



EMMANUEL

LifeGroup

LifeNotes

LifeGroups exist to follow Jesus together, build authentic community, and lead others to Him

Sermon: Jonah Week 3, A Serious Message

(Michael - October 11, 2026)

Primary Scriptures:

Jonah 3:1–4

Supporting Scriptures:

Matthew 11:20–24, Matthew 12:41, 2 Timothy 4:2–4, 1 John 4:8, Mark 1:15, John 5:22, Matthew 13:24–30, Matthew 25:31–46

Ice Breaker Question (15 min): *(Ice Breakers build deeper relationships!)*

What is the funniest or most memorable cooking disaster you have ever experienced?

Sermon Summary:

As we continue through Jonah, we see God graciously give Jonah another opportunity to obey what He had already told him to do. Jonah finally goes to Nineveh and delivers God's message, reminding us that we are not free to reshape God's Word around what is comfortable or easy to hear. Jonah's warning of coming judgment may sound harsh, but the warning itself was an act of mercy because God gave Nineveh an opportunity to respond before judgment came. We are reminded that God's love, holiness, justice, grace, and call to repentance are not competing parts of His character; they reveal who He truly is. At the cross, we see both the seriousness of our sin and the greatness of God's love as Jesus takes the judgment we deserve so that mercy and forgiveness can be offered to us. Ultimately, we must ask whether we are allowing Scripture to reveal God to us, or whether we are slowly creating a version of God who simply agrees with us and never makes us uncomfortable.

Group Discussion Questions (30 - 45 Minutes)

1. This week, we talked about the strong message God gave Jonah to deliver to Nineveh. What is one of the most convicting sermons or teachings you've ever heard, and how did it challenge or change you?
2. Jonah's disobedience made his life much harder than it needed to be, and after everything he went through, he ended up right back where he started. Can you think of a time when your own disobedience or resistance to God made life more difficult than it needed to be? What did you learn from that experience?
3. This week, we learned that Jonah's five-word sermon was a strong warning of coming judgment, but it was also an act of God's mercy. How do you personally wrestle with the idea of a loving God who also brings judgment? Do you accept that, or is it still difficult for you to understand? Share.

Prayer Time (15 min): *(Break into smaller groups, read the following instructions, and pray for one another.)*

Share one area where God's Word has recently encouraged, corrected, challenged, or made you uncomfortable. Pray that we would be a people who respond faithfully to what God is showing us rather than simply looking for what we would rather hear.