



Bible
BOOK CLUB

November 2021 - JONAH

OPENING PRAYER

*I am not big enough for all that God needs me to do.
But, together, with sisters and brothers in God's family,
and with Christ as my Yokefellow,
the Kingdom can come on earth, as it is in heaven. Amen*

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

- Why did Jonah run away?
- While it wasn't their first course of action, the crew on the boat eventually threw Jonah overboard to save themselves (and stop the storm). In order to save yourself and others, would you be willing to throw someone else under the bus (or in this case, overboard)? What values guide your crisis management actions?
- What swallowed up Jonah? What was he ignoring? How have you felt "swallowed up" in the challenges of the last twenty months?
- What prayer have you used when you have been in a low part of your life?
- If there's one message from chapter two of the Story of Jonah, it is when you're feeling like things are absolutely hopeless, "Pray as if you have never prayed before!" In just one sentence, what would be your Fish Belly Prayer?
- Chapter three sees Jonah follow through on his promise to God and when he is asked to go to the city of Nineveh again, this time he goes. Jonah shares God's message with the people of Nineveh, and they listen and repent. Are you surprised by this response?
- Are you surprised by Jonah's response to God's actions?
- Jonah continues be angry and focus on his own miseries as he experiences the highs and lows that come with the tree, worm, and sun tribulations. What is the lesson God is trying to teach Jonah with this experience?

CLOSING PRAYER

*Lord, Mohammed Ali said, "I am the greatest."
But he only had to fight Sonny Liston and Joe Frazier.
You are the greatest,
because you took on sin, death, and the devil
to win back all creation to our God.
Lord, use the Jonah story as a sign to help us rise up and walk in your steps.
In your own name. Amen*

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This month's resource was prepared by Rev. Barry Bence.