



TURN THE BOAT AROUND

JONAH 1:4-17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Small Groups are Kicking Off!

- We have a whole slew of new small groups starting right now! Check out our FB page for a listing of them

RELATIONAL CONNECT & CHECK-IN

- Name a time when you realized you were traveling the wrong direction. How did you remedy it?
- If you were offered a one-way, all-expenses-paid trip somewhere, where would it be? Would you take it? Why or why not?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Jonah 1 as a group and share any immediate things that stick out to you.

- 1) Who initiates the storm, and why does that matter? Recall a time you experienced a storm in your life that, looking back now, you realize was put there for a reason.
- 2) Jonah's response to the storm was "Throw me overboard". Good response? Bad response? Why do you think that? Are there better responses? (God calls us to "turn the boat around" in repentance when we stray. Talk about the difference between these two responses.)
- 3) Time for a little reflection. Jonah says, "I fear the LORD" (v.9). If someone watched your week, what would they conclude you **actually** fear? (Read Luke 6:46; James 2:18)
- 4) Is there anything that God could ask you that you'd say "no" to? If so...what it is? And why? Be honest.
- 5) Did you notice a difference between the response of the sailors vs. Jonah's? What was it and what do you think it says about them?
- 6) Do you find it difficult to know when you're running from God? If so why? If not, what makes it easy to distinguish? How can we, as a group/church, help each other in that?
- 7) How can we be sure that we're actually repenting when God calls us to? Have you ever experienced fake repentance? What are some distinguishing characteristics between real and fake repentance?
- 8) The term in v17, "Swallow Up", is found in other parts of Scripture. It means "Judgment that leads to salvation". How does Jonah's story correlate to Jesus'? Is there any significance in the amount of time he was "swallowed up"?
- 9) What's something that helps you re-center or turn the boat around when you get a little off course?

ACTION STEP

Name one clear act of obedience that you can commit to doing **this week** (repent of something to God and a trusted friend, join/rejoin a small group community, or replace a doubt-feeding input with daily Scripture for 7 days).

Lastly: How can we pray as a group for you as a group? Be honest...