

THROUGH FEAR TO FAITH

Jonah 1:4-16

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. THE STORMY SEA
2. THE FEARFUL SAILORS
3. THE WILLING SUBSTITUTE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. This week, Pastor Ryan talked about how fear can manifest itself in our lives in many different ways. Three of the main ways he touched on were anger, sadness and exhaustion. Which of these sound most like you? What are you afraid of?
3. When they encounter the storm, the sailors in Jonah chapter 1 immediately start crying out to their gods and then later called out to the one true God. Read Romans 1:18-21. What do you think of the idea that deep down everyone knows there is a God? What are some evidences of this that you've seen in people who claim there is no God?
4. Storms tend to reveal who you really are. Describe a time when you felt fragile. What caused you to feel that way? What did you learn about yourself? What did you learn about God?
5. Pastor Ryan talked about how it's entirely possible for us to go through life religiously bargaining with God and not even realize it. Do you bargain with God? How do you know whether or not you do? What are some problems with this approach to a relationship with God?
6. What the sailors needed, and what we need, is to fear the Lord not the storm. The thing that can lead us to this right kind of "fear" is seeing the storm of God's wrath instantly disappearing due to one man's sacrifice. What are some similarities between Jonah being thrown into the sea and Jesus dying on the cross? What are some differences?
7. **OPEN DISCUSSION:** The fear of the Lord is the fear that frees us from every other kind of fear. Take some time to talk about what the "fear of the Lord" is and why it can free us from all other fear. If you don't know what it is then consider taking this week to do some research on this topic and then talk about it next week.