

Jonah: Week 2 Discussion Questions

1. What are some of the most unexpected places that God has met you in your life? What was going on when it happened?

2. In the "great fish," Jonah finds himself in a place where he is forced to confront his disobedience and the current state of his relationship with God. The ironic thing is that Jonah probably thought that by getting thrown off the boat he was getting away with not having to go to Nineveh and that he was just going to die. Instead, as we shall see, God will have his way. The Lord is going to save Jonah and the wayward prophet will go to Nineveh after all. Jonah experiences both the Lord's mercy and his correction at the same time.

- a. Can you relate to Jonah's situation? Have you ever tried to run from God, and just at the moment when you thought it was over and you got away with it, the Lord turns things around and forces you to confront what you are running from?
- b. If so, how did that situation end up turning out?
- c. What did you learn from it?

3. In his prayer, Jonah clearly feels separated from God and alone, yet he trusts that God hears him and that he will be restored.

- a. What biblical truths have helped you endure when you felt alone and distant from God? What belief or expectation in those situations gave you hope?

4. In v. 8 Jonah confesses that those who pursue idols forsake God's steadfast love, and affirms that he will worship the Lord and fulfill his vows.

- a. What is ironic about this statement coming from Jonah's mouth at this time?
- b. What can we learn from this?

5. Jonah ends with the statement "Salvation belongs to the Lord."

- a. In what ways do you find this truth comforting?
- b. In what ways do you find it challenging?