

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

WEEK OF OCTOBER 2, 2016

CURRENT SERIES: JONAH RUNNING FROM GOD
JONAH 1:1-3

Ice Breaker:

Pastor Ryan opened this week talking about the things that capture our attention in a great fairy tale. What are some things in your past (i.e. difficulties, obstacles, fears) that have defined your story?

1. God speaks clearly to His people. (v1)

God used prophets like Jonah as His mouthpiece in Old Testament times to speak to His people but today God speaks to His people through His word. Do you view God's word as being authoritative and without error? Why? Can you list some things that are very clear to you from God's word? How are you working to grow in your understanding God's word?

2. God makes difficult demands of His people. (v2)

In verse 2, Jonah was given a very difficult demand from the Lord. What did the Lord tell Jonah to do? God's word is filled with difficult demands for His people (love your enemies, humble yourself, pray for those who persecute you, love your wife the way Christ loved the church, submit to your husband, obey your parents, forgive those who sin against you etc.) Are you struggling with one of the demands that God placed in front of you? How will you respond to this demand? Why would God place difficult demands before His people? What would be the result in our life if He did not? Can you list some of the blessings that come from your obedience to God's word?

3. God's people run from His purpose and Presence. (v3)

How did Jonah run from God's purpose and presence? Why would Jonah do this? What are some reasons why God's people today do the same thing?

BIG IDEA: When we refuse God's reign in our lives we reject relationship with Him.

Rebelling against God causes a breach in your relationship with Him. What area of your life are you running from obedience to God? Maybe you are doing something God has clearly said not to do or you are not doing something God has clearly said to do. Where has God spoken and you have clearly done the opposite of what He has spoken?

Mutual Ministry:

The difficulty of God's demand does not justify our disobedience. Confess to one another where you are running from the Lord's purpose and presence. Seek forgiveness from the Lord and counsel from His word and people to overcome this. Encourage one another in prayer and accountability this week.