



## Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: My Way: Week 8 (April 14, 2024)

*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). Step 1: GATHER with your family or group. Step 2: REVIEW and DISCUSS the key points and scriptures from the sermon. Step 3: PRAY for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

### DISCUSSION STARTER

Is there anything God could ask you to do, today, that you would say "no" to? If so, what is it and why would you say no?

### DIGGING DEEPER 1

**Read Jonah 1:1-3.** Using a good Bible Study tools like [Bible Hub \(biblehub.com\)](http://Bible Hub (biblehub.com)), [Blue Letter Bible \(blueletterbible.org\)](http://Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)), [Got Questions \(gotquestions.org\)](http://Got Questions (gotquestions.org)), and [Enduring Word \(enduringword.com\)](http://Enduring Word (enduringword.com)) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: What do we know about Jonah from verse 1? What else do we know about Jonah from 2 Kings 14:25? What did the Word of the Lord do in Jonah 1:1? What might that mean? What was the message that Jonah heard (1:2)? What do you know of Nineveh? (If possible, learn a few more things about Nineveh.) From verse 2, how did God describe Nineveh? Have you ever tried to run from God's will for your life? Would anyone like to share about a season when you ran from God? What are some of the ways God pursues Jonah in this passage? What are some of the ways God pursues us when we run from Him? Jonah tried to get away from God's presence (verse 3). Is this possible (Genesis 4:16, Job 1:12, Psalm 139:7-12)? How can we as Christians keep away from God's presence (Psalm 51:11)? Jonah chooses to go in the opposite direction that God called him to go. Read Acts 9:1-19. Compare Jonah running from God to Ananias obeying God. What history of God's goodness do you have to move forward and trust Him? Have you ever run away from God to avoid what He wanted? Was it because you were: distracted, too busy, felt like you couldn't or didn't want to give up what you were doing, etc.? Why? Explain.

### DIGGING DEEPER 2

**Read Jonah 1:4-6.** Using a good Bible Study tools like [Bible Hub \(biblehub.com\)](http://Bible Hub (biblehub.com)), [Blue Letter Bible \(blueletterbible.org\)](http://Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)), [Got Questions \(gotquestions.org\)](http://Got Questions (gotquestions.org)), and [Enduring Word \(enduringword.com\)](http://Enduring Word (enduringword.com)) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: What was the result of Jonah's disobedience? Why do you think Jonah was able to sleep through the storm? How can we as Christians "sleep spiritually" (Romans 13: 11-14)? What happened to Jonah's plans (vs. 4)? How did the sailors respond (vs. 5)? Why is it that many people view difficulties in their lives as a way of God paying them back? How might those hardships be a way of God not paying them back... but bringing them back to Him and His way?

### DIGGING DEEPER 3

**Read Jonah 1:7-12.** Using a good Bible Study tools like [Bible Hub \(biblehub.com\)](http://Bible Hub (biblehub.com)), [Blue Letter Bible \(blueletterbible.org\)](http://Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)), [Got Questions \(gotquestions.org\)](http://Got Questions (gotquestions.org)), and [Enduring Word \(enduringword.com\)](http://Enduring Word (enduringword.com)) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: How does Jonah disobey God and who/what objects are obedient to God in this passage? What point is that trying to teach us? What is the difference between punishment and discipline? How does God discipline Jonah and why is this a good thing? Why do you think someone would rather try to flee from God's presence than be right in the center of where he was working? The Ninevites were a really wicked and unjust nation. There were many things that people like Jonah could point to as reasons why they were bad and unworthy. Are there people in your life that you have a hard time imagining sharing the gospel with or seeing them receive God's grace and forgiveness? Why? Not every storm is caused by sin. How does your faith help you weather the storms that come your way simply because we live in a fallen world? When the sailors ask Jonah what they must do to make the sea calm, Jonah gives them a very clear answer. However, in vain, the sailors attempt to solve their problem by some other means (their way). What are some helpful ways for us to wisely discern God's will for overcoming problems in our lives?

### DOING THE WORD

Jonah needed to learn this lesson. He needed to learn that God has "no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live" (Ezekiel 33:11). The same mercy God extended to Jonah was also extended to Nineveh—and will be extended to all people, even people we may not like. The more we learn about this plan, the more we learn about the ultimate lesson of the book of Jonah—to reject our own ways of thinking and instead think like God. We are called to be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth through making disciples and we are only going to begin to do that when each of us takes the personal responsibility God has given us and start doing it His way. Close this study by sacrificing your way on the cross once and for all. Commit to do everything God's way from this day forward. Spend your remaining time in prayer.

APRIL/MAY 2024

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## CF Seniors

Next Senior Event on May 17th//

**Save the date!!!**  
**Love Crossville Serve Sunday**  
**is coming up 5/19/24**  
**More info to come**



**Romania Shoe Drive**

April 28th - May 26th  
Toddler to Adult Size 10  
Boys and Girls Shoes Needed

Cash donations are acceptable



Logos for Another Child Foundation and ATTIC Mission Trip are visible in the top right corner of the image.

<https://anotherchildfoundation.org/shoes/>

### coming up:

New Small Group Leader Training &  
My Story Training

APRIL 15 // 6PM  
GROW CENTER

Romania Mission Trip  
Informational Meeting

APRIL 22 // 4PM  
GROW CENTER

SENIOR EVENT 5/17-  
SEE CF LIFE APP FOR  
MORE INFO

Romania Shoe Drive  
YOU CAN PURCHASE A  
HIGH QUALITY PAIR OF  
SHOE FOR \$15- FOLLOW  
QR CODE OR LINK

Serve Sunday  
MAY 19 // 9AM  
MEET AT CF!

ATTIC MISSION TRIP  
6/9- 6/14// SIGN UPS  
WILL OPEN ON MAY 5TH

LOVE GROW GO