

JONAH

AND THE GREAT CITY

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

Jonah & The Great City - Part 1

INTRODUCTION

In the opening chapter of the book of Jonah, the prophet is presented with a dilemma: will he do what God wants him to do or what he wants to do? While Jonah's rebellion against God throws himself and others into a greater storm than he imagined possible, God continues to work. As we will see in our study of Jonah 1, God relentlessly pursues us and the world. Though we run away from Him, He continues to run to us.

Reflection

1. Was there anything in the sermon you found especially helpful?
2. What are some ways that you have experienced discipline in your life?

BIBLE STUDY

LEADER NOTES: *The following questions will help you work through the passage(s). Have someone read the passage(s) aloud, dividing among two or three people if needed. If there is a good, fruitful conversation going, you do not have to cut it off to get back to the questions.*

Read Jonah 1:1-3

3. Who was Jonah?
4. What was the city of Nineveh like?

5. How does God's desire to save Nineveh show us his love for us? The world?
6. Where did Jonah end up going? What was Jonah's sin?
7. What are some ways we fight and flee from God's call in our lives? What keeps us from following the Lord's will?

Read Jonah 1:4-6

8. Who sent the storm?
9. How is God's storm mercy to Jonah? How are storms in our own lives mercy to us?

Read Jonah 1:7-10

10. How does Jonah's rebellion against God affect others? How does our sin practically affect others?

Read Jonah 1:11-16

11. Despite Jonah's sin, how does God continue to work?
12. What does the redemption of the sailors show us about God?

Read Jonah 1:17

13. How does the story of Jonah point us to Jesus? How is Jesus the true and better Jonah?

14. How does the gospel transform the way you view storms in your own life?

PRAYER

Prayer is an essential component of your life as a follower of Christ, and an integral part of any healthy church body. Divide up into groups of 2-3 people (or, if you prefer, men and women) and use the following points to guide you through a time of prayer together.

1. Thank God for relentlessly pursuing and saving you.
2. Consider and confess ways you are running from God.
3. Ask God to use the storms in your life to bring you and others back to Himself.

