4. We also heard that, “Our moral compass seems no longer to have a ‘true north.’” How might living your life without clear, moral direction bring unintended consequences? To you? To those you care about?

5. When you had your heart-compass re-magnetized with Christ as your true north (i.e. salvation), what changed in you? What happened to your natural, sinful appetites (thoughts, habits, desires)? In which direction did the value of your life go—up or down?

Bringing it Home

1. Pastor Jeremiah also said we “need to demonstrate Christ to our world.” As you continue to follow Christ’s true north, how might you model Christ to those you know? How can you lovingly encourage, guide, and influence others?

2. What about times when you “fall or fail” in your faith? How can you proclaim Christ even when you make mistakes? In what ways can you model your brokenness to those around you and yet proclaim Christ and His love for you (and them)? What would this say about you? About Jesus? About those watching?

“The Age of Anything Goes: The Sign of Noah”
May 15, 2016
Romans 1:18-32

Sermon Notes

I. The Expression of Our Moral Decline - Matthew 24:36-37; Genesis 6:5; 2 Timothy 3:1-5

A. Depravity of the Mind

B. Depravity of Marriage - Mark 10:6-8

C. Depravity of the Military

D. Depravity of Medicine - 2 Timothy 4:3-4

II. The Explanation of Our Moral Decline

A. The Explanation from History

B. The Explanation from the Bible - Romans 1:18-20; Psalm 14:1; 19:1

1. We have rejected God through ingratitude. - Romans 1:21

2. We have rejected God through idolatry. - Romans 1:22-23; Colossians 3:5; Matthew 10:37-39

3. We have rejected God through immorality. - Romans 1:24-25

4. We have rejected God through iniquity. - Romans 1:26-29

III. The End of Our Moral Decline

A. Our nation needs Christians who live like Christians. 1 Peter 3:14-16; 2 Peter 3:6-14

B. Our nation needs Christians who love like Christians.
SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Getting Started
1. Describe a time when you were having a really good time - you were “on top of the world;” everything was going your way; it was as if nothing could stop you from succeeding. What were some of your thoughts and emotions during that time? Who was with you?

2. What do “good times” give us? What is it about the positive experiences in life that leave us wanting more? How do they add value to our lives?

3. What about a time when you “overdid” the good times? When has a good experience become something else? How did you know that the good part of your experience had gone in another (i.e. not good) direction?

Digging Deeper
1. Read Proverbs 14:12 & 16:25. Pastor Jeremiah said, “We’re living in a world where anything goes, but nothing satisfies.” How might someone have a good time – even a great time – and yet feel dissatisfied with the experience? When have you experienced this phenomenon?

2. Culturally, how do you see the philosophy of “anything goes” being promoted (e.g. television, internet, billboards, etc.)? In what ways are people adopting this attitude (e.g. family, school, work, hobbies, etc.)? When did you have an “anything goes” outlook?

3. Moral relativism is another term for living life as “anything goes.” The Bible calls this type of lifestyle sin. Read the following verses and discuss the ramifications of having been born with an attraction to sin (i.e. the human heart is sinful – that is evil - at birth).

   Psalm 14:1-3

   Ecclesiastes 8:11

   Ecclesiastes 9:3

   Jeremiah 17:9

   Matthew 23:25-26

   Mark 7:14-16, 20-23