

GATHERING INSIGHTS

SERIES: **The Book of Jonah**

TITLE: **Asleep at the Wheel**

BIG IDEA: Too many Christians are asleep at the wheel instead of living an awakened life for Jesus.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Read Jonah 1:4-6

Why do you think God chose to “Hurl a great wind” on the ship to awaken Jonah, while risking the lives of the sailors? What does this reveal our personal sins and how it impacts others?

How do the sailors show they are fully awake to the moment? Why do you think Jonah was sleeping through this storm and what would have been your response if you were a sailor?

Read Jonah 1:7-10

What do you learn about Jonah in his confession that he fears the LORD? Why do you think the sailors were greatly afraid

Read Jonah 1:11-13

Why do you think the sailors didn’t listen to Jonah the first time when he told them to throw him overboard to stop the storm? Who stands out as caring more of the other the prophet for the pagans or the pagans for the prophet?

Read Jonah 1:14-16

Why do you believe the sailors offered a sacrifice to the Lord of Israel and make vows to him?

Read Jonah 1:17

Do you the think Jonah lived in the belly of a great fish for three days? Or do you believe he died and the Lord brought him back to life after three days?

GROWING IN CHRIST

Where might you be “asleep at the wheel” spiritually — knowing what God has called you to do, but delaying, resisting, or going through the motions instead of obeying Him?

How is God using current “storms,” disruptions, or conviction in your life to wake you up, draw you closer to Christ, and make you more responsive to His mission and mercy toward others?

How does Jonah’s sin affecting the sailors challenge us to see that our obedience or disobedience impacts the whole church family, not just ourselves?

Where might we as a church be “asleep at the wheel” — especially toward people God is pursuing — and how can we help one another wake up to obedience, compassion, and mission?

Who are the “sailors” around us — people searching, afraid, or calling out for help — while we may be spiritually asleep or silent instead of pointing them to Jesus?

How does Jonah’s reluctance to bring God’s mercy to Nineveh expose our own reluctance to share the Good news of Jesus to those who we may not think deserve?

LIVING AS A FAMILY

SHARING THE GOSPEL