

PRAYERS FOR THE AGES

CATEGORIES OF BIBLICAL PRAYER

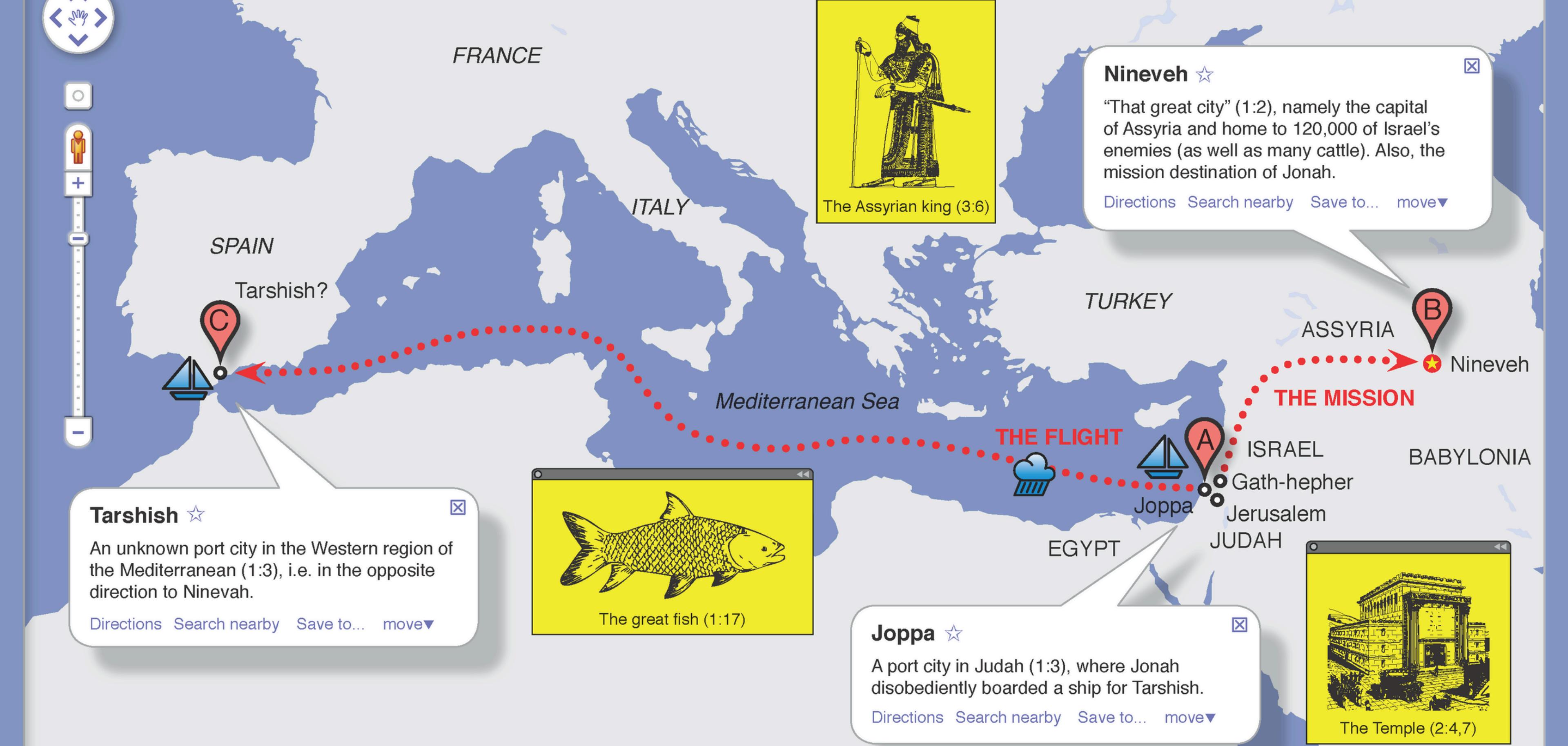
- **Adoration**: Praising God for his character, attributes, and mighty works.
- **Confession**: Acknowledging and repenting of sin openly before God.
- **Thanksgiving**: Expressing gratitude for grace, provision, and faithfulness.
- **Supplication & Petition**: Requesting God's help for personal needs.
- **Intercession**: Praying on behalf of others.
- **Lament**: Revealing sorrow, grief, or confusion, while still trusting God.
- **Imprecatory**: Calling on God's justice against evil.

JONAH
RUNS FROM
THE LORD

“Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amitai, saying, ²“**Arise, go to Nineveh**, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.”

