



















JONAH



**4 STUDIES IN JONAH
FOR INDIVIDUALS,
GROUPS, AND 1:1**

JONAH STRUCTURE

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 GOD & JONAH	1:1-3	GOD SENDS HIS WORD TO JONAH
		God commissions Jonah to go to Nineveh
		Jonah disobediently flees to Tarshish
 GOD, JONAH & THE PAGANS	1:4-16	GOD SENDS A GREAT STORM ON JONAH
		The sailors turn to their own pagan gods
		The sailors turn to Jonah and throw him overboard "I worship the LORD... who made the sea and the dry land!" (1:9)
		The sailors turn to the God of the storm
 GOD & JONAH	1:17 - 2:10	GOD SENDS A GREAT FISH TO JONAH
		Jonah's thankful prayer for life "Salvation belongs to the LORD!" (2:9)
		God commands the fish to vomit out Jonah
 GOD & JONAH	3:1-3a	GOD SENDS HIS WORD TO JONAH (AGAIN)
		God re-commissions Jonah to go to Nineveh
		Jonah obediently goes to Nineveh
 GOD, JONAH & THE PAGANS	3:3b-10	GOD SENDS HIS WORD TO THE GREAT CITY
		"Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown." (3:4)
		The pagan city and king turn from their evil
		God turns from his judgement
 GOD & JONAH	4:1-11	THE GREAT GOD SENDS A MESSAGE TO JONAH
		Jonah's angry prayer for death "I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God" (4:2)
		God sends a plant, worm and wind to teach Jonah
		God teaches Jonah about his compassion "Should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh?" (4:11)

JONAH 1

EXTRAORDINARY GOD. ORDINARY PROPHET

Read Jonah 1:1 - 16

1. Describe a situation which you have wanted to run from rather than face?

2. What are some of the reasons people run from God and his Word?

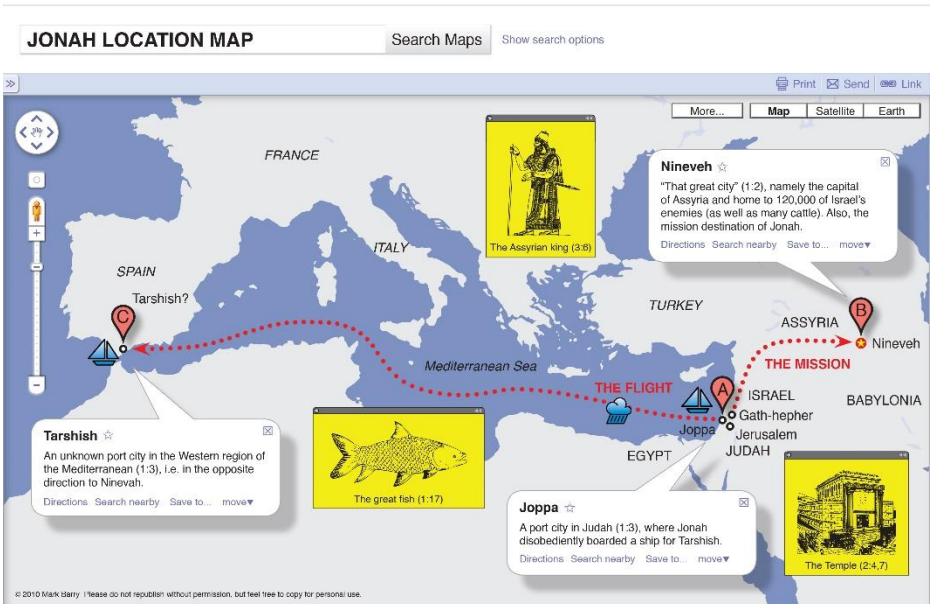
Read Psalm 139:7 - 16

3. What does the bible teach us about the presence of God?

4. How can that make us both uncomfortable and reassured?

5. What does “saying no to God”, mean for you?

6. How is fear of God different to being scared?



JONAH 2

GOD ANSWERS OUR CRIES IN DISTRESS

Read Jonah 1:17 – 2:10

1. Jonah spends three days and nights in the belly of a whale, in complete solitary confinement. Can you think of a time you felt isolated or alone ... what did you think about?
2. How is Jonah feeling about himself?
3. What sorts of things does Jonah say to God?
4. The Bible describes 'hell' as being cut off from God.
Read Revelation 20:11 – 21:5. Why do you think Jesus saw being cut off from God as the greatest danger? (Matt10:28, 2 Thess 1:8 – 9)
5. What does "Salvation is from the Lord" mean?

6. What can you learn from Jonah about prayer?

7. What can you learn from Jonah when you've messed things up?

Prayer Time

- is there a situation you need to talk to God about today?

- tell Him exactly how you feel

- Thanks God that he listens, he answers, and nothing is outside his control

JONAH 3

THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES

Read Jonah 3:1 – 10

1. What are some contrasts between Jonah's first and second calls to Nineveh?
2. What do you think it means to repent?
3. What do you think are the signs of a person who has repented?
4. Why do you think God changed his mind about judging the Ninevites?

JONAH 4

FOR GOD SO LOVED NINEVEH

Read Jonah 4:1 – 11

1. How do you explain Jonah's outburst of anger when the Ninevites don't get zapped?
2. What do you think is the main lesson God teaches Jonah through the dead plant?
3. Read Luke 15:25 – 32. What was the real issue behind the big brother's chip on his shoulder?
4. From the book of Jonah, I reckon God's grace is like ...



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