

THE CALL OF JONAH

Jonah 1-4

Key Verse: 3:1-2, "Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, 'Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.'"

1. In chapter 1, notice all that the LORD God does (1,2,4,15,17). Notice all that Jonah does (3,5,9,12). Why do you think Jonah ran away from God's call?
2. In chapter 2, where is Jonah and what does he do? How does he end his prayer (9)? What does God do (10)?
3. In chapter 3, how does God give Jonah a second chance, and how does Jonah respond this time and why (1-3)? What was Jonah's message and how did the Ninevites respond (4-6)? What is the spirit of the king's decree, and how did God respond (8-10)?
4. Notice that, even though Jonah's mission was accomplished, there is another chapter. Who is God trying to help in chapter 4? What did Jonah pray and what was he hoping for (1-3,5)? Notice all that God does to teach Jonah (4,6,7,8). What is Jonah's repeated hope (8,9)? What did God try to teach him?
5. Jonah has been called "the reluctant prophet." What other adjectives would you use to describe him? In the short book of Jonah, what do you learn about God and his hope for sinners and for his servants? Have you found some attitude in yourself to repent of?