³ But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, **away from the presence of the Lord.**”

JONAH 1:1-3



Tarshish

An unknown port city in the Western region of the Mediterranean (1:3), i.e. in the opposite direction to Nineveh.

[Directions](#) [Search nearby](#) [Save to...](#) [move▼](#)



Joppa

A port city in Judah (1:3), where Jonah disobediently boarded a ship for Tarshish.

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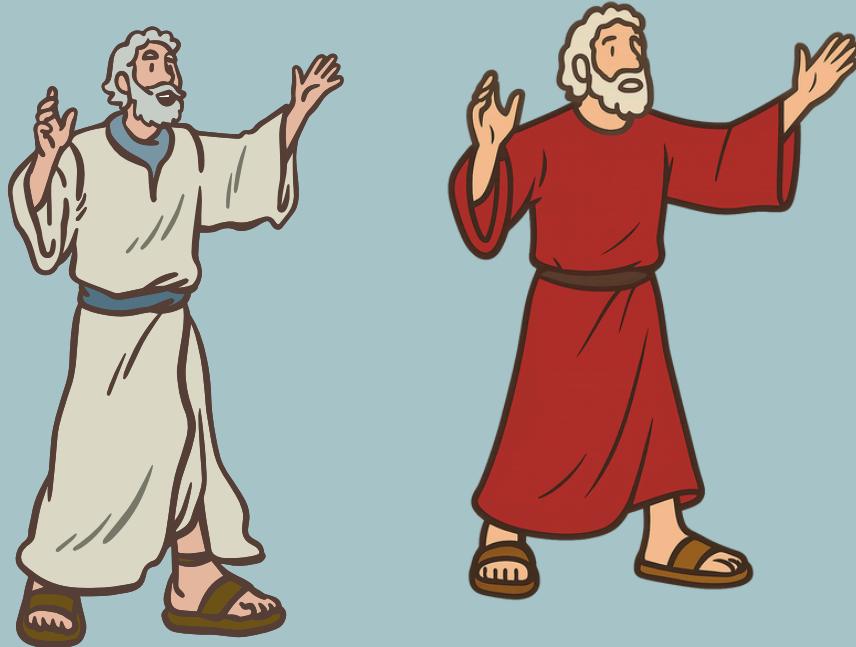
Nineveh

"That great city" (1:2), namely the capital of Assyria and home to 120,000 of Israel's enemies (as well as many cattle). Also, the mission destination of Jonah.

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Prophets Amos and Hosea
criticize King Jeroboam II for his
injustice and unfaithfulness in
search of power.



2 Kings 14:25

Prophet Jonah is the military
advisor who enacts the policy to
restore Israel's borders against
Assyria.



“

The original readers of the book of Jonah would have remembered him as intensely patriotic, a highly partisan nationalist. And they would have been amazed that God would send a man like that to preach to the very people he most feared and hated.

PASTOR TIM KELLER



⁴ But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵ Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. **But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep.** ⁶ So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.”

JONAH 1:4-6

7 And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account **this evil has come upon us.**” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. 8 Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” 9 And he said to them, **“I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.”** 10 Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

JONAH 1:7-10

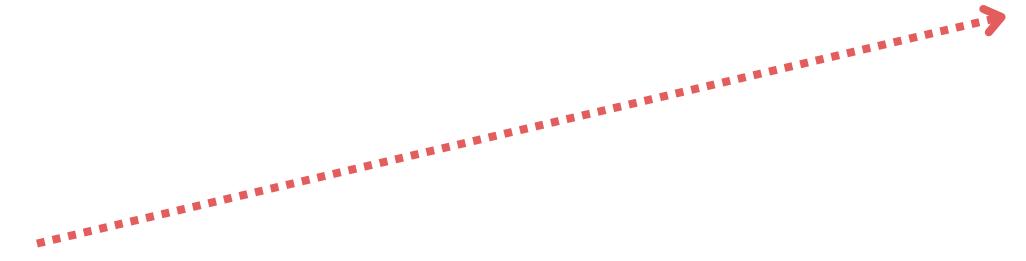
¹¹Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. ¹²He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” ¹³**Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them.** ¹⁴Therefore they called out to the Lord, “O Lord, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you.” ¹⁵So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶**Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.**

JONAH 1:11-16

JONAH THANKS
THE LORD

17 And **the Lord appointed a great fish** to swallow up Jonah.

And Jonah was in the belly of the fish **three days and three nights**.



“For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

(Matthew 12:40)

“For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation.”

(Luke 11:30)

JONAH 1:17

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, ² saying,

“I called out to the Lord, **out of my distress,**

and he answered me;

out of the belly of Sheol I cried,

and you heard my voice.

