

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1314: Do I Show Up When God Calls or Do I Run and Hide?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/1314-jonah>

See:



1. What is the process involved in our reacting and responding to a stimulus? Why is it important to put a space between our reaction to the stimulus and our response to that stimulus? How does that space aid in our spiritual choices?
2. Who was Jonah – give a short history of his time. What was God’s task for Jonah? Why was this something Jonah did not want to do? What was Jonah’s reaction? What was his response? How was Ananias’ reaction and then response to his task from God different? (2 Kings 14:25, Matthew 12:39-41, Jonah 1:1-3, Nahum 3:1,19, Acts 9:13-17)
3. How might you have reacted if you had been Jonah? What should you do if your reaction is not great when asked to do a difficult task for the Lord? Why was Ananias such a good example for us? (Acts 9:15-17)
4. Jonah is sound asleep in the hold of the ship – have you ever ignored something you know you should be doing for God, hoping it will go away? As a consequence to his hiding, how did God engineer Jonah’s responses to be more godly? (Jonah 1:4-12)
 - a. How did he make him **See the Problem?** (vs 7-8)
 - b. What did God require to make Jonah **Face the Problem?** (vs 9-10)
 - c. What was Jonah’s solution to **Fix the Problem?** (vs 11-12)
 - d. How did the sailors react and respond to the circumstances? How are they an example to us? (vs 13-16)
5. How does Jonah react to being in the belly of a large fish? Where does he look for help and relief? How does God use the consequences He gives for our actions? What was Jonah’s response to his circumstance within the fish’s belly? What two decisions does Jonah decide on to change his life? (Jonah 2:1-10)
 - a. Do you acknowledge your weaknesses and serious failings before God in prayer?
 - b. Are you able to truly give your problems to God without reservation?
 - c. Do you struggle to hold onto your way and God’s way at the same time?
6. How is Jonah’s reaction and response to God’s task restated? What evidence do we have that Jonah’s response is now godly? How did the people of Nineveh respond to Jonah’s prophecy? Why might the Ninevites have particularly listened to Jonah? If the city took three days to walk through, what does Nineveh’s repentance after only one day indicate? How did God respond to their repentance? (Jonah 3:1-10)
7. What was Jonah’s reaction to God’s forgiveness of Nineveh? What was God’s response? (Jonah 4:1-6)
 - a. What did the appointed **fish** force Jonah to face? (Psalms 19:12-14)
 - b. Why was Jonah so pleased with his appointed **plant**? (Jonah 4:6)
 - c. How did Jonah feel about his appointed **worm**? (Jonah 4:7)
 - d. What did the final appointed **east wind** do? (Jonah 4:8)
8. How was Jonah’s attitude and response very wrong? How can we avoid falling into the negative responses of Jonah instead following the will of the Lord in our lives? What could you have done better during times you may have run away from God’s direction in your life? (Psalms 32:3-4, 84:11-12, 1 John 4:20-21, Jonah 4:9-11)