

The book of Jonah: Chapter 2

Read chapter 2

What is the main point of chapter 2?

Verses 1

- Where was Jonah?
- What did he do, and to whom?
- What does this tell us about his faith?
- How would you have reacted if you were in his situation (a difficult or lonely situation – not necessarily inside a fish)?

Verse 2

- What was Jonah's emotional condition?
- What did he do in that condition?
- What did he call being inside the fish?
- Was this real or the way he felt?
- What did he call for?
- What did the Lord do?
- Have you ever felt like Jonah when you've gone through difficult situations?
- What did you do?
- Has God answered your prayers in real ways when you've called out to him in distress?

Verse 3

- Who threw Jonah into the sea, according to Jonah?
- Do you think he was right?
- What happened to Jonah when he was in the sea?
- Why was he so descriptive about it?
- Has your life ever been in a turmoil?
- Do you think God allowed, or even orchestrated, it at times?

Verse 4

- Why was Jonah in despair?
- Where did his hope lie?
- Is there always hope in times of despair?
- Where does your hope lie?
- What does the temple represent?

Verse 5

- What was he experiencing in this verse?
- Do you think that this represents anything that we can experience when we go through hard times?
- What figure of speech is used in this verse?

Verse 6

- What is the significance of his saying that he sank down to the roots of the mountains?
- What does it mean when he said that "the earth beneath barred him in forever?"
- Did it do that?
- What did the Lord do?
- Have you ever felt so depressed that you felt that you would never get out of it?
- Did the Lord do something for you?

Verse 7

- What does “When my life was ebbing away” mean?
- Why did Jonah pray that?
- What did Jonah do?
- Had he forgotten the Lord?
- Why did his prayer “rise” to God’s holy temple?
- When it feels like your life is ebbing away what do you do?
- Now that there isn’t a temple in Jerusalem where do our prayers go?

Verse 8

- What does he say about idols?
- Why are they worthless?
- What happens to those who turn to idols?
- What is an idol?
- Can we have idols in our lives?
- Have we got any idols in our lives?

Verse 9

- What did Jonah say he would do?
- With what attitude would he do it?
- Was this a sign of his repentance?
- What did offering a sacrifice mean to Jonah as a Jew?
- Do you think Jonah had confidence that God was going to save him from the belly of the fish?
- Do think that Jonah was bargaining with God? (If you do this then I will...)
- Is it right to bargain with God?
- What should our attitude be towards God when we’re going through difficult times, especially if we’re in them due to our own sin or disobedience?
- What have you done before God when you were going through difficult times?

Verse 10

- Did God answer Jonah’s prayer?
- What did God do?
- Do you think that God would have done that even if Jonah hadn’t prayed?
- What did the fish do?
- Has God ever brought you out of situations that you thought you would never get out of?