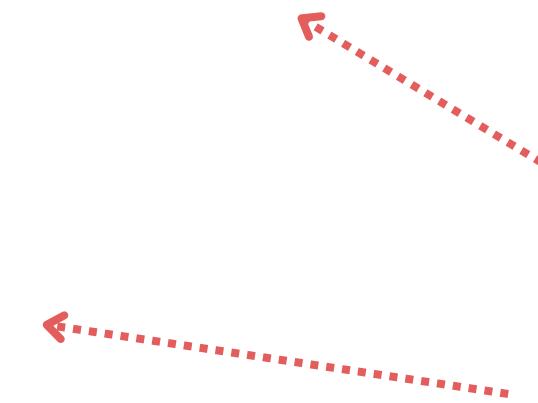
³ **For you cast me into the deep,**

into the heart of the seas,

and the flood surrounded me;

all your breakers and your waves

passed over me.



Jonah gives thanks during distress and knowing it is God who placed him there.

JONAH 2:1-3

Then I said, '**I am driven away
from your sight;**

yet I shall again look
upon your holy temple.'

⁵ The **waters closed in over me to take my life;**

the deep surrounded me;
weeds were wrapped about my head.

⁶ To the roots of the mountains I went down,

to the land whose bars closed upon me forever.

Jonah recognizes his just
punishments. He accepts
his separation from God.

JONAH 2:4-6A

Yet you brought up my life from the pit,

O Lord my God.

7 When my life was fainting away,

I remembered the Lord,

and **my prayer came to you,**

into your holy temple.

Jonah is **NOT** saved from the belly situation. Instead, he recognizes **renewed communion** with the Lord.

JONAH 2:6B-7

**Those who pay regard to vain idols
forsake their hope of steadfast love.**

⁹ But I with the voice of **thanksgiving**
will sacrifice to you;
what I have vowed I will pay.

Salvation belongs to the Lord!"

¹⁰ And the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

Jonah realizes the need for the
pagan Nineties to have "hope in
steadfast love."

