

Childhood Bible Stories

Week #6: Jonah

Jonah 1-4

Listen to the sermon again and read the text carefully in preparation for engaging the reflection questions in a group or on your own. Ask God to open your heart and mind and speak to you through this story.

Questions for Reflection:

What is your reaction to the story of Jonah? What details stand out to you or seem particularly significant as you read it? Do you find anything in the story surprising or unexpected as you encounter it today?

Who is Jonah in this story? What role does he occupy in the telling of the story and what do you think he symbolizes? How is he portrayed in this narrative and do you see any significance in his depiction?

Imagine yourself as a participant in this narrative. Where do you see yourself in the context of this story? With whom do you identify and why? How does your choice of identification shape the way you understand the story?

Why does God choose Jonah to deliver the message of God to Nineveh? What do you think is significant about God's choice of Jonah and why does it matter in the story? What might we learn about God from this?

Why is Jonah angry with God? How does God respond to Jonah? What do we learn about God in the encounter between God and Jonah? Have you ever been angry with God? If so, why? How did God respond to you? What did you learn about God?

What significance do you see in this story about Jonah for your life and the life of the church in the present? How does it make a difference for your faith? How does it invite you to live in new ways?

What is particularly significant to you in this story?

What questions or new insights do you have?