



When You're Struggling with Where God Is Leading You

May 3, 2020

OPENING PRAYER

Light of the world, shine upon us and disperse the clouds of our selfishness, so that we may reflect the power of your love and grace in our life together. Amen.

Surrender...the hardest thing to do, but the results are phenomenal when God is the one you're surrendering to.

Unknown

BREAKING THE ICE:

Often the story of Jonah is told as a Sunday School lesson to children. When was the first time you heard the story of Jonah? If you heard this story as a child, what do you remember about it? Did you ever run away or avoid something or someone?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

The children's story of Jonah is often very different from the actually biblical account. Consider reading the entire book as a devotional. Read Jonah 1:1-3

- Nineveh was a powerful and wicked city of the Assyrian Empire. Why does God love everyone, even those who do not do what is right? If God was telling you this story today, who would replace the Ninevites? How does that make you feel? What is God speaking to you?
- Jonah's reaction and attitude are indicative of a hesitancy/unwillingness to enter into hostile situations that many of us have probably seen or experienced before. In what ways do you identify with Jonah? Where is God calling you that seems difficult and uncomfortable?
- How do we know that God wants us to tell everyone else about God?

NEXT STEPS:

- Remember a time when you have run from God's purpose and plan for your life? What were the consequences of your running from God? Are there current areas of your life where you see that pattern developing?
- When Jonah didn't like what God was telling him to do, his first instinct was to run. How do you respond to tasks that are painful and uncomfortable? In prayer, how does God want you to respond?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

No one is beyond God's grace and love. Let us begin to pray for those who seem to be or to feel far from the love of God and look for ways to tell them about God.

Faithful God make our hearts bold with love for one another. Point us to those who do not know your love; give us the words to share. Pour out your Spirit upon all people, that we may live your justice and sing in praise the new song of your marvelous victory. Amen.