



Faith Community Church
Sovereign Mercy

Faith Group Questions
& Discussion Guide



Opening Prayer: Pray that God would open our eyes to see where we are rejecting His call or running from Him, and respond in repentance and surrender.

Key Takeaways:

1. The book of Jonah is about God's love for all people, including our enemies.
2. God is sovereign over nature, nations, salvation, and even disobedient servants.
3. We can't outrun God's presence or mercy.
4. God uses imperfect people for His purposes while simultaneously working on them. But it requires our repentance and surrender.

Discussion Questions:

1. Last week: Did anyone have the chance to respond to their spouse's (or friend's or workmate's) bad attitude with a loving, de-escalating word? Share!
2. The pastor mentioned that "we've all got a little bit of Jonah in us." In what ways can you relate to Jonah's initial response to God's call? (Jonah 1:3, 4:2)
3. We all have a tendency to limit God's mercy to certain people or groups. How has the story of Jonah made you more aware of your tendencies? How can it (should it) shape your actions in the future? (Acts 10:9-16, 28)
4. The sermon emphasized God's sovereignty. How does understanding God's control over all things impact your faith and daily life, especially in storms? (Deuteronomy 32:39, Colossians 1:15-17)

5. Reflect on a time when you tried to run from God or ignore His direction. What was your excuse? What was the outcome?
6. How does the idea that "God uses the weak things of this world" encourage you in your own walk with Christ? How does this tie in with God's Sovereignty? (1 Corinthians 1:26-29, 2 Corinthians 12:9)
7. The pastor stated, "God's pursuit of you as the Good Shepherd is not to harm you, but to lead you to repentance." How does this perspective change your view of God's discipline or correction in your life? How should you respond? (Romans 2:4, Hebrews 12:5-12)

Practical Applications:

1. Identify an "enemy" or difficult person in your life. Spend time this week praying for God's mercy and blessing in his/her life. As you pray, watch for a God to open a door for you to show kindness or speak a gospel word to them. Be ready to share next week.
2. Reflect on areas where you might be "running from God." Write down one step you can take this week to move toward obedience.
3. Share with the group a current "storm" in your life. Pray this week to see what the Sovereign God wants you to learn through the storm. Commit to supporting each group member with prayer and Scriptural encouragement throughout the week.
4. Practice surrendering to God daily this week by starting each morning with a prayer of submission to His will.

Closing Prayer: Thank God for His mercy and sovereignty. Ask for His help in surrendering fully to His will and extending His love to all people.