

Sermon-Based Discussion Questions

April 7th, 2019

Ice Breaker Questions:

?

Talk about a time when you got a second chance.

JONAH: YOU want ME to do WHAT? – OVERTHROWN:

This week we got to read and consider when Jonah was given a second chance to do what God was asking Him to do.

READ: Jonah 2:10 – 4:1

Thinking back at this week's sermon on *Jonah: OVERTHROWN*, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

God's call to Jonah to be a **Godly influence** to the Ninevites is a similar call to all Christians to impact our world for Christ. There's a variety of initial responses when people hear that Christians are to impact the world for Jesus. What are the first two things that come to mind when you hear this statement?

Doug pointed out that a key word in Jonah's story and in the life of a follower of Jesus is the word **OBEDIENCE**. Doug talked about the importance of obeying even though we don't feel like it. Can you think of a time you went ahead and obeyed even though you had a bad attitude about it? If so, explain.

Doug talked about another key word in Jonah 3: **OVERTHROWN**. He pointed out that it is a Hebrews word, *Haphak*, that has double-meaning. Jonah was expecting and hoping for one but it turned out to be the other. Read the 2 examples of how the word is used in the Old Testament in the Bible:

- Example 1: Read Genesis 19:2 - In this use it means overthrown or destroyed or defeated.
- Example 2: Read 1 Samuel 10:6 - In this verse it's the same word but it means changed or transformed.

READ Romans 6:6-18 - Read the verses out loud and discuss what the passage might mean in regard to what God is working on overthrowing n us to bring us under His loving rule and leadership/lordship of our lives.

Why do you think it takes so much time for many of us to be overthrown, changed, and transformed to be like Jesus?

Read Philippians 1:6 – What does this tell us about the process of God overthrowing, changing, and transforming us?

Read Romans 12:1-2 – What does this tell us about the process of God overthrowing, changing, and transforming us?

TAKING IT HOME:

Doug said there were 4 “surrender moves” the King and the Ninevites made in this passage that show us the art of surrender to God. Which one is most challenging for you OR is the one most needed by you right now?

Surrender Move 1 – It starts with belief (verse 5)

Surrender Move 2 –King “got off his throne” = humility/repentance (verse 6)

Surrender Move 3 - They set aside their personal desires (verse 7-8)

Surrender Move 4 - They called out for mercy (8-9)

Are there areas in your life you’d like prayer for to get off the throne and allow God to change you from the inside out?

Are there any NEXT STEPS for you based on this week’s sermon that you would like us praying about with you?

Jonah was asked by God to be His representative to the world and be a Godly influence. He was given the challenging task of talking to people about God and what He wants for their life. Take a minute and talk to God about an opportunity for you to make an impact on a particular person or situation. And, talk about who you could invite to come to the Live Oak series starting on Easter called, Living Hope. Who do you know that needs hope right now? How could God use you to point them to the hope that God offers?

CLOSING PRAYER: Spend some time praying for each other based on the requests shared in the previous questions. Challenge everyone to pray for each other throughout the week.