

BibleWise

Discussion Questions – Jonah

Read Jonah

Jonah (Chapters 1 and 2)

- What was Jonah asked to do?
- Why didn't he do it?
- Where did he go instead?
- What happened?
- What is the moral issue here? (disobedience, willfulness, prejudice, lack of integrity?)
 - Did Jonah express integrity? When? [He owns up to being the cause of the storm.]
- What are lots? (See [Shep and Lily: A Lesson about Casting Lots](#))

Jonah (Chapters 3 and 4)

- How many times does God ask Jonah to go to Nineveh? [2 times]
- Is Jonah more obedient the second time?
- Why?
- Why didn't Jonah want to go to Nineveh the first time?
 - Was he afraid? [He was afraid the people would be obedient to God and Jonah thought they should be destroyed?]
 - Do you ever think someone should be punished rather than forgiven?
 - Why is it important that we know God forgives?
 - Why is it important that God chooses whom He wants to save over our choices?
 - What lessons can we learn about God's forgiveness?
 - Why would we want our dads to learn God's lesson of forgiveness?
 - How many days did it take to get to Nineveh?
 - Did the people repent (change their behavior)?
 - How did Jonah feel about the people turning to God? [Angry]
 - Why was Jonah angry that the people turned to God?
 - Wouldn't you be happy that they gave up their evil ways?

- Why did their turning their lives around upset Jonah? [he wanted them to be punished]
- What did Jonah want God to do to him? [take his life]
 - Why does anger make us say things we don't mean?
 - How did God help Jonah with his anger?
- Does the story seem to end abruptly?
 - What is Jonah to learn?
 - What are we to learn?
 - What is prejudice?
 - Why was Jonah prejudiced against the people of Nineveh?
 - Can you see why we aren't to judge people?
- Read different translations of the final two chapters and retell the story in your own words.
 - Do you think the story of Jonah is true?
 - Did you read the article [Just a Tall Tale?...Never!?](#)
 - Did you know that Jesus mentioned Jonah?
 - Read Matt 12:38-41