

JONAH 3 & 4 – SPEAKING OUT

WATCH



WATCH: <https://vimeo.com/455837784>

Jonah 4 (9'34)

Taken from HTB groups

REFLECTION

- Why did God ask Jonah questions? What do God's questions reveal about the way he relates to us?
- Are there people or people groups that you feel do not deserve God's grace, mercy and love? Why?
- How easy is it to sit at a distance and react to the world, rather than actively participate in God's work of redemption?
- What parallels can you see between the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15: 11-32) and the story of Jonah? In what ways are we challenged by both stories?



Read Jonah 3 & 4

Evangelism: Like Jonah, we have a message to share

1. **Read Jonah 3 v 4.** The account of Jonah's message to the Ninevites here is succinct and to the point! What are the key components of the message of good news in Jesus that God gives us today to share? Is there anything that ties in with Jonah's message?
2. How does God help us to share the good news of Jesus?
Look at **Ephesians 6 vv 19-20; 2 Thessalonians 3 v 1; and Acts 4 v 31.**
3. What else can we learn from the Bible about speaking about our faith?
Look at **1 Peter 3 vv 15-16 and 2 Timothy 4 v 2.**
4. Consider your own testimony. Many people are not persuaded by a sermon but rather are convicted by living alongside believers. How about you? Share your faith story with others in the group.

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BIBLE STUDY

The book of Jonah holds a mirror up to ourselves

5. Jonah 4 is a confusing and in some ways disappointing ending to the book. We would like the book to finish in chapter 3 happily ever after, but instead we witness Jonah in a conversation with God which reveals what lies in his heart.
 - How is Jonah addressing God in this chapter? Compare it with chapter 2.
 - Do you think you have ever addressed God in the way Jonah is showing us here?
 - What lessons did you learn / do you learn about how God responds from studying the conversation here?

6. 'How we **react** is often a better thermometer of our heart than how we **act**'*. As believers, Jesus is our model.
 - In Luke 4 v 43, we see that Jesus saw his mission on earth as 'preaching the good news'.
 - In Philippians 2 vv 5-8, we see Jesus' willingness to give up what was his right in order to obey his Father.

Consider both these images as you look at Jonah in this book – remembering that Jonah, despite often being criticised, teaches us many lessons about ourselves. Look back over the book of Jonah and consider what you have learnt as you have followed Jonah through different snapshots and seasons in his walk with God.

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GOING DEEPER

Read this quote from
Man Overboard by Sinclair B Ferguson

“If a person were to observe your life from the outside - who you spend time with, are committed to and think about - which group of people might they conclude you were most eager to share the gospel with, and which group least?”

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PRAY

Thank God for Jesus who helps us where we fail, and who gives us the perfect model to follow.

We live in a time of grace when, through Jesus, God's love is freely available to all who turn to him. We always need to search and guard our hearts against prejudice.

But this requires us to be open to God's searching voice, and to be alert to turning inwards and away from those who are different to us or who we dislike.

'Once exposed, (our prejudices) must be destroyed by grace'.

Man Overboard by Sinclair B Ferguson

