



Sermon Discussion Guide

Title of the Sermon: Second Chances

Series Name: Jonah

Main Text: Jonah 3:1–10

Introduction

This guide can be used on your own or with a small group to reflect on the weekend message and apply it to your life. Choose the questions that work best for your group—there’s no need to go through them all. To learn more, visit silverdale.com/smallgroups.

Icebreaker Options

- When have you been given a second chance that changed your life?
- What’s something you’ve learned from a time you failed or fell short?
- If you could “restart” one random thing in your life—like a do-over button—what would it be?

God’s Great Grace

Key Scripture: Jonah 3:1–2

Discuss:

- Why do you think it's hard to believe God still wants to use us after we fail?
- What does Jonah's second chance tell you about God's character?

Leader's Note: Jonah had run from God, but God pursued him and gave him another opportunity to obey. God's grace meets us even after failure, reminding us that our past doesn't disqualify us from God's purpose.

God's Great Mission

Key Scripture: "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth." - Jonah 3:2-3

Discuss:

- How does knowing God gives second chances motivate you to live on mission?
- What excuses sometimes keep you from obeying God's call?
- Where is God calling you to go, speak, or serve right now?

Leader's Note: God's mission for Jonah hadn't changed, even though Jonah had failed. God calls us to join Him in His work.

God's Great Message

Key Scripture: Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" - Jonah 3:4

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think God can use even simple or reluctant obedience to make an impact? What does this tell you about our role in God's plan?
- What is God asking you to do today? How can you respond in obedience right now?

Leader's Note: Jonah's message was short and clear, and it carried God's authority. God often uses simple words of truth to bring about big change in people's lives.

The Great Response

Key Scripture: And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it. - Jonah 3:5–10

Discuss:

- What does their response teach us about how seriously God takes repentance?
- How can humility open our hearts to God’s mercy and second chances?
- Where do you sense God inviting you to turn from something and return to Him?

Leader’s Note: The people of Nineveh humbled themselves, repented, and turned to God—and God relented from judgment. True repentance brings God’s mercy and new life.

Closing Prayer

Invite someone to pray, thanking God for His grace and second chances. Ask Him to give everyone the courage to respond to His call and the humility to turn from anything that keeps them from His mission.