

## Jonah: Week 4 Discussion Questions

1. Having been both cast into the sea and delivered by God from death, Jonah now obeys God's command to go to Nineveh.

- a. Can you think of a time when you resisted, disregarded or even refused God's calling, but then the Lord kept pursuing you and eventually you obeyed? If so, what was the situation?
- b. What did it take for you to finally obey?
- c. What did you learn from that experience?
- d. What can we learn about how we should pursue and lead others from the way God deals with Jonah?

2. In v. 3 we find the phrase that Nineveh was a "great city", literally "a great city to God." Clearly, this doesn't mean that God regards it as a wonderful place, since he is threatening to judge it. Instead, this phrase seems to refer to the fact that the city both belongs to God and he values it.

- a. The same is true for whatever city we live in. How should God's approach to Nineveh shape the way that we, as Christians, approach the cities we live in? How do we live as a citizen of our region in a way that expresses the sovereignty of God, that our city ultimately belongs to God and is under his authority?
- b. In addition, how do we live out our citizenship in a way that expresses the reality that God cares about the city in which we live?

3. Despite the imperfection of Jonah's attitude and motives, and the incompleteness of the message he offers, God uses Jonah's obedience and leads the city to repentance.

- a. How have you seen God use your imperfect and incomplete obedience to produce fruit for His kingdom in the people around you?
- b. Are there any ways that you believe the Lord is currently calling you to be a more faithful witness to your community?

4. In Nineveh's repentance we find a shocking and unusual example of community-wide repentance from the top down.

- a. God has entrusted all of us with positions of leadership somewhere. What are the spheres of influence that God has entrusted you with?
- b. Is there any kind of sin that these spheres of influence that you lead need to repent of?
- c. If so, how can you use your influence to model and lead others toward repentance? What would that look like?