

Sermon Discussion Questions

Jonah: The Lesson (Week 3) – Matt Slocum
20 August 2023
Sermon Text: Jonah 3:1-10

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

When we keep an open and humble heart, we allow God to move and change us. In week three of our sermon series, we see Jonah proclaim five words that bring an entire nation to repentance. The people of Ninevah were open to hearing and receiving the warning Jonah brought. Yet, the messenger's heart was hardened and not in a place to learn its lesson. This week we will explore what it means to be doing the work of God and yet remain unchanged by the power of God in Matt's message, **Jonah – The Lesson**.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. What is one thing you took away from the message this week?
2. Matt gave us a few points in his message this week. The first is: **People are very important to God**. How do we often see people? How does God see them?
3. Matt's second point was: **You don't need to promote or prove yourself to anyone but God**. This statement seems to contradict what we are taught from a very young age. We are taught that we should want people to value us. How does this differ from God's thinking? What happens when our value is tied to what someone else thinks of us? What happens to our value when it is tied to what God thinks of us?
4. Jonah delivered a five-word sermon. (Not much of a sermon). What do you think of Jonah's message? Did Jonah really convey the word he was given by God? Or, did Jonah just do the minimum possible? Do you think Jonah learned his lesson?
5. **"If it's not different, it's not Kingdom"** is a phrase you will hear repeated around New Wine Church quite often. Matt said it's really a way of saying that we are usually wrong. God looks at things differently than we

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. What is the most unusual name you have given a pet?
2. What was something interesting you did this summer?
3. What is your favorite board game? When was the last time you played it?

do. What do you think would happen if we allowed ourselves to think differently? What would it be like if we tried to see people the way God sees them? How might that affect both us and others?

APPLICATION

During his message, Matt challenged us to learn one new skill each year so we remain learners. Jesus is our teacher and we are his students (learners). What is one new skill you would like to learn this year? Be prepared to tell your group next week what new skill you have decided to learn.

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.

Selah Saturday (Women), 26 August, 9-11 am, New Wine Church, 7102 N. Prospect Ave, Gladstone, MO

Men's Breakfast, 9 September, 9-11 am, New Wine Church, 7102 N. Prospect Ave, Gladstone, MO

Men's Retreat, 13-14 October, New Wine Church, 7102 N. Prospect Ave, Gladstone, MO (more details to follow)

FINAL THOUGHT

You don't need to promote or prove yourself to anyone but God.