

4. The fish episode in Jonah's life was an experience of God's mercy and grace. He was running from God and cast into the sea, but God rescues him in spite willfully rejecting God. Reflect on how God has done that in your life (and still does it).

5. Discipleship is about following Jesus ("follow me") and transformation ("I will make you"). It's also about making more disciples ("fishers of men"), joining Jesus in his redemption mission to the world. In the whirlwind of daily life, which do you struggle with the most?

6. Jonah preaches God's message to the Nineties, but his heart is in the wrong place. Having the right motive matters to God, hence chapter 4! How can you better cultivate in your own life a heart for people far from God, people that matter to God? (That is, what practices can you incorporate into your life that cultivate this in your heart?)

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

SERIES: Kings & Prophets

SERMON 8: "God Pursues the Ninevites"

TEXT: Jonah 3:10 - 4:11

DATE: October 28/29, 2017

It's not about the _____; it's about the _____.

THE STORY OF JONAH

Jonah is subversive story about a rebellious prophet who despises his God for loving his enemies. (Tim Mackie, The Bible Project)

WHY IS JONAH SO ANGRY?

Jonah 3:10 - 4:11

Jonah has a lot to _____ with.

Love your enemy, and love God's enemy. At the same time, stand for truth, goodness, justice, and God's glory. Not so _____ to do!

A PARABLE OF JESUS

Luke 15

Why does Jesus tell this story? (Luke 15:1-3)

Will you and I (God's people) join God in his _____ to reach people he loves but who are far from him?

'It's not just about the fish. The fish is my grace toward you. But it's not all about you. That's not the end game. I want you to reach out to others who like you are running away from me. I want you to join my mission to the world. It's not just about the fish!' (God)

THE CALL TO DISCIPLE-MAKING

Matthew 4:19; Mark 1:17

Follow me...

I will make you...

Fishers of men...

In our lives, it can't be just about the _____; it's needs to be about the _____.

Family Discussion Questions:

1. Why was Jonah running from God?
2. Why was Jonah so angry?
3. How can our family share in God's concern for people who don't yet know him and are far from him?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jonah was a prophet who rejected God's call and ran away from his enemies.
Jesus heard God's call and ran toward his enemies.
While we were still sinners, he died for us.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. How is Jonah "a subversive story about a rebellious prophet who despises his God for loving his enemies"? (See the Jonah Bible Project video at henry-williams.net.)
3. Read Jonah 3:10 - 4:11 and Luke 15:1-3,23-32. How is the parable of the Prodigal Son(s) similar to the story of Jonah?

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What is God like?