

JONAH

DEEP GRACE

Are You Kidding Me? (Jonah 1:1-6)

- 1. Jonah's Background (2 Kings 14:25)**
Prophet of the Lord
- 2. Jonah's Dilemma (Jonah 1:1-2)**
Mission Impossible (and Unique)
- 3. Jonah's response (Jonah 1:3)**
Flee (Rebelliousness and Foolishness)
"from the presence of the Lord"
- 4. God's Response - GRACE (Jonah 1:4)**
Pursue - "But the Lord . . ."
- 5. The "Mariners" Response (Jonah 1:5-6)**
 - 1) Fear "yare" - absolutely terrified) (5a)
 - 2) Crying out to their gods (5b, 6)
Looking for answers
 - 3) Hurling Cargo (5c)
Lightening the Load

Discussion Questions (from the Abide Bible)

1. Read Jonah 1:1-2. Jonah's response to God's call is a lesson for us all. As you read these verses did you notice the prophet's immediate reluctance to obey. What do you think caused his resistance (see Jon. 4:1-2)? Discuss.
2. Read Jonah 1:3-6. Are you fleeing from God in some way? Are you going "down" (v. 3) rather than rising up to call on God (v. 6)? Are you sleeping when you should be rowing? Discuss
3. Surely God could have just sent another prophet to Nineveh. Why do you think He went to such great lengths to get Jonah's attention and see him through with his assignment?
4. Pray for courage to be more eager and responsive the next time you have an opportunity to share the message of the gospel.

2 Kings 14:23-27: In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, began to reign in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. 24 And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin. 25 He restored the border of Israel from Lebo-hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the Lord, the God of Israel, which he spoke by his servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was from Gath-hepher. (about 14 miles west of the Sea of Galilee) 26 For the Lord saw that the affliction of Israel was very bitter, for there was none left, bond or free, and there was none to help Israel. 27 But the Lord had not said that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

Jonah 1:1-6: Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city (largest city in the world at that time), and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me."

3 But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish (as far west as possible) from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa* and found a ship going to Tarshish (only recorded instance where a prophet rejected God's commission). So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.



4 But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, (first miracle in Jonah) and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. 5 Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. 6 So the captain came and said to him, "What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish."

Psalm 67:1-2: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, Selah 2 that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

* Joppa was the town that Peter had his vision in preparation for His visit to Cornelius (Acts 10)