

WHEN GOD SENDS YOU

Jonah 1:1-10

- It is about divine assignment.
- Being in the will of God

1. Jonah was a servant of God. An instrument of the Lord. God's mouth piece.

- ✓ He knew the Lord (1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly,1 and he was angry. 2 And he prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. Jonah 4:1-2
- ✓ He had been sent by the Lord before

2. The word of the Lord came to him.

- ✓ It was a clear word from the Lord
- ✓ He knew who was speaking

+ Divine leading

- ✓ A burden, a communication of what must be done

+ God sends people in every season

- Nkoyoyo –
- Professionals and righteousness like Justice Catherine in law

3. He ran away from the presence of God and boarded a ship to a different destination.

- He rebelled – “not this time Lord”
- He chose his own way
- He disagreed with the Lord

He didn't want to do what god wanted him to do.

When your agenda collides with God's agenda

+ Our potentiality versus God's will

- ? Should I do a PHD in economics?
- ? Should I leave the church and run for elective politics?
- ? Should I stop supporting the ministry and invest in my business/strings of businesses?
- ? Should I quit focusing on raising godly family and pursue careers in international corporations?

Qn: How far will you go?

How fulfilling and purposeful will it all turn out to be?

"He is no fool who loses what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

4. God intercepted his trip/ plan

- The ship didn't have divine protection
- People lost property
- The man of God became a problem
- The Heathen and the prophet switched places
"What have done?"
"How could you do such a thing?" Vs 10

This calls for personal introspection:

- i. Am I in the will of God?
- ii. Am I heading in the direction of the divine mission?
- iii. Does the Lord have all of me for His grand purpose?
- iv. Might the trouble am going through be a sign that God is not with me?

God says my purpose will stand Isaiah 46:8-11

8 “Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, **9** remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, **10** declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,’ **11** calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it. Isaiah 46:8-11

Looking to Jesus as our model.

35 *On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.”*

36 *And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. 37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. 38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” 39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” 40 And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 41 He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” 41 And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”*

Mark 4:35-41

- Jesus partly encounters a storm but this storm has not been sent by God
- Like Jonah, Jesus is asleep
- When He is **awakened**
- He is not the cause of the problem but the problem solver
- His revealed identity is not of one running from God but one empowered by God, even over nature.

19 So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father⁵ does, that the Son does likewise.

20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. John 5:19-20

30 “I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me. John 5:30