

Discussion Guide: Week of June 7–13, 2026
Jonah 1:1–17 – Hearing and Obeying God’s Call

1. Share a story from your life when you knew what the right thing to do was, but you really didn’t want to do it.
2. What’s an observation you’ve made about the world (or from a movie/book like *Juror Number Two*) where someone had to choose between doing what was right and protecting their own comfort, reputation, or plans?
3. What did God specifically command Jonah to do at the beginning of the chapter? (Answer: Go to the great city of Nineveh and announce God’s judgment against it because of the people’s wickedness.)
4. What did the sailors ultimately do after casting lots and talking with Jonah, and what was the immediate result? (Answer: They threw Jonah into the sea after praying to the Lord; the storm stopped at once.)
5. The sermon highlights how the pagan sailors repeatedly tried to do the right thing (casting lots fairly, rowing harder to avoid killing Jonah, praying to Jonah’s God). What might it say about God’s ability to work through unlikely people?
6. God pursued Jonah even when he was running away. What does this say about God’s grace?
7. In the sermon, Pastor Kenji emphasized that the core of the Christian life is simply “hear and obey.” What is one area in your daily life right now where you sense God calling you to obey, but your own will is pulling you in the opposite direction?
8. How can we practically build the habit of daily listening to God and surrendering our will to His, especially when our own plans, dreams, or fears feel very strong? What small step will you take this week?
9. Prayer Time Guide: Close your group by inviting everyone to share briefly: (a) one thing they want prayer for personally, and (b) one area where they want to grow in obedience or integrate the truths from Jonah 1 into their life. Then spend time in prayer, thanking God for His pursuit of us (even when we run), asking for ears to hear His voice clearly, and committing to surrender our will to His. End by thanking Jesus, who perfectly obeyed and calmed the storm.