

**Aveleigh's Year of The Bible Sunday, Aug. 5, 2017**  
**Sermon Series; LIVING THE LIFE**  
**Sermon Title: Jonah, DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE**  
**Texts: Proverbs 4:10-19 p. 683 & Jonah 2:8 p. 993**

Call to Worship

Leader: Come and worship! In wonder and awe let us seek the face of God.

People: God invites us to come just as we are.

Leader: We come longing to experience God's embrace.

People: God wraps us in the loving arms of our Creator.

Leader: We come hungry to encounter the Word.

People: God feeds us the Bread of Life.

Leader: We come parched for renewal and restoration.

People: God quenches our thirst with living water.

Leader: We come weary and worn.

People: God shoulders our burdens and grants us peace.

Leader: Come and worship! In wonder and awe, God reveals the divine self to us.

People: We come as we are and are changed by God's love and grace.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Forgive us, O God, if we have preferred the old to the new, half life to full life, and our own achievements to your gift of life. Forgive us if we have ignored Jesus' teachings, slighted his gracious love and tried to discover the meaning of our life apart from our Teacher. Forgive us if we have run away from the difficult decisions of life, evading the cross and missing the mark.

Forgive us if we have used the church to support and strengthen privilege and to safeguard a willful way of life, if we have lived on memory and nostalgia rather than on experience and hope.

Forgive us if we have failed to see the signs of your presence in our common life. Forgive us if we have refused to work in cooperation with your Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God, and enable us to lay hold of the life that is life indeed. Restore to us the joy of our salvation and uphold us with your gracious Spirit.

Accept us, O God, and deliver us from all our sin, through Jesus, our Christ. Amen.

Mitch's pastoral prayer; Holy God, you are deserving of the very best we have to offer -- the devotion of our hearts, the place of honor in our priorities and the first fruits of our labors. We enter this place and space of worship, asking you to be in our midst, to speak your message of love and mercy, conviction and challenge to us. We welcome your Spirit, knowing that in so doing, we abandon control and open ourselves in faith and trust to your purposes and plan, rather than our own. Come, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, we pray and may our worship be acceptable in your sight. Amen

**Aveleigh's Year of The Bible Sunday, Aug. 5, 2017**  
**Sermon Series; LIVING THE LIFE**  
**Sermon Title: Jonah, DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE**  
**Texts: Proverbs 4:10-19 p. 683 & Jonah 2:8 p. 993**

*INTRO: In order to see God's Plan for your life.....*

## **1.DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL REQUIRES A NEW WAY OF THINKING.**

*“. . . Let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God. . .” Romans 12:2 (GNB)*

*“Be made new in the attitude of your mind.” Ephesians 4:23 (NIV)*

FILL IN THE BLANK: Reading \_\_\_\_\_ is reading \_\_\_\_\_

## **2. GOD'S WILL IS REVEALED ONE STEP AT A TIME**

*“The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter until the full light of day.” Proverbs 4:18 (NIV)*

FILL IN 2 BLANKS: God's call is not necessarily to a \_\_\_\_\_

Rather, God's call is to a \_\_\_\_\_  
*“Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I WILL show you.” Genesis 12:1 (NIV)*

### **3.THE WAY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR DESTINATION**

*“In all your ways acknowledge him and he shall direct your paths.” Prov. 3:6 (NKJV)*

#### **FILL IN 2 BLANKS**

*“What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?” Mark 8:36 (NIV)*

Look for \_\_\_\_\_

Travel \_\_\_\_\_

*“Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs.” Jonah 2:8 (NIV)*

*“When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.” 1 Corinthians 13:11 (NIV)*

### **4.CHOOSE YOUR TRAVELING COMPANIONS CAREFULLY**

*“Let us spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” Hebrews 10:24*

*“Bad company corrupts good character.” 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)*

### **5.KEEP ASKING, SEEKING, & KNOCKING**

*“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” Matthew 7:7 (NIV)*

FILL IN 2 BLANKS, While you are waiting for God’s \_\_\_\_\_ instructions, be sure you are following God’s \_\_\_\_\_ instructions.

**PRAYER:** LIVING GOD, REVEAL YOUR WILL FOR OUR LIVES. AMEN.

- FOUR FOR THE ROAD:** 1: How have you thought about God’s Will for your life?  
2. Is God’s will for your life your journey or destination?  
3. How does traveling companions and old attituded influence your journey?  
4. What are the next steps you could make in discovering God’s will?