

Jonah: Week 2 Discussion Questions

1. As the narrative continues, we find Jonah literally and figurately going further and further downward. Specifically, he moves from disobedience to indifference. At first he actively flees God. Now, when God shows up in judgment, he takes a nap. It gets so bad that the pagan captain has to wake Jonah up to exhort him to pray.

- a. Can you relate? Have you ever gone from spiritual disobedience to indifference before the Lord?
- b. If so, what brought you out of that?
- c. Has God ever had to use unbelievers to bring you to your senses and remind you of what you should have already been doing as a Christian, and if so, what did it look like?

2. When Jonah is finally forced to explain who he is and what he has done, he says that he "fears the Lord."

- a. What does it mean to "fear the Lord?"
- b. Does that accurately describe Jonah at this time?
- c. Similar to above, have there been any times in your own life where the unbelievers around you have demonstrated more fear of the Lord that you were?

3. Contrast Jonah's behavior with the sailors in vv. 11-16. Do we see repentance in either? If so, which one and why?

- a. As far as Jonah, do we see more indifference or a genuine recognition of sin and turning from it?
- b. What is surprising about the sailors' behavior?

4. Repentance is one of those Christian ideas that we talk a lot about, but can be hard to clearly narrow down.

- a. What does true repentance look like, practically-speaking?
- b. Is it more of a process or a one-time event?
- c. How do you know if you have truly repented or not?

5. Pastor Mike suggested that the theme of God's sovereignty should lead us to be fear and freedom.

- a. What does healthy "fear of God" look like?
- b. Does God's sovereignty over everything stir that up in you? Why or why not?
- c. How does God's sovereignty also provide you with reassurance and freedom?
- d. What "new" area or season is God currently calling you into? How are you doing trusting that His sovereignty extends over even the new situation/challenge God is calling you into?