

HANG OUT (10 MINS)

- Welcome people as they arrive.
- Spend a few minutes making small talk/offer snacks.

ICE BREAKER (10 MINS)

- Name a famous person or people group that you seriously doubt will ever become followers of Christ. Share your reasons for thinking this.
- What is the best “second chance” story you’ve ever heard, outside of the Bible?

SERMON DISCUSSION (40 MINS)

- Worship and Prayer (Read Jonah 3)

1. Describe a time when God gave you a second chance. Why do you think God gave Jonah a second chance to go to Nineveh? How do you think Jonah felt about it the second time? Why did God give Nineveh a chance to repent? What can we learn about God through the story of Jonah?
2. Why do you think the Ninevites were so quick to repent and believe God? What has God shown you that you need to do, but you have not yet done? Commit to your DGroup to obey God immediately.
3. We can all identify with the ongoing battle with indwelling sin that Paul speaks of in Romans 7:15-17. Repentance means to turn from sin; to change one’s mind and actions so that they agree with God. How does true repentance transform a person, inside and out?
4. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. In praying for revival, what do you think does our city need to publicly repent for/of? What sins and attitudes do Christians need to repent of and turn away from? Doing what God says not to do is called a sin of commission. Not doing what God said to do is called a sin of omission. What is your greatest sin of commission or omission?
4. In what situations would you consider fasting and/or giving up physical comfort, like the Ninevites, in order to seek God? Have you ever fasted and prayed for the salvation of another person or people group? How long did you fast and pray? Did you see any results? Did the Ninevites change God’s mind or did God give them the opportunity to change their minds?
5. Someone once said, “God does nothing on earth except in response to believing prayer.” Do you agree or disagree? Give your reasons. Why didn’t God just speak directly to the Ninevites instead of sending Jonah? Why does God choose to use us to accomplish His will on earth? How willing are you to be God’s messenger and take the good news to undeserving people? With whom is God asking you to share the good news?

CLOSING CHALLENGE (10 MINS)

1. What will you do to obey God’s call this week to take His message to the lost? Who will you begin praying for?
2. For what sins of commission or omission do you need to repent? Ask God to reveal His grace and truth regarding these sins (John 8:31-34).
3. What has God shown you that you need to do, but you haven’t yet done?

NEXT STEP(YOUR JOURNAL TIME)

- What evidence do you see in this story that God is a God of second chances? Do you think Jonah heard God speak audibly or in his thoughts?
- What was Jonah’s response to God’s word? How do you know when God is speaking to you? Why do you think Jonah was quick to obey the second time God spoke? What thoughts do you think went through his mind? How do you think he felt about going to Nineveh?
- How does this story of God’s love and mercy compare to the New Testament message of His love and grace? What can we learn from God’s dealings with Nineveh? How will you apply this to your life?