



Faith Community Church  
Sovereign Direction  
Faith Group Questions  
& Discussion Guide



**Opening Prayer:** Holy Spirit, as we study today, please open our eyes to see what You have been calling and commissioning us to do, that we've been running from.

**Key Takeaways:**

1. God's call is often urgent, understandable, unique, and unsettling.
2. Our problem is usually not understanding God's will, but obeying it.
3. Pride and prejudice can blind us to the limitlessness of God's grace and the needs of others.
4. Past obedience is no substitute for present surrender.
5. Favorable circumstances or "open doors" are not always indicators of God's will.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Did you have the opportunity to interact with a difficult person in your life last week? How did you respond? What was the result?
2. What stood out to you most from the sermon on Jonah's call and response? What convicted you the most?
3. Have you ever felt God calling you to do something that made you uncomfortable? How did you respond? (Acts 10:28)
4. Our problem is often not in understanding God's will, but in obeying it. Can you relate to this? Share an example. (John 6:40, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8)

5. How can pride and prejudice hinder our obedience to God's call? Have you experienced this in your own life? (John 9:39-41, Proverbs 3:5,7, 1 Peter 5:6)
6. Discuss the statement: "Past obedience is no substitute for present surrender." What does this mean to you practically? (1 Corinthians 9:25-27, Hebrews 3:12-19)
7. How can we discern between God opening doors and Satan providing "convenient" opportunities to disobey? (Psalm 1:1-2, Acts 17:11, Proverbs 11:14, Jeremiah 33:3)
8. The sermon emphasized God's goodness and mercy. How does remembering God's character impact our willingness to obey His call? (Titus 3:4-8)

### **Practical Applications:**

1. Reflect on areas in your life where you might be "running" from God's call. What is one step you can take to simply STOP RUNNING this week?
2. What is one area where you know God is calling you to obey, but you've hesitated – making excuses on why you can't comply. Take one step of obedience this week.
3. If you're facing a decision, rather than just following what seems convenient, commit to 1) seeking godly counsel, 2) looking up biblical principles from God's Word that apply, and 3) spending time in prayer – before acting.
4. Share with the group next week how you accomplished step 1, 2, or 3.
5. Identify any prejudices or biases you may have that could be hindering your obedience to God. Ask your friends or spouse – they can help identify these! Pray for God to open your eyes to the effects of your prejudices and help you show God's love.
6. Spend time meditating on Scriptures that emphasize God's goodness and faithfulness (e.g., Lamentations 3:22-23, Psalm 46:1, Proverbs 18:10, Psalm 147:3)
7. Practice saying "Yes, Lord" in your prayer time this week, expressing your willingness to follow God's leading.
8. COME TO THE NIGHT OF WORSHIP THIS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13!

**Closing Prayer:** Ask God to give you the courage to stop running, surrender, and obey.