

Group Devotional Questions

1. In what ways has the story of Jonah deepened the way you see God's faithfulness, compassion, or persistence this weekend?
2. Friday night, Matt connected that Jonah, meaning dove, suggests that he is going to represent the story of all of Israel throughout the book. How does Jonah's story parallel Israel's story? How do you see God's faithfulness and mission in Israel's story as a whole?
3. God's faithfulness to Jonah/Israel and compassion upon Ninevah/Nations come to the forefront in Jonah's story. We see so clearly Jonah's unfaithfulness & God's faithfulness, Jonah's selective compassion, and God's broad compassion. Yet, it is harder to see in our own lives sometimes. In what ways do we, like Jonah & Israel, also lack compassion? Alternatively, in what ways have seen God's persistence & compassion show up in your life?
4. Jonah and Israel left God's call to be an outward-oriented people unfulfilled. Ultimately, this call was what Jesus fulfilled as he faithfully extended God's faithfulness to Israel (and us) and compassion to the nations (and us). Yet, as the church, we often follow in the footsteps of Israel/Jonah. We turn inwards rather than remaining outwardly focused. What would it look like for your ministry to live more outwardly focused on your campus & in your community? Or, to borrow Matt's words from Friday night, what would it look like for your group to more faithfully stop playing church and start being the church with each other and for the world?
5. We know what God has saved us from, and should remember and celebrate this often. But what is God saving you to? Maybe it is a passion God has given you or something he has placed on your heart. Maybe it is reconciliation with someone or finally bringing up faith with that friend. Maybe it is something entirely different. What has been holding you back? What would it look like to take a step towards this? Share this with someone who can hold you accountable for this step.