***God didn't save Jonah from the fish
belly. God PLACED HIM THERE!

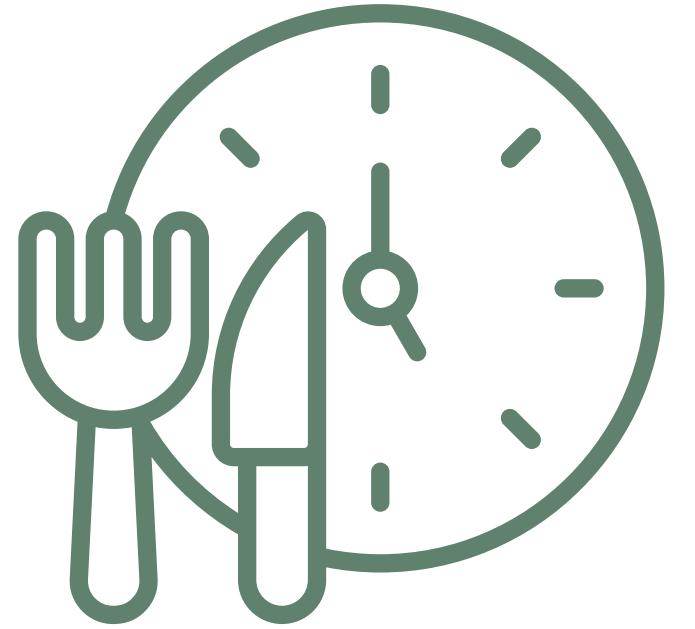
JONAH 2:8-10



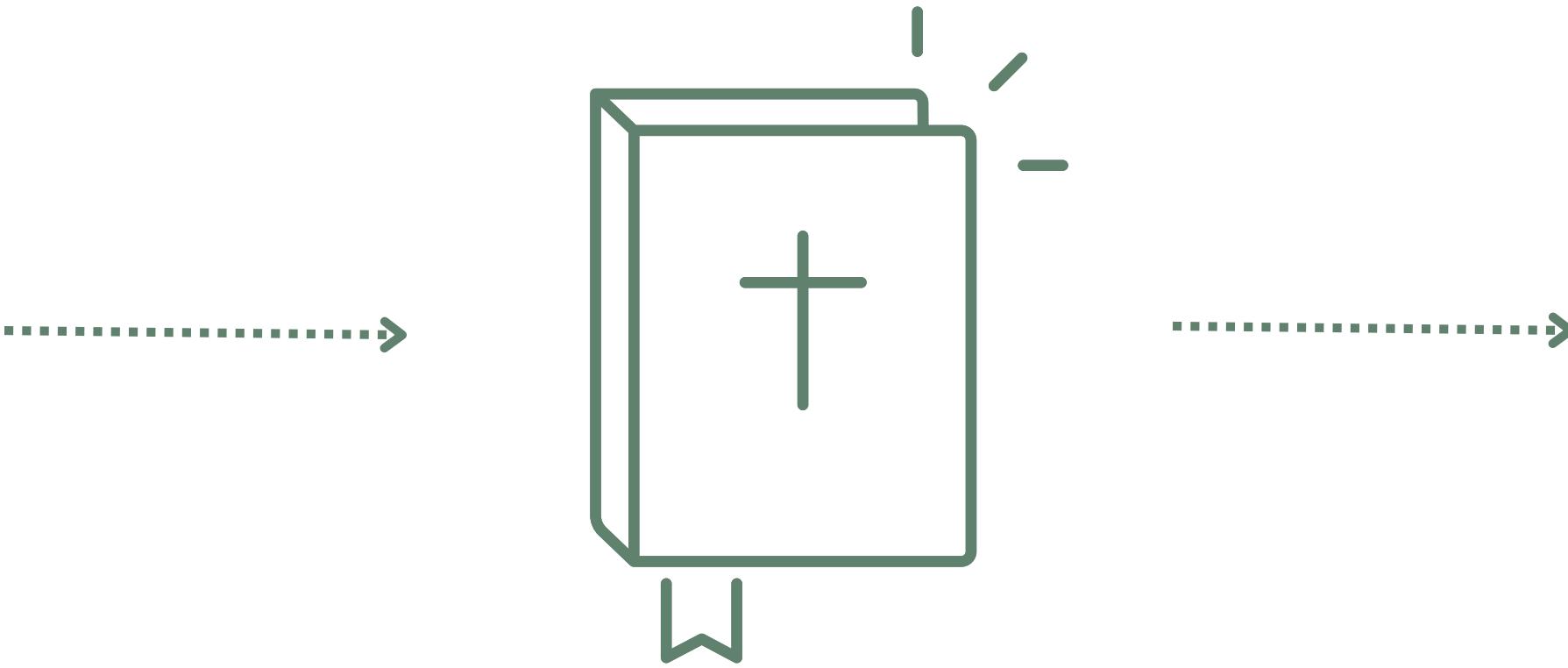
LIVE THE TEXT

- **Reflect** on the most difficult situations in your life, past and present. (**“Why God?!”**)
- **Discern** what God desires to teach you and how he wants to **shape you** through these situations, *****with the help of the Spirit.** (John 14:16-17; Luke 11:13; Romans 8:26-27)
- **Pray** by thanking God for who he is and what he has done in your life. **Establish communion with God** no matter your circumstances. **Find rest** in God.
- **Fast** with your brothers and sister during the **Friday Fasts** in January.

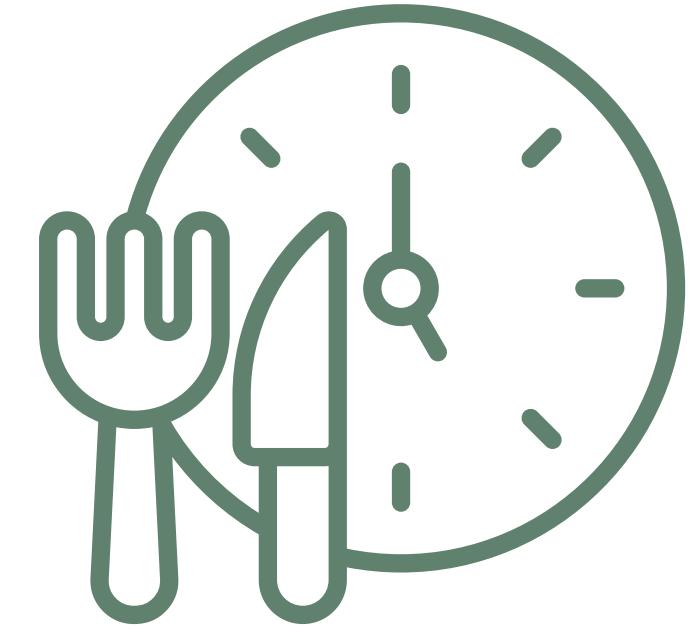
LIVE THE TEXT



THURSDAY
DINNER



FRIDAY
FAST



FRIDAY
DINNER