



**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023**



**Jonah 1: Running from the Almighty**



**Why do we run from God? (v.1-3)**



**How does God catch our attention? (v.4-10)**



**What is God's good purpose for our lives? (v.11-16)**

## **Questions for study and reflection this week**

### **Why do we run from God?**

Read Jonah 1:1-3.

Why do you think the story of Jonah is in most children's Bibles, but we don't give it the same attention as adults?

What clues in verse 1 tell us that this is going to be a true story?

Why did Jonah run away from the mission God gave him? (See Jonah 4:2)

In what ways can we run from God? Have you tried doing this?

Like Jonah, do we ever resent the idea of certain people becoming Christians because we think they don't deserve Jesus? What does God want us to understand about His grace?

### **How does God catch our attention?**

Read Jonah 1:4-10.

Why is the worst outcome for us when we sin, that things go smoothly?!

Why do you think God sent a storm to disrupt Jonah's boat trip?

Why were Jonah's actions completely inconsistent with his beliefs? How do we sometimes do the same?

Has God ever allowed you to go through a storm in order to turn your heart back to Him?

### **What is God's good purpose for our lives? (v.11-16)**

Read Jonah 1:11-16.

Why was Jonah's confession an important first step in his turnaround?

How difficult do you find it to confess your sin to God? What about confessing your sin to others? What would our church be like if we were more willing to take responsibility for our sins?

How is verse 15 a picture of the Gospel of Jesus? How does Jesus bring peace & calm to our lives?