

# Jonah: Perplexing Prophet

## Part 4 Jonah Preaches

2021.2.25&28



# TALKING WALKING POINTS

## Leaders' Guide



A publication of **DISCIPLE**, the adult discipleship ministry of Triangle Community Church

**Talk** together about the glory of God's kingdom. –Psalm 145:11  
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. –Joshua 22:5

## Questions for Community Group Discussion

- 1 What from Sunday's message interested you? ...made sense to you? ...confused you? ...intrigued you? ...upset you? ...encouraged you? ...and **why**?
- 2 From time to time, we all wish for a "do over". Tell about a time when God gave you a second chance. What was the situation? How did you respond the **first** time? How did you respond the **second** time?
- 3 Read John 21:15–17. After Peter denied Jesus three times, Jesus restored their fellowship and re-commissioned him for ministry. How has God ministered **to you** after a personal failure?
- 4 How have you seen God **redeem and use** others' personal failings to minister to you?
- 5 How have you seen God redeem and use **your own** personal failings to minister **to others**?

**8** **Creating "God Space":** "God Space" is where cynics, skeptics, and spiritually curious people can **safely** raise their questions, reservations, and doubts because we have listened well and demonstrated love in **practical, authentic** ways.

- Think of a friend or family member who might wish that they could have a second chance in life.
- What mistaken understandings might they have regarding God and his grace?
- Have you ever told them about when God gave **you** a second chance? Why or why not?
- Pray for them. Practice telling your "second chance story". Then, make plans to get together.

**7** As a group, worship the God of second chances.

## **6** Application-Challenge

- No matter how far you have strayed from God's will, he stands ready to forgive and re-commission you.
- Allow God to minister **to** you so that he can minister **through** you. Draw near to him and he will draw near to you.
- Recognize that no one is so far from God that he can't reach them. Our responsibility is to share the message. It is God's responsibility to save.



- 1 This is a handy, “go-to” opening question. Easy to answer, yet often exposes misunderstanding or strong negative reactions. These can be gently dealt with, either in the meeting or individually afterward. Sometimes it tips you off to key growth opportunities.
- 2 Ask all of these questions at once, giving group members time to think through their stories. Be ready with your own story (you may need to “prime the pump”)—**but don’t jump in too soon!** You’d rather hear from them. Don’t move onto 3 until several stories are on the table.
- 3 Have a group member read John 21:15–17, and then move onto the questions. Responses can be based upon the stories shared in 2, but be ready with your own thoughts. Again—don’t rush to fill a silence; it’s much better to hear from group members.
- 4 This is a positive, hope-filled concept: “God causes **all things** to work for good” for his born-again children (Romans 8:28). Note that we must be careful to define “good” the way **God** defines it! Too often, we define good as “comfortable”, “pleasant”, or “personally-advancing” (“God gave me a flat tire so that I wouldn’t be involved in that big accident on the beltline.” or “She broke up with me—God must have a prettier girl out there for me.”, etc.) But “good” = “conformity to character of Christ” (see Romans 8:29). As you listen to group members’ answers, ask follow-up questions that help them look for **spiritual transformation** in themselves which resulted from others’ failures. It could be as simple as a decision to make changes in an attempt to try to avoid personal failure.
- 5 This question takes the concept to a new level of vulnerability. On the one hand, it may be difficult to know what changes others have made due to one’s own failings, so group members may need to think “close to home”—how were those closest to me/most directly impacted by my failure impacted for good? Or, this question may fall flat! If so, just move on!
- 6 Note the change in order of questions! Whether 5 fell flat and you moved on, or if it revealed deep humility and vulnerability regarding personal failures, group members will be encouraged by today’s Application-Challenge and by the offer of help from TCC’s Biblical Counseling ministry. So, read these items to the group and urge them to take advantage of growth opportunities their church offers. Then...
- 7 ...based either on the sharing which occurred in 5, the warmth evident in the Application-Challenge, or Jesus’ tender example with Simon Peter ( 3 ), lead your group in a bit of worship of our gracious God.
- 8 Preserve a good 10-15 minutes to discuss “Creating God Space”. Help group members decide to **do something redemptive** with their failures.

**Urge the men in your group to join you for the up-coming PointMan Firepit breakfast!**  
**(Are *you* registered yet?!)**



# MEN!

# THE WAIT

# IS OVER!



## **PointMan** Breakfast at the fire pit!

- Saturday, March 13

- 9<sup>00</sup>-10<sup>30</sup>am

- Just \$10

- Bring a camp chair

- Chick-fil-a breakfast (gluten free option available)

- To register: [tcc.org](http://tcc.org)

Keyword: **PointMan**

