

# Message Notes

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## **Runaway Prophet**

*The Gospel According to Jonah*

*Jonah 1*

*December 31, 2006*

# Message Outline

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### **I. The Sending Lord**

- A. Personal God . . .
- B. Universal God . . .
- C. Graceful God . . .
- D. Sovereign God . . .

### **II. The Fleeing Prophet**

- A. Disdain for the world . . .
- B. Disobedience to God . . .
- C. Damning himself . . .
- D. Down in the hold . . .

### **III. The Fearing World**

- A. Caught in the storm . . .
- B. Confused and desperate . . .
- C. Condemning the prophet . . .

### **IV. The Stilling of the Sea**

- A. The sacrifice of one . . .
- B. The saving of sinners . . .
- C. The sign of Jonah . . .

## ***Growth Group Understanding Questions***

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1. Read the entire book of Jonah. What questions are raised for you? What's shocking to you? Why is the book of Jonah unique in the Old Testament?
2. In chapter 1, find, mark and list the multiple references to the sovereignty of God.
3. What are some of the reasons why Jonah would not go to Ninevah? When Jonah flees from the presence of God, what is he really doing to himself?
4. When Jonah tells the soldiers to throw him overboard, is this a suicide attempt or something else? What does God's storm finally elicit in Jonah?
5. How does Jonah point to, show us, and embody the Gospel?

## ***Growth Group Application Questions***

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1. What was most challenging or new in the text/message this week?
2. What does Jonah 1 say to us about God's relationship with the church? What does it say to us about God's relationship with the world? What does it say to us about the church's relationship with the world?
3. How is the church today like Jonah (and Israel!) of old in our approach to and interaction with the world today?
4. What is the message of Jonah 1 for the church today? How do we become a sign and a sacrifice for the salvation of the world? Why don't or won't we?