

■ Discuss

As you listened to Eric Mason, what made an impression on you? What stood out?

What did Eric key in on as the main focus of this passage, and as the running theme for the book of Jonah?

What did you learn about Israel and Nineveh at the time of Jonah's life? How did Eric describe each nation?

According to verse 2, what purpose did God have for sending Jonah to Nineveh? What does this tell us about God?

How does Jonah respond to God's call?

What does Jonah's response reveal about the character of his heart?

Who are the "unlovables" in our lives?

What do we reveal about ourselves when we fail to love the "unlovables" in our lives the way God has loved us?

What are some of the personal beliefs that can govern our theology if we are not careful?

As you think about the life of Jesus, what are some examples of His compassion that come to mind?

What keeps you from seeing the lost like Jesus?

Who is God calling you to show compassion toward today? What is behind your theology that keeps it from becoming faithful obedience?

HANDOUT

Session 1: Jonah 1:1-3

THE BOOK OF

JONAH

■ Live it Out

Prayer: Before you start each day this week, stop and ask God to give you the boldness to love those who feel unlovable in your life.

Encouragement: Identify someone struggling with an area of life where God has called him or her to challenging obedience. Be intentional about making time to speak words of hope and comfort to them to build them up in bold obedience.

Confession: If you find yourself in a similar season of running from God like Jonah, seek out a believer you trust and talk to them about your struggles. Do so anticipating the kindness and mercy of God extended to you in Jesus Christ.

Journaling: Each evening this week, take a few moments to reflect on your day and write out three ways you responded to circumstances that stood out to you, good or bad.

Worship: Think back on your life and list out some of the significant times God has called you out of comfort and into fruitful obedience. As you go about your week, make time to intentionally thank Him through song, prayer, and praise.