

## Jonah 1:12-15 (NIV)

***"Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."***

***Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. Then they cried to the LORD, "O LORD, please do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, O LORD, have done as you pleased." Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm.***

We all know the story of Jonah and how God told him to do something and he ran from what God was telling him to do. With this running, Jonah ended up on a boat and God got everyone's attention by causing a storm in the sea, and the guys on the boat were terrified because they felt like they were going to die. So they drew lots (kind of like drawing straws) to determine why this was happening to them, and the lot (or short end of the straw) fell on Jonah. And today's devotional picks it up at that point.

‡ ***"Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."***

It sounds pretty simple to me. Just throw Jonah out of the boat and into the water and everything will be cool and calm. But did they listen to Jonah's instructions?

‡ ***Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before.***

Of course not, that would be too simple. But when they found out that their efforts didn't work, they finally called on the Lord.

‡ ***Then they cried to the LORD, "O LORD, please do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, O LORD, have done as you pleased."***

And after doing so, then they followed Jonah's instructions, which were really God's instructions that He spoke through His prophet Jonah.

‡ ***Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm.***

Now we can sit here and scoff at these guys for not doing what they were told to the first time around, but how many times do we do this very same thing?

God will tell us something and maybe it sounds to simple, or not the way that we would do things, so we try to do things our own way. ***Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before.*** And the end results are a disaster, then we finally do it God's way, and to our surprise ..... It works, duh!!!!

† **Titus 1:2a** *in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie*

God will not lie to you, nor tell you to do something wrong, what ever He tells you to do will be for His glory. So, do you want God to be glorified? Then listen to Him.

† **1 Peter 4:11** *If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*