

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.

1. Read Jonah 1.17. Do you believe that Jonah was actually swallowed alive by a fish for three days and three nights? Why or why not?
2. Why did God send a great fish to swallow Jonah? Was the fish an act of God's judgment or His mercy?
3. Read Matthew 12.38-41. According to Jesus, what does Jonah being in the belly of the fish for three days have to do with His death and resurrection?
4. In Matthew 12.41, Jesus says that "the men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it." Why would this have been difficult for Jonah to hear? Why was it difficult for the Pharisees to hear?
5. Jonah 1.17 says that God "appointed" the fish to swallow Jonah and Acts 2.23 says that Jesus was delivered up to be crucified "according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God." How is the sovereignty of God both challenging and comforting for us in the midst of suffering and sin?
6. In what ways is Jesus the true and greater Jonah?