## Sermon Discussion Guide

Jonah: Mercy to the Uttermost Jonah 3:10-4:11 Zach Lutz, March 21, 2021

# **Step 1: Reflect on the Text**

Read the Scripture printed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

## **Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon**

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. How do we feel when a relationship (friends, work or romantic) might be in jeopardy because of our mistakes?
- 2. What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

### GOD PURSUES US IN OUR PRAYERS (VV. 3:10-4:4)

- 3. Venting, or sharing, your emotions is often difficult to do. Even if you shared in anger or frustration, what kinds of responses have you received when doing this?
- 4. Zach said that God responds to these prayers with a soft answer. Have you heard God's soft answer when you've prayed like Jonah?

## GOD PURSUES US IN OUR POUTING (VV. 5-9A)

- 5. Think of a time in your life where you've pouted. How did people in relationship with you respond?
- 6. Sometimes we're quick to turn to well-worn practices of isolation (like pouting) instead of leaning into vulnerability with God. Thinking of your own practices, do you know the sorts of things God tends to provide to call you back into vulnerability with Him?

## GOD PURSUES US IN OUR PROVOCATION (VV 9B-11)

7. When we provoke God we often do this in the form of sinning with a 'high-hand'. Can you think of other times that you have provoked a relationship with a high hand? Can you compare/contrast the person's response with God's response to Jonah?

### **Step 3: Final Reflections**

- 8. Jesus' prayer went unanswered in Gethsemane. He was left in isolation on the cross. He, though sinless, bore the sins which provoked God's wrath. Why does this form the relationship you have with Him?
- 9. In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?