

Ice Breaker: As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

Your take-aways: Discuss with your group your impression of the message, any new perspective you gained, or how this message challenged you.

Bible Passage: The passage covered in this week's sermon was Jonah 1:17-3:3. Does anything from that passage stand out or confuse you?

Digging Deeper:

- **1.** Discuss the idea that running away from God can lead individuals into risky directions and dangerous circumstances. Can you think of examples, either personal or from the Bible, that illustrate this point?
- **2.** How can prayer, surrender, and trust in God be practical tools in overcoming the temptation to run away from responsibilities or from God?
- **3.** Reflect on the idea that it's never too late to turn back towards God. Share instances or stories where you've witnessed redemption after defiance and struggle with faith.
- **4.** Explore the concept of idols in our lives. What are some modern-day "idols" that people may unknowingly prioritize over their relationship with God? How can prioritizing those idols hurt our lives?
- **5.** Surely, being swallowed by a fish seemed like a horrible thing at the time that it happened to Jonah. Yet, it was God's grace he was saving Jonah from drowning. Think of your story have you ever realized that something you hated actually happened for your good? Tell of a time when God put you in a hard situation to protect you from something worse.
- **6.** How does the continuous presence and grace offered by God, even in moments of doubt or running away, impact your understanding of faith and relationship with Him?

Pray together: If there's anyone in the group who would say they are currently running from God - pray for them as they recommit to following God's call. Pray for people in your lives that are running from God. Pray for your hearts to be turned toward God and ready to do what He wants.