

GOD LOVES THE CITY.

Jonah 1:1-2

The Book of Jonah is small in size (a mere **forty-eight verses**) with just over 1300 words.

Most people may think that this book is a children's story about a fish. This book is not a story about a fish.

The **fish** is mentioned **4 times**.

The **city** is mentioned **9 times**.

Jonah is mentioned **18 times**.

God is mentioned **16** times and **LORD** is mentioned **26** times.

TS: These first few verses reveal to us that...

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

THE LORD IS THE GOD WHO SPEAKS.

- **GOD SPEAKING REVEALS HIS POWER AND MAJESTY.**
- **GOD SPEAKING REVEALS HIS RELATIONAL INTENTIONS.**
- **GOD SPEAKING REVEALS HIS INTIMATE INVOLVEMENT IN HIS CREATION.**

Discussion Questions:

1. Do you believe that God is personal, powerful, and present? If not why not?
2. How do you feel about God longing to be in relationship with you?
3. What one word describes your view of God?

THE LORD IS SOVEREIGN OVER ALL NATIONS. “go to Nineveh”

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you believe about the sovereignty of God?
2. Do you believe that there are limits to God’s sovereignty?
3. Do you trust the sovereign God to be in control of all things?
4. When are you most uncomfortable with the sovereignty of God?

THE LORD IS THE JUDGE OF ALL. “call out against it, for their evil has come up before me”

- **WHY IS GOD GOING TO JUDGE NINEVEH?**
- **WHY WILL GOD JUDGE US?**

Discussions Questions:

1. How do you define just?
2. How do you decide what is right and wrong?
3. Do you believe in an absolute truth that reveals right and wrong?
4. Who do you believe ultimately decides or determines what is right and wrong?

THE LORD IS COMPASSIONATE AND MERCIFUL. “warning is an act of compassion”

- **GOD IS INTERESTED IN ALL PEOPLE NOT JUST SOME PEOPLE.**

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever received a “grace” warning?
2. Do people who have participated in hurtful, harmful or evil behavior deserve a “grace” warning?
3. Do you desire a “grace” warning when you participate in hurtful, harmful, or evil behavior?
4. Should people who have done harm to you deserve a “grace” warning?

THE LORD INVITES US TO PARTICIPATE IN HIS PLAN. “came to Jonah”

Discussion Questions:

1. Does God have the right to command you to act on His behalf?
2. How do you view God's invitation to participate in His plans? What word would you use to describe it (burden, blessing, etc.)?
3. Do you typically choose God's way or your way when God's way conflicts with your way?
4. How do you view your life? Is it yours or God's?
5. Do you care enough about the people that God cares about to participate in God's plan?