

# JONAH, JESUS, AND US

## Jonah: The Man, the Myth, the Legend Pt 2

### APPETIZER: Living up to His Name

Jonah, son of Amittai – dove, son of truth/faithfulness.

- Currently on the run
- Boarded a ship to Tarshish
- Falls asleep

### DINE IN: Down, Down, Down

Jonah 1:4-17

...but Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. v.5

#### Descent of Jonah

“went down to Joppa” (v.3)

“gone below deck”(v. 5)

“fell into a deep sleep”(v.5)

#### Jonah's Identity

“I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” v.9

“Ivri Anochi” – I am a Hebrew

“The God of the Hebrews has sent us”, he declares: that is, a God whose writ is not contained by borders. **For this is a God who is not attached to one country because He existed long before countries, a God who rules the universe because He created the universe.** The name “ivri” thus connotes one who, believing in this God, asserts that no place on earth is devoid of His presence and providence.”

-Rabbi Meir Y. Soloveichik

The God of the Hebrews

Exodus 5:2-3

- Do you know who you are?
- Which version of God do you claim to worship and follow?

#### Story of the Sailors

At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to him. v. 16

The magnitude of who God really is causes them to shift their entire lives.

### TAKE OUT: Waking Up

Went down/descent = Hebrew symbol for death.

Do your words match your actions?

What small, little choices are taking you down further?

Seeing Jesus in Jonah

Mark 4:38-41

- Jesus calmed the storm
- Jesus flips the script on what he does and who he is.
- He challenges his disciples

“Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

Mark 4:40

We wake up by seeing Jesus for who he is and where we fit into His story.

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## Home Church Questions

### HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. Have you ever fallen asleep at an inopportune time? Share these stories with each other? (Bonus points for the funniest experience)
2. Recap the teaching as a group. What stood out to you? What was new to you?

### HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read through **Jonah 1:4-17** together.
  - a. What verse or idea stands out to you?
  - b. Insert yourselves into the story. Discuss what thoughts/emotions/experience you would have if you were one of the sailors. If you were the captain. If you were Jonah.
  - c. Contrast the ethical behavior of the sailors with the ethical behavior of Jonah. The sailors tried to save themselves and Jonah, a foreigner, while Jonah willingly risked the city of Ninevah. Take note of the sailors prayer and response to God in verse **14-16**.
  - d. If you're wondering about casting lots, and what this is, check out these other examples in scripture where this practice is used: **Leviticus 16:8, Joshua 18:8-10, Nehemiah 10:34, Matthew 27:35, Acts 1:26**
  - e. The book of Jonah points to Jesus. Read **Mark 4:38-41** and talk about the similarities and differences between this passage and Jonah.

### HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

4. Are there areas in your life you're still sleeping? What is one step you can take this week to "wake up"?

*August 11/18, 2019 // @KarmynBokma*