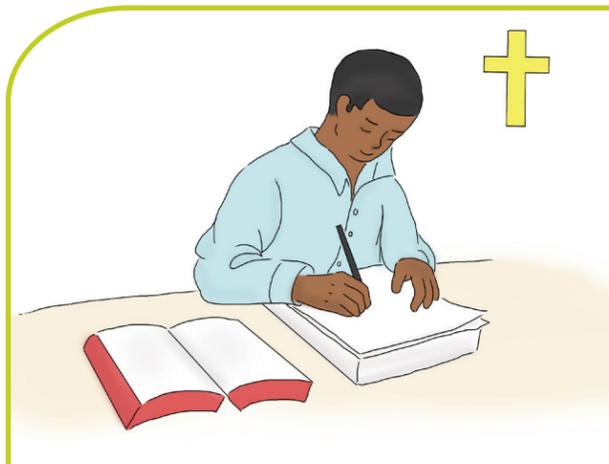


Just Like *Jonah,* But Different



Let's read the Bible

Joel 2:23-32
Amos 5:18-27
John 4:1-11

We consider together

Dear Lord, You are awesome
God and truly changes people's
heart and mind with Your Word.
Please change mine as well
accordingly.



Wycliffe Canada wants to see the revival of the Canadian Church through Bible engagement, not only by their reading but also praying and living it out in their life, while they bless those people groups who do not have the Bible by prayers and offerings, a cent per verse or 10 cents per chapter. Please contact us if you want to join.

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What story from the Bible can you best connect to? Lots of people who read the story of Jonah begin to deeply look within themselves. Jonah, who did not listen to God and ran away to Tarshish, is similar to us when we try to ignore God's Word, and do as we please.

Iso was someone who also thought that Jonah was just like himself. To his surprise, when a first rough draft of the Bible (it is later fixed again to make sure the meanings are clear) was being translated for his tribe in the Masan language, he was given the story of Jonah! Iso believed in Jesus since he was twenty-three years old, and he was a brilliant writer. He read the rough draft of the Bible translations, and knew right away that there were a lot of parts in the translations where the expressions were wrong, or where words were misused. After asking around, he found out about the Bible translation institution, and teaming up with their Masan language Bible translation team, he started to translate the book of Jonah.

Iso asked himself, "Why Jonah?" and the answer came right away. "Short book!" But while translating, he started to connect himself to Jonah. "Sometimes I think that I am like Jonah. In many ways, I want to run away from God when he speaks to me. I think of only myself and I never think of others... I still have dreams as a writer, but I believe that God trusts me to write for Him. There are more things to share in the Masan language, including the real thing, the Bible. I want to help reach and teach people who need education, and many others as well."

(<http://www.wycliffe.net/stories/tabid/67/Default.aspx?id=1923&pg=16&library=T>)

Not only local workers say this, but missionaries as well. Linda K. Thomas had no choice but to follow her husband to Africa when he wanted to work for Wycliffe Bible Translators. She thought that she had to leave too much behind in order to obey the Lord and His calling. But after she realized the truth, she was not like Jonah any longer. She saw the hearts of people open while talking about God in their own language, and she was very thankful that God stepped into her life so that she could live for the Bibleless tribes.

"... if people have the Scripture in their own heart language, Bishop Ndukuba says, "They will blow up! They will open up. They will cry, they will laugh, they will rejoice, they will sing! When they speak to God in their own language, this means that God is part of their tribe, is one of them." I was only a small part of Bible translation in Africa, but when I hear stories like this I am so happy, my heart feels like it's flying in the sky. God interrupted my life to invite me to His heavenly ministry, allowing me to serve God's people."
(<http://grandmaslettersfromafrica.blogspot.ca/2012/10/you-are-jonah-she-said-interruption-or.html>)

Like Jonah, instead of keeping God's blessings to ourselves, our family, our church, and our own people, won't you do what God wants, and go out into the world to share His blessings with other nations as well?