

GATHERING INSIGHTS

SERIES: **The Book of Jonah**

TITLE: **What is the Good Life?**

BIG IDEA: The book of Jonah isn't just about a boat and a fish, but a gracious God who has a plan to rescue and redeem all to desire to worship him.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Read **2 Kings 14:23-25/**
Matthew 12:40-41

How does knowing that Jonah is mentioned outside of the book of Jonah help understand that he was a real person? How does that impact your view on the book of Jonah?

How do these references inform us of the importance of the person of Jonah and the book of Jonah in the Old Testament?

Read **Jonah 1:1-3**

Do you think there was confusion or clarity in what God was asking Jonah to do? What is Jonah's response to these instruction?

Why do you think Jonah chose to run, instead of trying to convince God this isn't fair or just? Have you ever chose to run from God's instructions rather debating with God?

Read **Nahum 3:1-3**

From this description do you think Nineveh is a place that fears God or a place that is full of evil? Why do you think God would send Jonah to a place like this?

Read **Jonah 4:2**

Do you agree with the statement from the sermon that Jonah wasn't afraid of the place but the grace God would show? Do you believe there is anyone or group who is beyond the grace of God? Why or Why Not?

How is Jesus a greater Jonah? What do we learn about Christ in the story of Jonah and the grace that Jesus brings to us through the cross?

How does knowing that Jonah's story was always meant to point to Jesus change the way you read and apply the Old Testament?

How are churches to respond when they find themselves in cities like Nineveh? What is the power of living as a family when surrounded by brokenness?

Where might God be calling us as a church to obey Him, even when it feels uncomfortable, unfair, or costly—and what would it look like for us to encourage one another to say "yes" instead of fleeing to our own "Tarshish"?

God calls the person of Jonah to the place of Nineveh that is filled with darkness and evil. What does this reveal about the heart of God and his desire to reach all of humanity?

How does the beginning of Jonah start to challenge you in the relationships you have and willingness to share the Gospel with whoever God calls you to?

GROWING IN CHRIST

LIVING AS A FAMILY

SHARING THE GOSPEL