

Jonah

Jonah Flees From the Lord?

Lesson 1

Read Jonah 1:1-17

1. What do you suppose Jonah was thinking as he fled to Tarshish?
 - a. God can get another Prophet.
 - b. God will never find me.
 - c. "I hate Nineveh."
 - d. Other

2. Why did Jonah tell the sailors to throw him into the sea?
 - a. He felt guilty about causing the storm.
 - b. He regarded going to Nineveh as worse than death.
 - c. He knew that would make the storm stop.
 - d. Other.

3. What would you say is the message of the story?
 - a. You can run but you can't hide.
 - b. Disobedience to God will be exposed.
 - c. Do what God says.
 - d. Other

4. If God told you to go and preach judgment to a wicked city, what would you likely do?
 - a. Jump for joy.
 - b. Go in great fear.
 - c. Go in anger.
 - d. Head the other direction.
 - e. Stay put.
 - f. Other.

5. What is Nineveh in your life?
 - a. A difficult person.
 - b. An unfriendly place.
 - c. An unpleasant task.
 - d. An unresolved situation.
 - e. Other

6. What have you found most after keeps you from doing something you believe God wants you to do?
 - a. I'm comfortable where I am.
 - b. I don't want to make waves.
 - c. I'm not qualified.
 - d. I care too much about what others think.
 - e. I'm afraid I might not be hearing God correctly.
 - f. Other

7. In your spiritual life, which direction are you running?
 - a. Away from God.
 - b. With God.
 - c. Toward God.
 - d. Behind God
 - e. Other

8. What is something you think God may be asking you to do? What step can you take this week toward doing this?

9. How can this group support you in prayer now and in the coming week?

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

Lesson 2

Read: Jonah 2:2.1 to 3:10

When God told Jonah to preach to Nineveh, he fled on a ship. When a storm came up, Jonah told the sailors to throw him overboard. Then he was swallowed by a great fish.

1. What do you suppose Jonah did while he was in the fish?
 - a. Repeated
 - b. Wondered what was going to happen next.
 - c. Reflected on his life.
 - d. Other.
2. What would you call Jonah's prayer from inside the fish?
 - a. A cry for help.
 - b. A psalm of thanksgiving.
 - c. Spiritual recommitment
 - d. A confession of hope.
3. In what ways do you think this incident changed Jonah?
 - a. He is now willing to go to Nineveh.
 - b. He had turned back to God.
 - c. He had been reborn in a sense.
 - d. Other.
4. How would you describe Nineveh's reaction to Jonah's message?
 - a. Radical.
 - b. Sincere.
 - c. Just what God wanted.
 - d. Humble.
 - e. Appropriate.

5. How would Jonah and his message be received in your town?
 - a. With ticker-tape parade.
 - b. With faint applause.
 - c. With silence.
 - d. With loud boos.
 - e. With repentance

6. How does this story relate to your spiritual pilgrimage?
 - a. I've been in the pit. (2:6)
 - b. I'm in the pit.
 - c. I'm trying to fulfill a vow I made to the Lord. (2:9)
 - d. I've recently realized that salvation comes from God alone.
 - e. I've made a complete 180-degree turn.
 - f. I'm afraid if I don't return to God, I'm headed for disaster.
 - g. I need to get serious about my faith.

7. What have you found helpful in turning back to God?
 - a. Prayer.
 - b. Confession.
 - c. Bible study.
 - d. Church attendance
 - e. Obedience to God's word.
 - f. Other.

8. When have you felt like God had given you a second chance and by what means did he bring that about?

9. How can this group pray for you?

Jonah's Anger at God's Compassion

Lesson 3

Read Jonah 4:1 – 11

1. What was the main reason for Jonah's anger?
 - a. He was mad that God didn't do what he had said.
 - b. He was mad because God acted in a way different from what he wanted.
 - c. He was mad because he didn't think the Ninevites were worthy of God's mercy.
 - d. Other.
2. Why do you think Jonah asked the Lord to take his life?
 - a. He was just spouting off.
 - b. He was deeply depressed.
 - c. If the Ninevites were going to live; Jonah preferred to die.
3. What lesson did God teach Jonah through the vine?
 - a. That he had no right to be angry.
 - b. That it is God's right to decide who receives his mercy.
 - c. That God's provision shouldn't be taken for granted.
 - d. That Jonah should change his attitude about the Ninevites.
 - e. Other.
4. What do you see as Jonah's biggest problem?
 - a. Prejudice.
 - b. Burnout.
 - c. Pouting.
 - d. Jealousy
 - e. Pride.
 - f. Depression.
 - g. Selfishness
 - h. Other.

5. Which characteristic in the last question do you find yourself most vulnerable to?
6. What do you sometimes find yourself angry at God about?
 - a. The weather.
 - b. My finances
 - c. My calling.
 - d. My appearance.
 - e. Life in general.
 - f. Other.
7. Jonah didn't care for the people of Nineveh. Who do you struggle with being willing to reach out to?
 - a. People of a different religion.
 - b. People, that are of a different denomination.
 - c. People of another ethnic backgrounds.
 - d. People in a different social class.
 - e. Other.
8. Who do you see as the people God is calling you to reach?
 - a. My family.
 - b. My neighbors
 - c. My coworkers.
 - d. Other.
9. How can this group pray for you?