

Discussion Questions

“A Whale of a Tale? Jonah and the Journey Outward (Part 1): Introduction”

Psalm 48; Jonah 1-4

1. What kind of book is Jonah? A prophetic book? A historical narrative? A short story? How does this question impact our reading of the book? What does this have to do with the question of miracles and the “believability” of the book?
2. Why is it surprising that this book is actually in the Hebrew Bible to begin with? What does this fact suggest about the work of God’s Spirit in both the inspiration and the authority of Scripture?
3. Why is this “not a kids’ story?”
4. What do we mean when we talk about “the sign of Jonah”?
5. What did you think of the experience of having a whole book of the Bible read in the context of worship? Have you ever experienced that before? What changes about your experience with the Bible when you read a substantial chunk all in one sitting?
6. What are you looking forward to about studying this book? What are you *not* looking forward to? What are you excited about? Nervous about?
7. In what way did the Spirit of God speak to you as the book was read and preached? What are you being challenged to do? To believe?