

JONAH: A Prayer from the Belly of a Fish
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Small group and personal discussion questions.

1. Last week you shared and heard some stories of being in a personal storm. Did any of the stories surprise you because “you never knew someone in your group had that as part of their history?” What was your takeaway?
2. Pastor Joel mentioned that our understanding of prayer sometimes leads to a spirit of criticism towards others and their prayer response to circumstances. What are some situations where it is hard for you to take another person’s prayers for help and deliverance seriously? Have there been times in your life where others could have felt that way about you? Share to the degree you feel safe and comfortable with your small group.
3. No one likes to talk about death let alone think out loud about their eventual death with other people. Do you think your church has addressed it enough to help you see death in the light of Christ’s resurrection victory? Talk about that as a group.
4. The Jonah story this week has an exciting ending as Jonah survives and find himself prepared to obey God’s directions. You and I both know that oftentimes God doesn’t answer the prayer for deliverance. Believers all over the world are not rescued from horrendous circumstances that may or may not have been because of their response to God. How do you counsel those folks, again, in the light of the resurrection and God’s promises?
5. Close with a very brief sharing of what is most appealing to you about knowing you will spend eternity in God’s presence?