

God Uses _____ Redemptively (2:7)

"God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks into our conscience, but shouts in our pain." C.S. Lewis

**God is _____ for Our Undivided _____
(2:8-10)**

- A. Are you ready to repent of _____? (v 8)

- B. Will a spirit of _____ fill your life? (v 9)

- C. Is _____ achieved? (v 10)
 - 1. Is my joy in His salvation?
 - 2. Is my greatest pain separation from God?

**Drowning
in God's
Powerful
Grace**



Face the Truth or Get a Belly Full

JONAH 2

(This is the 2nd in a series of messages on Jonah:
Drowning in God's Powerful Grace)

There's a story associated with one of the great financial institutions on Wall Street. One Friday evening in 2008, the story goes, letters arrived in the mailboxes of 12 members of the executive board of a large and prestigious investment bank. The letters were unsigned, and not on headed notepaper. They were very brief, each comprising just these four words: "They know everything: flee." By Monday morning ten of the 12 board members had left town, and that famous financial giant was looking for new leadership.

"They know everything: flee." Imagine if we really could see into the shadows of one another's hearts and read the whole truth that lies lurking there. What a terrifying prospect. We live our lives fuelling fantasies, nursing resentments, and protecting secrets. We're deeply lonely, because we never find anyone who truly understands us; but what keeps us lonely is our terror that somebody may one day stumble upon the truth of who we really are.

In all our anxiety and striving and denial, in all our desperation to hold it together and seem on top of things and hide our failures, we habitually forget one thing: **God already knows the truth of who we really are.** He

knows all about our sin and our pathetic attempts to hide that sin in self-righteousness. He sees through our claims that everybody does it, He wryly smiles when we say it's not so bad, He winces when we say no one will notice. God has a fundamental decision to make: is He going to let the sad reality of who we really are determine the way He relates to us – or is He going to see past who we *are* to who He *made* us to be?

Idea: Our God sees past who we are to who He made us to be. That is why He hears our cries and exercises His powerful grace despite the depths of our self-induced distress.

**God Will Not _____ a Sincere Cry for _____
(2:1-6)**

- A. Sometimes the most eloquent prayer we can pray is " _____!" (vv 1-2)
- B. Don't Forget - God _____ in _____ (vv 3-6)
 - 1. God will override what happens _____ us (vv 3, 5, 6)
 - 2. God will not overlook what happens _____ of us (v4)