

## Small Group Discussion Guide — Read Jonah 1:1-17

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- What is your familiarity with the story of Jonah? How have you heard this story shared in the past? What have you understood the main point of this book to be? After today, how might you summarize the main point of Jonah?
- Why might *“Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God”* be a good subtitle for the book of Jonah? What does Sinclair Ferguson mean that in the story of Jonah we see that *“God is sovereign in all evangelism, and that He is evangelistic in the exercise of His sovereignty?”*
- How is the book of Jonah meant to function for us like a mirror?
- In vs. 1-3, how do we see the compassion of God? Why did God want Jonah to go warn the people of Nineveh? Why did Jonah flee? (see Jonah 4:2) Who were the Assyrians / Ninevites?
- Who are the people in your life that are difficult to extend mercy and kindness toward? How might your actions toward those people be different when you remember the kindness and mercy God has extended to you?
- In vs. 4-10, how do we see the sovereignty of God? What things do we see God’s sovereign control over in this first chapter? How do we see this ironically played out in the way the author tells this story?
- What are the things in your life that you sometimes doubt that He has control over? Think about the week ahead of you. What would be different this week if you remembered that God is in control of every single detail?
- In vs. 11-17, what are the two pictures of salvation we see here? Why do we have good reason to believe that these pagan sailors weren’t only delivered from the storm, but they were converted? (see Jonah 1:16) How was Jonah delivered?
- What do we mean that God works “in spite” of our sinning? How, though, does this not let us “off the hook” in obeying God’s will either?
- How is Jonah a “type of Christ”? How does what we see here in chapter 1 point us to what Christ would accomplish on the cross?
- How does God want you to grow in your “evangelistic heartbeat”? In what ways are you tempted to be like Jonah? How can you grow so that your heart looks more like God?
- Who is there in your life right now who needs to hear? How can our church more greatly express our desire to see the gospel go to all the peoples of the earth?