

# Sermon-Based Discussion Questions

## March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### God you want me to do what?

#### Ice Breaker Questions:

What did you know about the story of Jonah before this week?

When was a time that you experienced someone wanting you to do something you didn't want to do? How did it play out? Have you experienced this with God?

#### READ: Jonah 1

This week we got a front row seat to Jonah running from God and what God was asking him to do. What are some of the reasons people run from God and His plan today?

Jonah didn't have much compassion for the Ninevites, and he had a good reasons why. Can you identify and influences or experiences in your past or present that have diminished your compassion for others?

What were your big takeaways from this week's message?

#### Putting It into Practice:

1) Mark challenged, that "**God's Word is as clear to us as it was to Jonah**"

Discuss what the verses below are "calling" us **to do** or **to be** as followers of God?

You might use the following questions as a starting place for your discussion of the verses. "What is God asking me to do?" or "Where is God asking me to go?" "Where might I be tempted to flee?"

#### **Matthew 22:37-39**

<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

#### **Matthew 5:13-15, 43-45**

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous

#### **Matthew 28:19-20**

<sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

### **Colossians 3:12-14**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.<sup>14</sup>And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

### **Romans 12:1-2, 9-16**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2) Mark made the observation that “**Surrender comes before salvation**”. Many times, we think of surrender as a sign of weakness, loss or failure. Mark discussed how surrender is essential to a healthy and transformative relationship with God.

Read the following verses then jot down and discuss how you see strength coming from surrender. How might this type of surrender lead to growth for you?

### **John 13:12-15**

<sup>12</sup>When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. <sup>13</sup>“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. <sup>15</sup>I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

### **2 Corinthians 12:9-10**

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

### **Luke 22:39-42**

Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.” He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Have people share prayer requests for this week and spend some time praying for each other.

Ask how you might pray for each other as you consider these two questions  
What is God asking me to do? Where is God asking me to go?