

JONAH

Chapter One

- The New American Standard Bible (NASB) has been used to prepare this Study.
 - If another version is used as reference, it will always be cited.
- When a question instructs you to use your "study tools/helps", this means to use your personal concordance, dictionary or other resource. We will, from time to time, make a "list" available to you.

In the Book of Jonah, we will learn about:

- ♥ **The Resurrection of Jesus Christ**
- ♥ **Salvation Is By Faith Not Works**
- ♥ **God's Unstoppable Grace**
- ♥ **The Lord Is Faithful — Even When We Are Unfaithful**
- ♥ **The Lord Is Good All of the Time**
- ♥ **Jehovah Is the Lord of the Gentiles and the Lord Of The Jews**

Jonah focuses on the prophet himself rather than on his prophetic message.

When God sent Jonah to Nineveh he rebelled, was swallowed by a great fish, repented, and fulfilled his mission after all.

When Nineveh repented, the reason for Jonah's rebellion became clear: he had feared that God would forgive the Ninevites; and when God did forgive them, Jonah resented it.

The book lists no author, but only Jonah himself could have known all the facts it records.

Note: The name Jonah means "dove".

This weeks Memory verse is **Psalm 42:5**. Begin memorizing the verse(s) today.
Ask the Holy Spirit to help you memorize this passage and for opportunities to apply it...

**"Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him for the help of His presence." Psalm 42:5**

Write out **Psalm 42:5** here: _____

Write this verse(s) on your index cards... keep one with you & post the other in a prominent place...

Before beginning, pray and then read through the **entire book of Jonah**.
It's only four chapters, and in so doing, you will be better equipped to glean *all* that God has for you. 😊

DAY ONE

Pray, then read **Jonah 1:1-3**

1. According to v.1, who was Jonah? _____
A. This book tells about a man named Jonah who was swallowed by a great fish. For three days and three nights this man did not die, but in fact is vomited up, alive. Many choose to believe that this story is "not real", but in fact is only a children's story or fairy tale.
* How does 2 Kings 14:25 confirm the "reality" of the man, Jonah? _____

* How and by Whom does Matthew 12:39-41 confirm the "reality" of what Jonah experienced?


2. What command is clearly given to Jonah in v.2? " _____, _____ to _____ the great city and _____ it, for their _____ has come up before Me."
A. Define wickedness: _____

Challenge: Using your study tools, what information are you able to discover about Nineveh, as well as the "wickedness" this passage speaks of. Share your resource. _____

3. According to v.3, did Jonah obey? _____ What city did Jonah intend to flee to? _____
A. More importantly than where he fled to, what and from Whom did he flee from? _____

In light of v.3, C. H. Spurgeon shares this: "There are occasions when God's servants shrink back from duty. What did Jonah lose by his conduct? He lost the presence and comfortable enjoyment of God's love... You will find in the long run that it is far harder to shun the work and will of God than to at once yield yourself to it... It is hard to contend with God; let us yield ourselves at once" ♥

4. Jonah "attempted" to escape God's presence. According to Psalm 139:7-10, what did David discover? _____

 Time to practice our memory verse. Fill in the blanks: "Why are you in _____, O my soul? And why have you become _____ within me? Hope in _____, for I shall again _____ for the help of _____." _____ :

DAY TWO

Pray, then read **Jonah 1:4-9**

1. Having boarded a ship in Joppa, it appears that Jonah actually believes he is on his way to Tarshish... NOT! Ladies, we are about to see the hand of God discipline one of His very own. Describe the scene in v.4... _____

A. Describe the responses of: (v.5,6)

* the sailors _____

* Jonah _____

* the Captain _____

Personal: Wait! Because of Jonah's sin, "innocent" people on the ship have to "suffer" too?? That does not seem fair! Ladies, we must learn to rejoice in the Lord's Sovereignty. He will use every situation &/or circumstance for His glory and our blessing if we will but be still and remain steadfast. You'll see! The God we serve is amazingly faithful!

2. Imagine the chaos! What is their solution to this calamity? (v.7) _____

A. We're not surprised at who the "guilty party" is, but they sure are! What questions did they ask Jonah? (v.8) _____

1. Why do you believe they took the time to ask Jonah all these questions rather than simply throwing him overboard? What would you have done? _____

3. Fill in the blanks of Jonah's response... (v.9)

* I am a _____

* and I _____ the _____ of _____

* who made the _____ and the _____ .

A. Does anyone have a "problem" with Jonah's answer? Come on, Jonah! *You fear the Lord God of Heaven???* You're running from Him! You're being disobedient to Him! You're loving yourself more than you love others... Ouch! Busted... right in front of unbelievers! But wait! God is able (and willing) to turn even these types of situations into an opportunity for us to glorify Him! We just have to repent, and get back to doing our Father's business! Do you have an similar (but brief) story you are willing to share? _____

4. Jonah chose to *willfully disobey* God and he was beginning to reap the consequences of that disobedience. King Saul also experienced this. According to I Samuel 15:22-23, briefly share what Samuel's message was to King Saul after he disobeyed God. _____

 Time to practice & write out **Psalm 42:5** _____

DAY THREE

Pray, then read ***Jonah 1:10-14***

1. What was the emotional state of the sailors at this point? (v.10) _____

A. What question did they ask Jonah? _____

B. Why do you believe the men were in this state of mind based only on the fact that Jonah was "fleeing from the presence of the Lord"? _____

Something to Ponder: David Guzik comments: "Even an unbeliever who knows *some* truth about God can rightly rebuke a Christian who is resisting God. "Why have you done this?" is the most logical question in the world, even for an unbeliever to ask a believer." Share your thoughts: _____


2. What "solution" did Jonah offer the sailors? (v.12) _____

A. Why do you think Jonah didn't just jump in, rather than placing the burden on the "innocent" sailors to throw him in? _____

1. Did they immediately obey Him? (v.13) Explain _____

3. V.14 is so beautiful... and exactly WHY the storm did not cease one second before it did. " _____ they _____ on the _____ ..." Awesome!!

A. What do you believe the sailors were acknowledging when they said, "for You, O LORD, have done as You have pleased"? _____

 Time to practice & write out **Psalm 42:5** _____

DAY FOUR

Pray, then read **Jonah 1:15-16**

1. Finally, what did the sailors do? (v.15) _____

A. What was the result? _____ Selah~

1. Read the following verses...

Reference:	This verse ministers to me because:
Psalm 65:5-8	
Psalm 89:8-9	
Psalm 107:23-30	

2. According to v.16a, what happened? "Then....." _____

A. What 2 things did the sailors immediately do to express their faith? (v.16b) _____

(P)ersonal: Do you remember when you first met the True and Living God and accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? What were the ***first things*** you did to express your faith? _____

 Write out **Psalm 42:5** without looking. _____

DAY FIVE

Pray, then read **Jonah 1:17**

1. Who appointed this "great fish" to swallow Jonah? _____

A. Define: appointed _____

prepared a great fish - not *created* specially for this purpose, but appointed in His providence, to which all creatures are subservient. The fish, through a mistranslation of Matthew 12:40 was formerly supposed to be a whale; there, as here, the original means "a great fish." The whale's neck is too narrow to receive a man. BOCHART thinks, the *dog-fish*, the stomach of which is so large that the body of a man in armor was once found in it...The *cavity in the whale's throat*, large enough, according to CAPTAIN SCORESBY, to hold a ship's jolly boat full of men. A *miracle* in any view is needed, and we have no data to speculate further. A "sign" or miracle it is expressly called by our Lord in Matthew 12:39. Respiration in such a position could only be by miracle. The miraculous interposition was not without a sufficient reason; it was calculated to affect not only Jonah, but also Nineveh and Israel. The life of a prophet was often marked by experiences which made him, through sympathy, best suited for discharging the prophetic function to his hearers and his people. The infinite resources of God in mercy as well as judgment are prefigured in the devourer being transformed into Jonah's preserver. Jonah's condition under punishment, shut out from the outer world, was rendered as much as possible the emblem of death, a present type to Nineveh and Israel, of the death in sin, as his deliverance was of the spiritual resurrection on repentance; as also, a future type of Jesus' literal death for sin, and resurrection by the Spirit of God. Blue Letter Bible

2. Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights. He would have ample time to ponder his situation and choose how to respond. Read Hosea 6:1-2.


***What exhortation is found here? _____

***When it is necessary for us to be "torn" and "wounded" by the Lord, list the many "He wills" that are promised for the one who returns. _____

***When all is said and done, where will we live? _____

3. God could have allowed Jonah to drown, but He sent a great fish to swallow him instead. What does this say about the sovereignty of God? _____

Stop for a moment and thank God that He is Sovereign in YOUR life. 😊

 Write out **your memory verse** without looking. _____

"Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, Even there Your hand will lead me, and Your right hand will lay hold of me."

Psalm 139:7-10

* Continue to page 6 for a silly, but fun time!

Just for fun, write a short song or poem about Jonah.
You can even use one that is from your childhood/or your kids ~

You can even color the picture... if you want!