

JONAH

THE EXTRAVAGANT
MERCY OF GOD

THE DEEP WEEDS OF DEFIANCE TO THE MERCY OF GOD

JONAH 1:1-16

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Before you begin: *Open with prayer and spend a minute or two in silence before God. Have multiple people ask the Holy Spirit to enter your time together and illuminate your hearts and minds to scripture.*

- Have someone read the passages in their entirety aloud. As a group, summarize the passage, and as you do so, note any observations, questions, and exciting insights you found while reading through the text. What jumped out at you? What was something you noticed now that you didn't see before?
- What do you notice about Jonah's defiance? How come Jonah doesn't want to call out against Ninevah's evil?
- There seems to be a lot of "hurling" going on in this passage. God "hurls" a storm, and the mariners "hurl" the cargo. Jonah was eventually hurled into the sea. How come the author uses this language? What point is he trying to string together?
- Jonah descends deep into the boat's lowest parts and goes to sleep. Why do you think he does this?
- What does it mean to fear the Lord? What irony do you pick up in this passage?
- Have you ever felt like you have wanted to shut God out? Was there ever a season of your life where you could relate to Jonah?

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SALVATION COMES FROM THE LORD

JONAH 1:17–2:10

SCRIPTURE STUDY

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- What do you notice about Jonah's prayer? Do you think he really means what he says?
- Talk about some of the imagery that is being used in Jonah's prayer. How does this describe his current situation? What do you think Jonah thinks about his circumstances?
- How come Jonah ends his prayer with the statement, "Salvation comes from the LORD."
- Have you ever had a time in your life when you thought God was really trying to get your attention? How did you respond initially? Where did you experience God's mercy?