



Jonah – Chapter 3

Can You Hear Me Now?

Please watch the sermon video and read Jonah Chapter 3. Then use the questions below to begin your discussion of the message in your group. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you an understanding of His Word.

Core Message:

Jonah 3:1 says, “The Lord spoke his word to Jonah again and said, ‘Get up, go to the great city Nineveh, and preach to it what I tell you to say.’” Sound familiar? Remember Jonah 1:1? “The Lord spoke his word to Jonah son of Amittai: ‘Get up, go to the great city of Nineveh, and preach against it, because I see the evil things they do.’” It is as though God is saying, “Can you hear me now, Jonah?”

God keeps His promises. His forgiveness is available to all who believe in Him and repent.

Helpful Information:

- **Sackcloth and ashes** – To wear sackcloth and sit in ashes was an ancient middle eastern demonstration of remorse and repentance.

Ice Breaker Question:

- Tell about a time you got a second chance even though you didn’t deserve it, a warning instead of a traffic ticket, or the opportunity to re-take a test. How did you feel?

Discussion Questions:

- How might Jonah have felt when God gave him the call to go to Nineveh the second time? What did he do differently this time?

- How did the people of Nineveh respond to the message Jonah spoke to them? (See verses 5-6 and the “Helpful Information” above). What did they expect to happen because of their actions (verse 9)?
- Read verse 10. God seems to have changed his mind about the action he had planned to take against Nineveh? What caused this change of plan? What does this say about how God relates with his people?
- Read verse 3 and verse 10 again. We do not live in a vacuum – our actions affect others. What lives were affected by Jonah’s obedience to God’s second chance call? What would have happened if Jonah had not obeyed? Read Matthew 28:19. How can our obedience or disobedience to this command affect the lives of others?

Thought Question:

- God was concerned for the people of Nineveh – he’s concerned for the people of our city as well. Compare your concern for your neighbors with Jonah’s concern for Nineveh. Compare your concern for your neighbors with God’s love for them. Is God calling you to say something, or do something in your neighborhood?