

A CHASING GOD AND A CHASTENED PROPHET

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF JONAH

The Fin-tastic Tale of Jonah

Dr. Mike Vanlaningham, Jonah 1:4–2:10

1. On the times when you have been disobedient to the Lord and resisted Him and His will, how did that go for you? What kind of storms came into your life when you did this? Please share with your group without being overly detailed about your shortcomings.

2. What role did the storm sent by God play in Jonah's life? Please share a time in your life when God used a storm to accomplish something positive for you or through you.

3. On the occasions that God has given you a second chance after repenting and obeying, what changed in your life? What were the spiritual, emotional, or social consequences of the second chance?

4. One of Jonah's main problems was that he was not only disobedient, but he was also prejudiced against the ancient enemy of Israel, the Assyrian Empire of which Nineveh was a major city. Have you ever discovered prejudice in your own heart against certain people groups or ethnicities that have kept you from extending to them the message of God's grace? How do you feel about that? Consider praying about this for your small group members.

5. Your Bible teacher this weekend explored the shallowness of Jonah's repentance, that he had a behavioral change but not a heart change. What steps should we take in the midst of storms in our lives to ensure that we have a heart change, unlike Jonah?

6. What is there in the book of Jonah that might serve as a pattern to follow for Christian missions? What might be something to avoid that we see in the book?
