

TAKEAWAY

MISSION UNCOMFORTABLE

Lesson from the belly of a whale

From the Throne to the Floor

Sunday 22nd September

INTRODUCTION

This short chapter is one of turn arounds. Jonah chooses to obey God and an entire city changes direction. It's a story of God's amazing ability to transform whole societies and to soften even the hardest hearts.

READ

Jonah 3

DISCUSS

1. In verse 4 it says that Jonah started into the city, but that can also be translated that he let go. He let go of the reasons that had stopped him from going there in the first place. What stops you from sharing God's word or inviting people to church or Alpha? What do you need to let go of?

2. In verse 3, Nineveh is described as a large city, but the phrase can also be translated, a city important God. It was proud and arrogant city that was the enemy of Israel, but God loved it

anyway. Jonah struggled with the possibility of them receiving grace. Are there regimes or people that you struggle to want to receive God's grace?

3. Are there people in your life who you think would benefit from knowing that God loves them even in their mess and brokenness? How can you help them hear that message?

4. God's message for Nineveh was that they had 40 days to turn things around. Their response was instant. (v5). The King got off his throne, took off his royal clothes and called the nation to fast and pray. Who is on the throne of your life? Do you need to make way for God's lordship in your life?

5. It was an extraordinary response that Jonah probably wasn't expecting! Who don't you expect to respond if you talk to them about Christ, how does this story encourage you to keep trying?

6. Spend some time together as a group sharing the people you'd love to come to know Jesus, pray for them and for each other, that you would have boldness to share your faith.

7. Please pray too for our Alpha team as they prepare to start a new course next week, for lots of guests to tell about Jesus and maybe consider if your group might be able to cook for one evening?

