

LEADERSHIP COACHING: BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Discipleship Phrase: I can trust God.

Big Idea for Series: Discovering God's character & plan through the Minor Prophets.

Abiding [grow as a disciple yourself]

The curriculum this week, like every week, ends with the "hands" question (a call to action). The action is to seek earnest prayer & to repent. That said, where is repentance most needed in your personal walk with the Lord? Be ready to share honestly with your group this week on what that looks like for you today. As a leader, you cannot ask the group to do something you're not willing to do yourself.

Leading [learn to facilitate your group more effectively]

As group begins this week take some time to remind your group why we do group in the first place. Do personal business with that beforehand because it's important, as a leader, that you know your *why*. You also must be able to articulate it to the group as a whole, communicating clearly and effectively. What is your why? Why are you doing this? What drives you? Why are you passionate about discipleship? This is a good segue into discussing what group looks like for next year. Invite your group to begin praying and thinking about what God wants for your group next season. Follow up in 2 weeks.

Shepherding [know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]

A great way to shepherd your group is to protect your group and at times shepherds must protect the sheep from each other. An effective way to do that is by setting some boundaries. These are our guidelines. They provide structure and safety in the group helping to create a relational environment. Make certain to review the guidelines at least once a month in order to preserve the quality of your group time and to protect the sheep.

Background Plus[®] [a deeper dive into the context of this week's story]

- Jonah is the only OT prophet who God sent to a heathen nation with a message of repentance.
- Nineveh, on the Tigris River, had walls 100 feet high and 50 feet thick.
- During Jonah's years as a prophet, Israel was politically solid, but spiritually rocky.
- The Bible Project - [Jonah](#)

All Church [know what's happening]



Oct. 5th - Men!!! **LAST CHANCE TO REGISTEER!** Don't miss out! Register by clicking [here!](#)

WEEK 7 TOPIC: ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

WEEK 7 TAKEAWAY: WHEN GOD CALL YOU, ANSWER THE CALL.

Open in Prayer

Welcome/Introductions

Review the Guidelines [Share the guidelines to set the rails for group time]

Review Last Week [A follow up to last week's takeaway]

What's one thing you've repented from since last week? [Follow up for accountability]

Ask A Hook Question [A thought provoking question to get the group focused]

Was there ever a time or situation when running *seemed* to be your best option?

Share Background for the Story [A thought provoking question to get the group focused]

As with his two predecessors, Elijah & Elisha, Jonah also ministered in and to Israel, as well as in Phoenicia and Aram. Jonah was Israel's "foreign missionary," whereas Hosea was Israel's "home missionary." The total population of Nineveh was about 600,000. It's residents were idolaters and worshipped Asur & Ishtar. They were the chief male and female deities, worshiped by almost all the Assyrians as well. Tarshish was more than 2,500 miles in the opposite direction of Nineveh. It was the most remote destination available to Jonah.

Share the Story: [Jonah 1 & 2](#)

Rebuild the Story [An invitation for all in group to engage]

Read from Scripture [Read out loud to see if anything was added or omitted]

Discussion Questions: [An opportunity for the group to dive beyond the surface]

1. How did Jonah first respond to the Lord's message? How does he respond in the end?
2. Jonah discovers he can't outrun God. Where are you running **to**, thinking it's beyond God's reach?
3. What are you running **from** that you know God is calling you to do right now?
4. In the fish, when Jonah lost all hope, he responded by earnest prayer and repentance. How can you do the same this week?

Assign Next Week's Passage: [Jonah 3 & 4](#)

Prayer Requests [Share with group & follow up throughout the week]

Closing Prayer [Ask openly for a volunteer]
