

JONAH—1 Community Group Questions

Jonah 1

1—When have you seen the Lord work in your life? Can you share a God moment you’ve experienced this past week?

Jonah—Prophet for the Lord 1 of the 12 minor prophets.

(785 – 775BC). Northern kingdom, Southern kingdom—About 60 years before the Assyria conquered God’s people in the Northern kingdom.

You probably have heard of Jonah. Name means “DOVE”, Known as the “reluctant prophet.”

--This book is not about a big fish. --Not even about Jonah.

This is a book about the Lord’s MERCY and GRACE.

MERCY = Not receiving what you deserve

GRACE = Receiving what you don’t deserve

2—Read Jonah vv.1-3. Why do you think Jonah was disobedient? Can you think of a time the knew the Lord was instructing you to do something and you were reluctant?

3—What do you know about Ninevah during this time? What do you know about Tarshish? What are we learning about Jonah in these first three verses? What does Jonah’s story teach us about our own story?

4—Read vv.4-17. Why do you think Jonah laid down and went to sleep below deck? How do you think the sailors felt when they discovered Jonah had been disobedient to the Lord? Have you ever dealt with the consequences of another person’s disobedience?

5—The sailors are reluctant to throw Jonah overboard. What do you think was going through their minds after they threw him over and the sea grew calm?

6—“Sailing to Tarshish” can be described as running away from what the Lord is calling you to do. Most of us have a “Tarshish” they we tend to flee to when the Lord is calling us to something difficult. How do you fight the temptation to go to your “Tarshish” and stay obedient to the Lord?

7—Which of Sunday’s points best resonates with you?

- Your heart determines where you run.
- Fleeing from the Lord never gets you where you think you’re going.
- You can always find a ticket to Tarshish.
- Fleeing from the Lord costs you more than you can calculate.
- Fleeing from the Lord impacts far more people than you realize.
- Even when we flee from Him, the Lord is merciful and gracious.

8—What is the application of these verses in your life this week?