

# Sermon Discussion Questions

Jonah: The Mirror (Week 1) – Matt Slocum  
6 August 2023  
Sermon Text: Jonah 1:1-16

## AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

## PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

## MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

This week Pastor Matt started a new series called, “**Jonah – The Wrong Way**”. When Jonah refused to do what God asked of him, we learn that Jonah’s disobedience didn’t affect just him but everyone around him. This week we will be discussing what “*Jonah*” has been allowed on our boat and how it is affecting our relationship with God and our complete surrender to what He is asking us to do.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. What is one thing that really stood out to you from the message this week?
2. Are there any where you reacted like Jonah and ran the other way from where God was asking you to go? From what He was asking you to do?
3. What would happen if we took all the effort expended in covering up our sin and just did what He asked us to do? How far along in our walk with God would we be?
4. Are there times when we proclaim to “fear” or follow God but our actions don’t bear it out? (We are found sleeping like Jonah). What should be our reaction when the mirror comes up and we become aware of that?
5. What does it mean to “play church”? Be honest with yourself. What do you see when you look in the mirror?

## Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. As a kid, what is one thing you always wanted as part of your back-to-school collection? (clothes, special notebook, ...)
2. Did you normally eat school lunch or bring a lunch box? What about your kids?
3. Did you have a favorite year (grade), class, or teacher in school? What or who was it?

## **APPLICATION**

Is there a “Jonah” in your boat causing the storms all around you? What about in your phone? In the story of Jonah, who is suffering because of his decisions? Are there people around us suffering because of our decisions? What should we do when faced with this reality? Reflect on the message this week. Pray about what word God is speaking to you. Instead of running, surrender yourself totally to God. Have you been “playing church”? Now is the time the Lord wants you to wake up!

## **COMING UP**

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on at NWC, go to <https://nwckc.com> or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Study materials are also available on the website or Facebook page.

## **FINAL THOUGHT**

**Our decisions have a tremendous impact on those around us.**