

SOMETHING GREATER

TEXT: MATTHEW 12:38-42, MATTHEW 12:6

We've walked through the entire narrative of Jonah. Now we're taking a "big picture" look at the Book of Jonah in light of the good news of Jesus Christ. Jesus tells us that the Old Testament bears witness to him (Luke 24:44). So what does Jonah have to do with Jesus? How does the Book of Jonah point us to Jesus Christ as our only hope?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **HEAD:** Questions aimed at our minds to help us *understand* God's word.
 - Luke 24:13-27 tells the story of Jesus walking with two disciples after his resurrection. Their eyes were kept from recognizing him as they shared their confusion and discouragement surrounding the death of Jesus. In verses 26-27 we then read: *[26] Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" [27] And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.* What does this tell us about how we should understand the Old Testament (including The Book of Jonah)?
 - Read Matthew 12:6, then verses 38-41 and think back over the narrative of Jonah. What does Jesus mean when he says that no sign will be given to the generation except for the sign of Jonah? Are there any other places in Jonah where you see connections to Christ?
2. **HEART:** Questions aimed at our affections to help us *love* God.
 - The Book of Jonah is the story of God's relentless pursuit of sinners. He pursued the pagan sailors, he pursued the wayward prophet, and he pursued the wicked city. How has God pursued you with his grace in the past? How is he pursuing you with his grace in the present?

- Matthew 12:6, 38-41 show us that Jesus is the true and better Prophet (v.41- *greater than Jonah*), Priest (12:6- *greater than the temple*), and King (12:42- *greater than Solomon*). How does understanding the person and work of Christ in this way deepen your appreciation and affection for Jesus?
3. **HANDS:** Questions aimed at our hands to help us *live for* God (Personally, Communally, and Missionally).
- As we come to the end of our series on The Book of Jonah, what have you learned? In what ways have you been corrected by God's word? In what ways have you been encouraged? How will you, by God's grace, seek to live differently in light of the truth of God's word?

DIG DEEPER

- Keller on Jonah and Jesus
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/justin-taylor/keller-on-jonah-and-jesus/>
- Seeing and Preaching The Gospel of Jesus in Jonah
<https://ftc.co/resource-library/blog-entries/seeing-and-preaching-the-gospel-of-jesus-in-jonah>
- The Triple Cure- Jesus as our Prophet, Priest, and King
<https://www.monergism.com/triple-cure-jesus-christ-%E2%80%93-our-prophet-priest-and-king>