



The book of Jonah

Icebreaker: What is your idea of a cozy fall day?

Read Together: Matthew 12:40 (ESV)

Discuss:

- How do Jonah's life and experiences point toward Jesus?
- Jesus quoted Jonah. What do you know about Jonah's influence on Jesus' life?

Read Together: Jonah 1:1-5 (ESV), Jonah 1:9-10 (ESV), Jonah 1:11-12 (ESV), Jonah 1:15 (ESV),

Discuss:

- Where was Nineveh?
- Give an example of a time when you avoided something God asked you to do.
- Why did Jonah go in the opposite direction of Nineveh?
- Whom does Jonah say that he fears? Do his actions verify his statement? How do we do the same thing? (Saying one thing but doing something else).
- Why do you think the men agreed to do what Jonah told them to do? (1:15)

Read Together: Jonah 1:17 (ESV), Jonah 2:6-9 (ESV), Jonah 2:10 (ESV)

Discuss:

- Was it physically possible for a fish to swallow Jonah? How did the fish get that ability?
- Talk about Jonah's experience inside the fish and how he responded to God while there. Do you see parallels to your actions while experiencing a trial?
- How did the fish react to God's command? Did he argue as Jonah did? 😊

Read Together: Jonah 3:1-3 (ESV), Jonah 3:4 (ESV), Jonah 3:8 (ESV), Jonah 3:10 (ESV)

Discuss:

- How did Jonah respond to God's call this time?
- What was Jonah's message to Nineveh?
- How did the King of Nineveh respond?

Read Together: Jonah 3:10 (ESV), Acts 3:19-20 (ESV), 1 John 1:9 (NIV), Jonah 4:2-4 (ESV), Jonah 4:8 (ESV), Jonah 4:10 (NLT)

Discuss:

- What do we think will happen if we admit to wrongdoing?

- How does God respond when we repent?
- How did Jonah respond to God's grace toward Nineveh?
- How do you respond when God shows grace to your enemies?
- Why can't we love Jesus while openly and explicitly defying a command of scripture?

Prayer: God, you are gracious. You show mercy to those who do not deserve mercy. Help me to gain more of your heart so that I can show mercy to those that I don't believe deserve it! Show me the areas where I have been deceived and help me to follow you with more surrender and trust in your Goodness toward me.

Help me to extend Grace to my enemies just as you have extended Grace to me. In the name of Jesus, Amen.