

Small Group Discussion Guide — Read Nahum 1 *(or the whole thing!)*

- How familiar were you with the prophet Nahum? Did you know that Nahum was the “sequel” to the book of Jonah?
- If we wanted to know what God is like, His divine attributes, we could read how God describes Himself in Exodus 34:6-7. How is Jonah an exposition of the first half of that list? How is Nahum an exposition of the second half that of list? What does this show us about God?
- In what ways are we tempted to “shying away” from some of the more difficult attributes of God, like His wrath, justice, and vengeance? In our current “age of tolerance,” why would these be difficult for some? Or how have you seen the God of the Old Testament pitted against the God of the New Testament?
- Why is it important that we see both sides of God’s character; His grace, mercy, love, and forgiveness, but also His wrath, justice, and vengeance against sin? How can both be “good”? (Nahum 1:7)
- How might Nineveh’s repentance in Jonah, but return to evil in Nahum give us both hope and warning?
- The decline of Nineveh happened in about 100 years, from the preaching of Jonah to their destruction in 612BC. What does this tell us about the need to pass on the gospel and the truth of God’s Word to the following generation? What can we learn from Nineveh’s example?
- Joshua gave a few examples of how Nahum’s prophesy of the destruction of Nineveh (and the Assyrian Empire as a whole) was actually fulfilled in history. Do you remember what some of those specific predictions were? How should these give you confidence in the trustworthiness of the Bible? Or, as James Boice says, “another evidence of the divine origin of the Word of God?”
- How is Nahum 1:7 the central unifying verse of this entire book? What are you tempted to take refuge in? How should this verse, and really this whole book, be a comfort to you? (*that’s what the name “Nahum” means*) How should God’s vengeance against His enemies comfort us?
- How is Christ our only refuge in the day of trouble? In what ways do you need to take refuge in Him today?