



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

DATE

March 7

BIBLE PASSAGE

Jonah 2

1. KNOW THE CONTEXT

The book of Jonah is an ancient story of a Prophet of God named Jonah. In this story Jonah is asked by God to go to the "great city of Nineveh" and tell them to change their ways because they were wicked. But, there is a catch. Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh, and so he ran away from God and from the people of Nineveh.

The story of Jonah has a lot to teach us about the things we run away from in our life, and what repentance looks like as well as learning how to trust God even when we have different ideas of how things should turn out.

In chapter two of Jonah's story we find him deep in the belly of a fish after he had tried to run away from God and got caught on a boat in a terrible storm that forced him to be thrown overboard. In this chapter Jonah is crying out to God for forgiveness.

Tonight we are going to look at Jonah 2 to learn what real repentance looks like for us.

2. READ THE BIBLE PASSAGE TOGETHER

3. SPEND TIME IN OBSERVATION

Which verses, ideas, or characters stuck out to you?

What questions could come from this passage?

Observation notes:

Questions:

4. SPEND TIME IN INTERPRETATION

What did this passage mean to the original audience?

What would it have felt like to be a character in this passage, and who in the passage is the hero/role model (if any)?

What's the main point of this passage?

Questions	Answers
Think of a time when you got caught doing something shouldn't have done?	Where were you? What happened? How did you get out of it?
What is repentance?	Repentance is asking for forgiveness and then having the courage to actually live differently.
How do we ask for God's forgiveness?	Pray to him. Start by reminding yourself of who God is and how He is perfect and in His perfection He loves us and wants to be in a healthy relationship with us?
What happens when we don't want to ask for forgiveness?	We isolate ourselves from other people, like Jonah did by running away from Nineveh, and we keep out the love that God has for us.
What can we learn from Jonah's prayer of repentance?	

5. SPEND TIME IN APPLICATION

What is the "universal truth" God wants to teach us from this passage?

How can we apply the message of this passage to our daily lives?

Who do we need to ask forgiveness of this week?

What are some ways we can begin regularly repenting and going after God in our daily lives?

How can we make more room for God in our lives and keep ourselves open to other people?

6. PRAY

Follow-up notes: