



Small Group Discussion Notes

Praise from the Belly of a Fish

Jonah 1:17, Jonah 2

The Book of Jonah · Week 3

May 5th, 2024

Warm Up

Share about a time when you experienced an unexpected blessing from the Lord.

Digging Deeper

Read Jonah 1:17

What stands out to you in this verse?

If you were in Jonah's shoes, do you think you would have viewed being swallowed by a fish to be a blessing?

Do you see any foreshadowing (allusions of something to come) of events in the New Testament, in Jonah's time in the fish?

Read Jonah 2

How does this passage sit with you in light of Jonah's sinful disobedience in chapter 1?

What overall reflections do you have on Jonah's words, mindset, etc. in chapter 2?

Where else in scripture do you see examples of people in distress expressing praise to God for hearing their cries for help?

On a couple of occasions Jonah references God's "holy temple," what do you think the significance of this is?

In "cling[ing] to worthless idols" (v. 8) how are we turn[ing] away from God's love?"

Next Steps

Share about a time when you felt the "currents swirl around [you]," as Jonah says in verse three. How did you feel in the midst of that circumstance? Did you look toward God as Jonah did? Why or why not?

What can we do to remember and turn back to God when our life is "ebbing away" (v. 7). Or to put in another way, what can we do refocus on God when our life seems to be out of control?

Although an unexpected provision, Jonah has eyes to see God's faithfulness in the "huge fish" and offers praise to God for this blessing. Are there any blessings in your life that might be unexpected that you should take time to thank God for?

Final Thoughts

As a group take time to pray for circumstances where you desire God's provision (perhaps in an unexpected way).