

God's Reluctant Missionary Discussion Questions

Jonah 1-4

Rev. Brian Bill

September 20-21, 2025

1. Have you ever avoided doing something you knew God wanted you to do? What happened, or didn't happen, as a result? What can you learn from this to help you respond quickly the next time God prompts you to obey Him?
2. Read Nahum 3:1-4 and describe Ninevah in your own words (It was part of Assyria, a superpower enemy of Israel, known for military dominance and ruthless cruelty—including torture, mass deportation, and impaling enemies). Why would God send Jonah there? What does this say about His heart for people far from Him (see Ephesians 2:1-5)? How does this challenge your view of missions?
3. What do you think are the core reasons that Jonah ran from God's call? Why do we often resist what we know God wants us to do? In what ways do you run from God's call to share His message?
4. Who are the "Ninevites" in our world today? Who or what might be your "Nineveh" right now?
5. How does God pursue Jonah and redirect him? What does this reveal about God's commitment to His mission? How does this encourage or challenge you?
6. Jonah's sermon is just five words long in Hebrew. What does this show about the power of God's Word? Are there people or places you've underestimated spiritually?
7. How do the people of Nineveh respond to Jonah's message? Are you surprised by their response?
8. Why is Jonah angry about Nineveh's repentance? What does this reveal about the ugliness in his heart? Do you ever get upset or become skeptical when you hear of someone you don't like turning to Christ?
9. What does God's question in 4:11 reveal about His character?
10. What steps can you take this week to reflect God's heart for the nations? In what ways can you practice "first-time" obedience?
11. How can you support global missions by praying, giving, and going? Which Edgewood Go Team partner will you reach out to this week?