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Jonah Forsakes His Mission - Jonah 1:1-2:10

Topics: Awe, Creation, Danger, Disobedience, Escape, God, Help, Idolatry, Instructions, Peace, Prayer, Sacrifice, Salvation, Thankfulness

Open It

- 1. What is your idea of the perfect "get away from all your troubles" location?
- 2. What good or bad thoughts do you associate with fish?
- * 3. When have you been rescued from a difficult situation?

Explore It

- 4. What did God tell Jonah to do? (1:1-2)
- * 5. How did Jonah respond to God? (1:3)
 - 6. What happened at sea? (1:4-5)
 - 7. What was Jonah's condition as the storm raged? (1:5-6)
 - 8. What did the sailors do? (1:7)
 - 9. How did Jonah respond to the sailors' barrage of questions? (1:8-9)
 - 10. What made the men terrified? (1:10)
 - 11. How did the sailors appeal to Jonah? (1:11)
 - 12. Why did Jonah tell the sailors to throw him into the sea? (1:12)
 - 13. What happened following Jonah's penitent admission? (1:13-16)
 - 14. What miraculous provision did God make for Jonah? (1:17)
- * 15. Once inside the fish, how did Jonah respond to God's rescue? (2:1-9)
 - 16. What was Jonah's attitude toward God? (2:7-9)
- * 17. How did God finally deliver Jonah? (2:10)

Get It

- 18. When have you not wanted to obey God?
- 19. When has God called you to serve Him in ways that were unattractive or unpleasant to you?
- 20. What rebellious attitudes have you ever had toward the Lord?
- 21. What opportunities do you have to tell others about faith in Christ?
- 22. What are your feelings toward the unbelievers around you?
- * 23. How has God pursued you when you have tried to avoid Him?
- * 24. When have bad circumstances turned out for your good?
 - 25. How do you feel when you know that you are being obedient to the Lord's call?

Apply It

- 26. What can you do to respond with obedience to God the next time you must do something good but unpleasant?
- 27. How can you share the gospel with others at work? among your family? among your neighbors?
- * 28. How do you want to thank the Lord right now for all the remarkable ways He has delivered you?

Jonah Fulfills His Mission - Jonah 3:1-4:11

Topics: Anger, Attitude, Believe, Compassion, Consequences, Fasting, Forgiveness, God, Instructions, Judging Others, Love, Obedience, People, Prayer, Protection, Questions, Repentance, Resentment

Open It

- 1. If you were offered a trip to the city of your choice anywhere in the world, what city would you choose? Why?
- * 2. When things don't go your way, how do you tend to respond?
 - 3. What most easily moves you to compassion?

Explore It

- 4. What did God command Jonah to do? (3:1-2)
- 5. How did Jonah respond to God's instructions? (3:3)
- 6. What did Jonah tell the Ninevites? (3:4)
- 7. How did the people respond to Jonah's message? (3:5)
- 8. What did the king do? (3:6)
- 9. What did the king decree? (3:7-9)
- 10. What action did God take? (3:10)
- * 11. How did Jonah respond to God's goodness to the Ninevites? (4:1)
- * 12. What was the attitude of Jonah's prayer? (4:2-3)
 - 13. What did God say to Jonah? (4:4)
 - 14. What did the distraught prophet do? (4:5)
 - 15. How did God deal with Jonah? (4:6-11)
- * 16. What did God want Jonah to understand? (4:9-11)

Get It

- 17. When have you experienced a surprising, undeserved measure of God's mercy in your life?
- 18. Why do you think that fasting might be a useful part of repentance?
- 19. In your view, which culture, nation, or special interest group is undeserving of God's mercy?
- * 20. God was very gracious to Jonah, a pouting, reactive type. How does God deal with your prickly side?
 - 21. How does the story of Jonah affect your view of cross-cultural ministry?
- * 22. Jonah wanted Nineveh, Israel's enemy, destroyed. When have you wanted revenge rather than restoration in a relationship?
 - 23. What hard lesson have you had to learn from God?

Apply It

- * 24. What is one way you can extend God's love and mercy toward others, particularly those who don't deserve it?
 - 25. How can you express thanks to the Lord this week for all the love and mercy He has given to you and others?