

**The River Church**  
**50/50 Bible Study Challenge - Week 2**

**Jonah 1**

**Memory verse** Jonah 1:2 (NIV) “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”

**Talking points:**

**Verses 1-3**

In verse 2, What do you think God’s heart is towards Nineveh?

In verse 3, it says Jonah ran away from God? Is it possible to run away from God? Why does Jonah disobey God? Is there any good reason?

**Note** - (Check in maps, Joppa to Nineveh - Joppa to Tarshish)

Please research and write what you know about the City of Nineveh?

Are there any stories about you running away from God, like Jonah? If yes, how did that go for you? Or Is there any area of your life in which you are running from God now?

Like Jonah we all have a calling on our lives, what is the call that is mentioned in the NT for all believers?

**Verses 4- 6**

How does Jonah's decision to flee from God's command lead to consequences, both for himself and for those around him? In what ways can disobedience to God's instructions impact our lives and the lives of others?

In verse 5, Where is Jonah during all the commotion? What is he doing? Is there any similar instance that happened in the NT with different results?

Jonah is found sleeping in the midst of the storm. What might this signify about his spiritual state or mindset?

In verse 6, What can we learn from the fact a idol worshiper had to urge a prophet of God to pray?

**Verses 7-10**

Explain the significance of casting lots in OT. Why would it have worked? List other passages that talk about casting lots? Can we use this method today?

In verse 10, How do the sailors respond to Jonah's confession of running away from God's command?

**Verses 11-16**

What effort did the men make in 1:13, and what was the result?

In verse 14, What lessons can we draw from the sailors' actions in terms of seeking repentance and turning to God in times of crisis?

In what ways can challenging or uncomfortable situations in our lives be opportunities for God's mercy and transformation?

In verse 17, What are your thoughts on God providing a great fish to swallow Jonah? How does this demonstrate God's mercy on Jonah?

Many unbelievers doubt the story of Jonah because of its miraculous aspects. How do you help or answer them to prove it is the real story that happened?