

Parables and Stories

Jonah and the Great Fish

Jonah 1-4

1. Summarize the Story?

2. Is this a True Story or a Made-Up Story? (See Jonah 1:1; Matt. 12:39-41)

3. Specific Questions About the Story:

A. Who is the main character in this story? What do we know about him? (See: Jonah 1:1, 9-10; 2 Ki. 14:25)

B. What did God command Jonah to do? (See: Jonah 1:2; 3:1-4)

C. How did the people of Nineveh respond to Jonah's preaching? (See: Jonah 3:5-10)

D. What does it mean that God relented from what He was going to do? (See: Jonah 3:10)

E. Does God change His mind? (See: Jonah 3:10 and compare with Num. 23:19)

F. How did Jonah react to the repentance of the people of Nineveh? Why did he react that way? (See: Jonah 4:1-4)

4. What do we learn about God?

A. He is _____ and willing to _____ those who _____ (See: Jonah 4:2, 9-11; also Ex. 34:6-7; Num. 14:18-19)

B. He is _____ and willing to _____ believers when they _____ (See: Jonah 1:4, 17; 2:10; 4:6-8)

5. What do we learn about people who believe in God from what Jonah did in each of these verses? (See: Jonah 1:3; 2:9; 3:3-4; 4:1-3, 8)

6. Application:

A. If God was serious about destroying Nineveh because of their wickedness (Jonah 1:2; 3:4), how do you think God will respond to you and your own sin? (See: Rom. 3:23; James 2:10)?

B. If God was still willing to forgive the people of Nineveh when they repented, how do you think God would respond to you if you repent of your sin and believe in Jesus ? (See: Rom. 6:23; 10:9-13)?

C. If you believe in Jesus and repent of your sin, how does God expect you to live? (See: John 14:15)

D. If you have repented of your sin and believed in Jesus but sometimes disobey God, what can you expect God to do? (Think of what happened to Jonah; See: Heb. 12:7-11)

E. If God has disciplined you for disobeying Him, how will He treat you if you repent of your sin? (See: 1 John 2:1-2)