

# SERMON STUDY QUESTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2018

1. Read Jonah 1:1-3
2. What is unusual about the way the book of Jonah begins?
3. Why was the call to Nineveh so difficult for Jonah to swallow?
4. Jonah refuses to obey God's call and instead runs in the opposite direction. In doing so we saw that Jonah wasn't running from Nineveh, but he was running from God. Why? What was Jonah's hang-up with God?
5. Many skeptics and atheists argue that if there is a God like you say there is, who is all-loving and all-wise and all-powerful, then why is He allowing these bad things to happen? How do you respond to that argument?
6. At various times many professing Christians have struggled with a certain attribute of God or something He has done or allowed. For Jonah he struggled with God's mercy, that He would forgive terrible sinners and invite them into a relationship with Himself. How would you counsel someone who is struggling with begrudging thoughts towards God?
7. Both in Jonah's story as well as in the Parable of the Prodigal Son we learn the lesson that it's never a good move to move away from God, as that move will only take us lower. Why is that?
8. Why might someone struggle with that fact that God is merciful to sinners? What heart issue underlies such an attitude?
9. What application can you make from this sermon/text?
10. Pray?