

TREES OF LIFE

GO FURTHER | MARCH 20 | THE RELUCTANT PROPHET

START TALKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- DO YOU ENJOY GARDENING? WHY OR WHY NOT?
- WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE OUTDOOR SPRINGTIME ACTIVITY?

START THINKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- Share what you know, if anything, of Jonah's story
- Read Jonah 1:1-3. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- How does Jonah respond to God's call in his life?
- Have you ever heard God tell you to do something, in prayer, in community, in Scripture? What happened?
- Read Jonah 3:1-5. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- What is the result of Jonah's preaching?
- Have you ever seen someone make a complete 180-degree turn in their lives, like the Ninevites do in their behavior? What caused that change to happen?

START SHARING | CHOOSE A QUESTION TO CREATE OPENNESS.

- Read Jonah 4:1-3. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Why does Jonah ultimately run from God?
- What aspects of God's character worried Jonah?
- Read Jonah 4:6-10. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Do you think Jonah mustered up any mercy or grace for Nineveh? Why or why not?
- How can we grow out of "just desserts" for others and grow into God's mercy, kindness and love for all?

START PRAYING | BE BOLD AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Lord Jesus, help each one of us to show the same love, kindness and grace to all that lead the Ninevites to repentance. May our love for others lead them to the same hope, healing and wholeness that we have found in you. May your Holy Spirit help us not seek revenge for others but their redemption in you. In our resurrected Savior's name we pray, Amen.

START DOING | COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- For more on Jonah, check out this 7-day devotional: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/26228-jonah-the-reluctant-missionary>