

Small Group Discussion Questions

Friday Night - *The Runner: You Can't Outrun God* (Jonah 1:1-3)

- What stood out to you most from tonight?
- What are some subtle ways teens “run from God” without totally rejecting Him?
- Have you ever felt like you were suppressing something God was calling you toward? What did that feel like?

Leader Prompt: Help them see running isn't always dramatic rebellion - it can be distraction, delay, avoidance.

- Jonah was angry that God showed mercy to people he hated. Have you ever struggled when someone you dislike experiences success, forgiveness, or blessing?
- What do you think bitterness does to us internally?

Leader Prompt: Don't force names publicly, just invite reflection.

- Jonah looked good outwardly but was resistant inside. What are ways we hide what's going on in our hearts?
- Have you ever gone through something hard that later helped you wake up spiritually?
- When life gets hard, do you tend to lean toward him or pull away? Why?
- Life can be painful and confusing. What questions about God are you afraid to say out loud?
- Think of the magnet illustration. What are some “others loves” that can flip our hearts away from God?

- What's one small, practical step you could take when you get home to move closer to God?

Examples: Apologizing to someone. Deleting something unhealthy. Starting a daily habit with God. Asking for help.

Saturday Morning - *The Storm: God's Discipline & Relentless Love* (Jonah 1:4-16)

- When you think about your life right now, would you say you're in a storm? Why or why not?
- Which type of storm feels most relatable to you right now:
 - Something out of your control?
 - Consequences of your own choices?
 - Or possibly God trying to wake you up?
- How can we tell the difference between punishment and loving discipline?

Leader Prompt: Don't force students to label their storm publicly if it's sensitive.

- When things get hard, what's your first instinct?
 - Fix it yourself?
 - Distract yourself?
 - Blame someone?
 - Pray?
- Share a story of when you tried to fix something but only made it worse.
- In what areas do you struggle with authority? (Parents, teachers, coaches, God)
- What does self-worship look like in teen life?
- Have you ever been frustrated with God because He didn't do or want what you wanted?
- Which animal best describes your spiritual life right now? Or, pick your own:
 - Turtle (hiding), Hedgehog (defensive), Mule (stubborn), Sloth (lazy/delaying), Puppy (fake-happy)
- What would growth look like for that animal?
- How does remembering who Jesus is change how we face storms?

Saturday Night - *The Awakening: Sin, Mercy, & the Call to Follow Jesus* (Jonah 1:17-2:10)

- What part of the Thai cave rescue story stood out to you most?
- What makes surrender hard for us spiritually? Where are you still trying to “swim yourself out” instead of trusting Jesus?
- Do you ever feel like you’ve messed up too much for God to forgive? How does knowing God is patient change the way you see him?

Leader Prompt: Grace doesn’t excuse sin - it overwhelms it. What does that mean to you?

- What’s the difference between being sorry you got caught and being sorry you hurt someone?
- What does true repentance look like? Why would it be good and healthy to practice repentance as a lifestyle?
- Why do you think we compare our sin to other peoples?
- What happens when we compare ourselves to God’s holiness instead?
- What differences stood out to you between Jonah and Jesus?

Leader Prompt: Handle this next one gently. Don’t force anyone to share.

- What did you sense God was saying to you tonight? How did you respond? If your willing, share and encourage the group.
- How can we pray for courage to walk differently tomorrow?

Sunday Morning - *The Mission: Saved People Are Sent People* Jonah 3 & 4, Ephesians 4:10

- What stood out to you most from this morning?
- What comes to mind when you hear “you have a Nineveh”? Who in your life might that be?
- Why is it easier to care about a plant (comfort, reputation, personal happiness) than people?

Leader Prompt: If you really believed your friends needed Jesus, how would that change your Monday?

- What excuse do you relate to most? (Add an excuse if it’s not on there)
 - I’m too young
 - I don’t know enough
 - I’m awkward
 - I’m scared of rejection
 - I don’t feel ready
- Why do we think we have to be impressive for God to use us?
- Where have you seen God use ordinary people?
- What does training spiritually look like for a teenager? What’s one area you know you need to grow in?

Leader Prompt: Who could help you grow in this area?

- What excites you about living on mission? What makes you feel nervous?
- What’s one specific action you can take this week?
- If you return to Snocamp next year, what do you hope will be different about your life in a year from now. How can you make that future a reality this year?

Leader Prompt: Pray for boldness, compassion, faithfulness, endurance.