



# Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery Rock Branch

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Today's Word: Jonah

September 3, 2006

## Lesson 33: "Sharing the Gospel with the World"

### Are You:

- Saying Your Prayers Morning and Night?
- Attending Church Meetings Regularly?
- Reading Scriptures Together as a Family Every Day?

### Today's Scriptures

Jonah 1-4

Micah 2, 4-7

### Lesson 34:

"I Will Betroth Thee  
Unto Me in  
Righteousness"

Hosea 1-3

Hosea 11, 13-14

### Questions to Ponder

- Why might Jonah have been reluctant to accept a mission call to Ninevah?
- What are some reasons why we choose not to share the gospel?

**Luke 11: 29-30:** "This is an evil generation; they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet. For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of Man be to this generation."

### Jonah

"The story of the people of the city of Ninevah and the prophet Jonah shows that the test of life is a multi-part exam and reminds us to be more long-suffering with those who slip and fall. . . .

"Throughout the story of Jonah we can see the very personal manner in which the Lord mercifully relates to His children. 'Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God' (D&C 18:10). His influence in our lives also testifies of that same mercy. We must not, however, mistake His mercy for a license to endlessly repeat our sins. President James E. Faust, Second Counselor in the First Presidency, has said: 'Many of us backslide, many stumble, and I believe firmly in the gospel of the second chance. But the gospel of the second chance means that having once been found weak . . . thereafter we become

### Micah

"Micah's inspired counsel and testimony helped many to recognize who they were and to understand why they were on the earth, and many of them learned to live life anew. They learned through his testimony that in an untrustworthy world, one could still trust the Lord.

'I will look unto the Lord,' Micah had said, 'I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.' ". . . Although his calling was lonely and unpleasant, Micah's ability to reconcile his will and the will of the Lord made him an effective servant of God, and a pillar of light to his fellowmen" (Keith Meservy, 'The Peaceful Life Through Reconciliation: Five Stories from the Old Testament,' *Ensign*, July 1986, 19).



"Jonah" sculpture by Phillip Ratner  
The Dennis & Phillip Ratner Museum  
Bethesda, Maryland

[http://www.ratnermuseum.com/heroes/\\_img0041.html](http://www.ratnermuseum.com/heroes/_img0041.html)

### Elder David B. Haight:

"In behalf of the Brethren, this is a call for retired couples to seriously consider serving a mission. We desperately need more couples to help meet our needs. . . . Less than 50 percent of the requests for couple missionaries from [our] mission presidents are being filled. . . .

"The Brethren hope that many, many more couples will make themselves available for full-time service to the Church. The need is great! Hundreds of thousands of new members join the Church each year, and they need to hear a friendly voice of support and comfort from experienced members.

"The refrain, 'I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord,' should be more than a hymn we sing on Sunday. It should be our own prayer of faith as we serve wherever the Lord has need of us" ("Couple Missionaries: A Wonderful Resource," *Ensign*, Feb. 1996, 7, 12)