

Jonah 3

Read verses 1-3. Jonah gets a second chance or “do over.” When have you had a significant second chance in your life? What difference did it make – did you make?

God does not speak to Jonah on the ship nor in the belly of the fish, but here once he is back out on dry land, God speaks. How is the message similar and different from what God said in 1:2? Why do you think it is different? Does that have anything to do with the different response from Jonah?

What all do you think Jonah was thinking as he entered the big city of Ninevah? About the city? About his mission?

What do you know about ancient Ninevah? Where was it?

Do you think that Jonah was hoping for the best-case or worst-case scenario as he cried out to the people in verse 4?

What do you think of the people’s reaction? Have you seen anything like that in your life experience?

Read verses 6-10

The king does not hear from Jonah directly, but word must have traveled fast through the city – perhaps faster than the speed of Jonah! What do you think of the king’s reaction? Again have you seen this kind of reaction from any leaders?

They proclaimed a fast. Have you ever fasted? Why did you do it? And what was your experience with it?

What do you think of the logic in verse 9? Have you ever said something like that? When and what was the situation?

In verse 10 God saw their reaction and their actions. As they changed their ways, and humbled themselves, God’s mind was changed. Where else have you seen that happen in the Bible?

What might we learn from this chapter about God? About Jonah? About ourselves?