

TAKEAWAY

Mission Uncomfortable Lessons from inside a whale

FROM THE BELLY TO THE BEACH

Sunday 15th September 2019

INTRODUCTION

This chapter of Jonah sees him sat inside a whale praying to God before being vomited onto dry land. It's an odd scene to picture, but it gives us a glimpse of the great grace of God being rediscovered personally by a man who struggled to accept that God's grace was for everyone.

READ

Jonah 2

DISCUSS

1. In verse 1, Jonah acknowledges that it's his distress that brings him to a place where he calls to God, in verse 7 he remembered God when his life was ebbing away. It's easy to ignore God when he's asking us to do things we don't want to do, or just even when our world is going well. Do you sometimes fall into the trap of only calling on God when you have a problem? How do you avoid that?
2. What is notable, too, is that Jonah's response to God is one

- of praise, even though he sees God as the one who has brought him to the place he's in. When have you been in places of despair? How do you respond to God when your world is falling apart?
3. Praise can help us reorient our world; it helps us remember who God is and who we are in comparison. Jonah is comforted by remembering who God is and that He's with him. Do you have any Bible verses that can help you do this? Or any songs?
 4. Gemma talked about the fact that Jonah did not initially display a great deal of faith but that that didn't change how

faithful God is. How strong would you say your faith is?

5. When have you experienced the faithfulness of God?
6. When have you doubted God's faithfulness? What, if anything, restored your faith in Him?

PRAY

7. A week ago you were set a challenge to pray for 3 friends/family to come to Alpha. How's this going? Could you invite someone this week? Take some time to pray for courage in this, this week.

