Running from Ninevah Week 1: Jonah Runs from God CCV Groups Discussion Guide

OPENING QUESTION:

Did you ever run away from home as a kid? How far did you get?

GROUPS VIDEO GUIDE

READ:

Jonah 1:1-17

DISCUSS:

- How do you see the consequences of Jonah's disobedience impacting the sailors and the ship's crew? Perhaps you could share a time when someone else's running from God impacted you.
- What are some common reasons people might resist God's calling/run from God in their lives?
- Reflect on a time when you felt a clear calling from God, but you ran in the opposite direction. How did you respond initially, and why?
- Have the group read <u>Psalm 139:1–24</u> (each member can take a turn reading a verse). How has God pursued you when you ran from him?
- Share with the group one thing you will follow through on this week that would honor God but that you have been procrastinating.

PRAYER:

As a prayer, have the group read together Psalm 139:1-24 (again).

SCRIPTURES:

John 14:15, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Psalm 139:7–10, "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your

hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me."

2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

Jeremiah 17:13, "O Lord, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you shall be put to shame; those who turn away from you shall be written in the earth, for they have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living water."

James 1:14–15, "But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

Ephesians 5:6, "Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience."

Proverbs 11:2, "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom."

Proverbs 29:23, "One's pride will bring him low, but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor."

Proverbs 16:5, "Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the Lord; be assured, he will not go unpunished."

1 John 2:16, "For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world."

Proverbs 13:10, "By insolence comes nothing but strife, but with those who take advice is wisdom."

Mark 7:20–23, "And he said, 'What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'"

Proverbs 1:24–26, "Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity."

John 12:48, "The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day."

Psalm 139:1–2, "O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether."