



Opening (10 minutes)

- Prayer: Begin with a prayer, asking God to guide your discussion, open hearts to His truth, and reveal how His Word applies to your lives.
- Icebreaker Question: Have you ever had a time while traveling that you were scared? What is it that caused you to feel that way?

Discussion (45 minutes)

Running from God's Call

- Why do you think Jonah went in the opposite direction of God's command?
- What are some modern ways we might "run" from God's calling in our lives?

Desperation and Prayer

- Why do you think we, like Jonah in the belly of the fish, tend to wait for times of desperation or crisis to turn to God?
- Can you think of a time where you felt desperate, turned to God, and received His answer? How did that experience shape your faith or perspective?

Bitterness and God's Mercy

- What does Jonah's reaction in chapter 4, verse 1, tell us about his heart?
- How can we best guard against arrogance and pride in thinking we can decide who is worthy of God's mercy and grace?

God's Rebuke and Perspective

- When God rhetorically questions Jonah about getting angry (4:4), it challenges Jonah's priorities. How does God's response (plant, heat, and wind) illustrate His desire for us to understand His compassion?

Our Calling To Share the Gospel

- Alan emphasized our need to share the Gospel and leave the results to God. Why might this be difficult for us, and how can we grow in trusting God with the outcomes?

Action Step

- The sermon warned against judging who is "fit" for God's mercy based on whether they look, act, or worship "like us." Where do you see this tendency in your own life or in the church today?

Memory Verse

Jonah 3:10

- "When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it."

Closing Prayer (5 minutes)

- Take a moment to allow members to silently reflect on where in their life they may be "running" from God or struggling to accept His mercy for others. Then pray together for God to help each of us to release any bitterness or judgement towards others.



Use the questions below to help extend the impact of the week-end message. They are not only useful in your LifeGroup, but try discussing with your family, friends, and co-workers for even greater understanding and spiritual growth.