

# students<sup>®</sup>

## Student Spiritual Growth Guide

“JONAH”: Week 3 -- “Running with God”

### BIG IDEA

“Even small steps of Obedience, can lead to God sized successes”

### SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW

**Jonah 3:** This week in our Jonah series with Pastor Alex goes into Jonah’s bite sized step of obedience that leads to a God sized movement in the people of Ninevah.

### COMMUNITY GROUP OR PERSONAL GROWTH QUESTION GUIDE

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (Can engage with your family or friends)

1. What are some ways God has used you beyond anything you could have imagined?
2. If we are going to disobey God, why would we ever expect God to answer our prayers or deliver us from difficulties?
3. What are some areas God has called you to, but you’re unsure to proceed the possible outcome?

#### GOING DEEPER

1. Jonah eventually did what God commanded, but only after escaping the belly of a big fish. Clearly, he had a bad attitude about God’s calling. How do we overcome our fears and anxieties to obediently follow God’s leading?

**Possible Answers:** Trust that He has a plan for us. He can see the other side of our obedience. Remember the times God has carried us through past challenges.

2. You step out in obedience to what God has called you to do; however, you’re seeing a different result than what you expected. What has helped you press on in obedience rather than focusing on the results?

**Possible Answers:** Reminding myself what God called me to do. Remembering that God is responsible for changing people and I am responsible for carrying His message to them. I am just tool in God’s hand. I do not have the ability to eternally change anyone.

3. God calls you to physically go to serve your enemies, but you know this will put you in a dangerous situation. How do you change your perception of people to see them the way God does?

**Possible Answers:** Remembering that we all were enemies of God. God wants all people to know Him, not just those who look, act, or talk like me. God sent someone to me; therefore, it makes sense God would send me to someone else.

#### Additional Verses to Look Into...

Ephesians 4:11 “Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.”

Hebrews 5:8 “Even though Jesus was God’s Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered.”

Matthew 21:28-31 “<sup>28</sup> “But what do you think about this? A man with two sons told the older boy, ‘Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup> The son answered, ‘No, I won’t go,’ but later he changed his mind and went anyway. <sup>30</sup> Then the father told the other son, ‘You go,’ and he said, ‘Yes, sir, I will.’ But he didn’t go. <sup>31</sup> “Which of the two obeyed his father?”

#### DEFINE THE TERMS

1. **Obedience** - doing what God tells you, when He tells you, and with the right attitude.
2. **Right Attitude** - following God’s calling with joy and excitement that He would want to use you.
3. **Repent** - Stop following your own worldly desires and turn toward God and the life He calls you to life.

#### APPLICATION/TAKE AWAY

Think about your own journey with Jesus. What little steps of obedience can you practice this week while at home? Is it practicing obedience with your parents? Is it ensuring you have time in God’s word? Is it guarding your mind and eyes with what you watch at home in this season? Take 5 minutes and write down every way you feel God leading you to identify obedience in your life right now!