

# JONAH

## Talk 1 – Jonah 1 – the problem with grace

### Small group questions

Leaders – if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer – please contact [revkev182@gmail.com](mailto:revkev182@gmail.com)

1. <b>Reflecting on the Introduction:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How does the reality of the vast majority of people around us not knowing Jesus impact your perspective on the importance of sharing the gospel?</li><li>• Share your thoughts on the diocesan catchphrase, "Sharing Jesus for Life." What resonates with you about this mission?</li></ul>
2. <b>Considering God's Concern:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the significance of God's concern for those who don't know Him, as mentioned in Jonah 4:11. How does this reflect God's character?</li><li>• In what ways can you relate to the metaphor of people living without Jesus being in the dark, clueless about life and its purpose?</li></ul>
3. <b>Exploring Jonah's Response:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jonah's initial response was a clear "No" to going to Nineveh. Have you ever felt reluctant or resistant to share the message of God's grace with certain people? Share your experiences.</li><li>• How do you personally respond when faced with the task of sharing the gospel with someone who seems undeserving or hostile?</li></ul>
4. <b>Examining the Heart of Sin:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the concept that sin is essentially saying "no" to God and going in the opposite direction of His will.</li><li>• How do you overcome the temptation to go your own way instead of aligning with God's plan for your life?</li></ul>
5. <b>Exploring God's Pursuit:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In what ways do you see God pursuing Jonah in the midst of his disobedience? How have you experienced God's pursuit in your own life?</li><li>• Share your thoughts on the storm and the sailors' reactions as manifestations of God's pursuit of Jonah. How might God be pursuing people today?</li></ul>
6. <b>Grasping the Concept of Grace:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reflect on the concept of grace being God's love for the undeserving. How does Jonah's story illustrate this aspect of God's character?</li><li>• Share a personal testimony of God's grace in your life. How has God rescued you from a situation that seemed hopeless?</li></ul>
7. <b>Application to Evangelism:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How can the story of Jonah inspire and challenge us in our evangelism efforts? Discuss practical ways we can share the message of Jesus with those who may seem undeserving or resistant.</li><li>• Reflect on the role of compassion in evangelism, considering God's concern for Nineveh and Jesus' compassion for the crowds. How can compassion drive us to share the gospel with others?</li></ul>
8. <b>Closing Reflection:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As a group, spend some time in prayer, asking God for the courage and compassion to share Jesus with those who need to hear about His grace.</li><li>• Consider specific people or groups in your community who may be in the metaphorical "darkness" and pray for opportunities to share the light of Christ with them.</li></ul>

**Prayer idea** – *We come before you with grateful hearts for the grace that pursues us, rescues us, and sustains us. Thank you for the powerful reminder from the story of Jonah that your love reaches even the most undeserving. Lord, ignite in us a passion for those who are still in the darkness, unaware of your love. Grant us the courage to share Jesus with others, just as you relentlessly pursued Jonah. May your compassion fill our hearts, driving us to*

*reach out to those who are like sheep without a shepherd. Equip us, Lord, to be bold messengers of your grace, and may our lives be a testimony to your transformative love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*