EMMANUEL LifeGroup LifeNotes

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

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Sermon: Jonah Week 5, When People Turn to God (Michael - October 25, 2026)

Primary Scriptures:

Jonah 3:5-10

Supporting Scriptures:

James 1:22; Matthew 3:8; Galatians 6:9

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

If someone described your personality using an animal, which animal would they choose, and why?

Sermon Summary:

This week, we saw God use an unlikely prophet to reach an unlikely people as the Ninevites believed His warning and turned from their wickedness. Their response reminds us that truly hearing God involves more than understanding His Word; it leads us to act. We also saw that genuine repentance goes beyond feeling sorry or going through religious motions and begins to change how we live. Through Jonah's simple message, we were reminded that changing hearts has always been God's work. We may see resistance, addiction, anger, or years of rejection, but we cannot see everything God may be doing in someone's heart. Our calling is to keep praying, keep loving, keep sharing, and keep obeying while trusting God with what only He can do.

Group Discussion Questions (30 - 45 Minutes)

1. Read Jonah 3:5–10. What stands out to you most in this passage, and why?
2. Jonah was a reluctant messenger, yet God used him. Where do you feel inadequate to be used by God, and how does that hold you back?
3. Who have you grown weary of praying for, and what has made it difficult to keep praying? Share only what is appropriate.
4. Read Galatians 6:9. What does it look like to keep doing good toward someone who continues to resist God? What specific good thing might God be calling you to do for someone who seems too far gone?

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

Name someone you are asking God to reach, using only a first name if appropriate. Pray for God to work in their heart, bring them to repentance and faith, and renew your love and hope for them.

Share one step of obedience you need to take this week, whether praying again, starting a conversation, sharing your faith, or turning from sin yourself. Pray for courage to respond, and ask God to bring genuine repentance and changed lives in our homes, at Emmanuel, and throughout Tucson.