



Sermon Discussion Guide

The Sailors, the Prophet, and the Sea - Tim Knipp

Oct 2, 2022

Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion.
- Describe a great storm or weather event you've experienced. What was it like?
- Has there ever been a time you tried to avoid a responsibility or obligation? How did it go?
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Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture, and discuss a few questions to understand **what the text is saying**.
- **Read Jonah 1:4-16**
- What actions does Jonah take in this passage? What do they teach us about Jonah and his character?
- What actions do the sailors take in this passage? What do they teach us about the sailors and their character?
- How do the actions of the sailors serve as a foil for the actions of Jonah?
- God is very active in this passage. What is communicated to us about God through this passage?



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Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- What does this text show about God's heart for those whose beliefs lie elsewhere?
- What does the text show about God's heart for those who profess belief in him, but whose life doesn't quite match?
- What challenged you as you read this passage in Jonah? Why?
- What encouraged you as you read this passage in Jonah? Why?

Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- Who do you find yourself identifying with in this story? With Jonah? With the sailors? Through that, how is God calling you to respond?
- Is there something God is calling you towards right now? What would it look like to fully lean into that call?
- Are there places you see non-believers efforts in our world more closely aligning with God's heart than those of the Church? How might we respond individually? As Hillcrest?

Time of Prayer