



Small Group Discussion Guide

July 29, 2018

Sermon Title:

"Lessons from Jonah"

Sermon Text: Jonah 1:1-3

Scripture Reading: Psalm 69:13-18

Leader: *Please allow a moment for introductions/visiting. Have someone offer a brief prayer inviting God to speak and lead using the group's discussion.*

Getting Started: What interest do you have in going to new territory? Do you prefer a trip to a "regular" vacation spot, or had you rather see new places and experience a journey you've never taken?

Discussion:

1. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the name "Jonah"? Does it have to do with something that swims? ☺ There is much more to the story than that. (Notice it was not a whale! It was a "G_____ F_____." **(Reference: 1:17)**)
2. What time frame did Jonah live in and to whom did he minister? What was his nationality? How did Jonah feel about his nation?
3. What was the particular assignment God gave him? **(Reference: 1:2)** Who were these people? What future experiences would the nation of Israel have with them? (Reference sermon notes, or recall the event that happened in 722 B.C.)
4. The Pastor mentioned 4 lessons we might remember from Jonah's experience:
 - *Fleeing from the Lord never works out in our favor. **(Reference: 1:3)**
 - *Sometimes the Lord has to get our attention in unique ways. **(Reference: 2:1)**
 - *We serve a God of second chances. **(Reference: 3:1,2)**
 - *We should not frustrate the grace of God. **(Reference: 4:6-9)**
5. Want an easy way to remember the theme of the book of Jonah? It is comprised of 4 chapters, and each chapter has a theme easily associated with a word:
 - *CHAPTER 1.... Fleeing from the Lord... (Remember the word: "flee")
 - *CHAPTER 2.... Jonah prayed to God from inside the fish. (Remember: "inside")
 - *CHAPTER 3.... God gave Jonah a second chance to preach. (Remember: "second")
 - *CHAPTER 4.... Jonah's head got hot from the sun. He was angry. (Remember: "head")

Put the first letter of each word together and you get F- I-S-H. ☺

Closing: Close by sharing prayer requests. Pray for each another and for the needs that were shared. **Have a blessed week. GO SHARE JESUS!**