

STUDY GUIDE: Escape: “The Mission” (Jonah 1:1-3)

Discussion Starters

1. Do you have a job or relationship that requires you to follow directions?
2. What happens when you don't follow directions?

Study

To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek or Hebrew word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

3. Define the following words or terms. Note for each of them how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

--“word” (Jonah 1:1)—

--“cry” (Jonah 1:2)—

--“against” (Jonah 1:2)—

--“wickedness” (Jonah 1:2)—

--“flee” (Jonah 1:3)—

--“from the presence” (Jonah 1:3)—

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4. Use an Old Testament Survey or a Google search and find out about the ancient city of Nineveh. Write down some facts about the city.

5. What is the history of Nineveh and Israel?

6. Why would Jonah want to avoid preaching God’s message of judgment against the city?

Taking It Home

7. Do you blame Jonah for not being obedient to God’s command?

8. Is there something God is telling you to do, yet you are being disobedient?