

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, January 24, 2021 (Epiphany 3)

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Discussion Starters

1. What evidence do you see here that God gives "second chances?" When has God given you a second chance?
2. How would you describe the response of the Ninevites to the preaching of Jonah? How would you account for that?
3. If God knew what was going to happen, why did He change His mind about the punishment He was prepared to inflict on the Ninevites?
4. What does this story teach you about God? About His will? About how He works in the lives of people?
5. What role does fasting play in the response of the Ninevites?.
6. How is it possible that the reluctant preaching of Jonah ended with such an outpouring of repentance?

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Discussion Starters

1. How would you summarize Paul's teaching in this short passage?
2. What does Paul mean by the phrase "those who have wives should live as if they had none"?
3. Is Paul "anti-marriage?" Why or why not?
4. How can an unmarried person find emotional fulfillment and intimacy if they have chosen to remain single in order to be more fully devoted to the Lord?

Mark 1:14-20

Discussion Starters

1. Why was John arrested and put into prison? What was the outcome?
2. According to Jesus, what is "the good news?"
3. Why did the four men in this passage follow Jesus? What about Jesus causes you to follow Him?
4. What does it mean practically to be a "fisher" of men (and women)? How is that done?
5. If different kinds of fishing requires different sets of skills (and it does), what skills do you bring to the "fishing for people" process?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?