

R U N
are you in?

LifeGroups
get connected.

TRANSFORMATION

"And we... are being transformed into His likeness."

2 Corinthians 3:18

CHETS TOP 5

Easter
Eggstravaganza
April 3rd • 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Easter Worship
Times
April 4th

8:30, 9:45 & 11:15 a.m. -
Main Campus
9:45 & 11:15 a.m. -
Chets Creek Elementary

Campus Baptism
March 28th

C.L.A.S.S.
101 - 401
March 28th
5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

"Letters to God"
Movie Tickets
April 11th

"So Long,
Insecurity"
Simulcast with
Beth Moore
April 24th
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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CHURCH

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Volume XI No. 11

Discussion Guide

Life Sentences - "Jonah"

FOCUS: to examine Jonah's call to a missionary endeavor and evaluate his response(s). Learners will also evaluate their own call to missions and compare their response to that of Jonah.

"Your wrongdoings have kept these away; your sins have deprived you of good."

Jeremiah 5:25 (NIV)

1. What did God command Jonah to do and how did Jonah respond? (Jonah 1:1-3)
2. Why do you think that Jonah disobeyed?
3. When have you refused to obey God? What motivated your disobedience?
4. What happened at sea? How did the sailors respond? What was Jonah doing? (Jonah 1:4-5)
5. What provision did God make for Jonah? (Jonah 1:17; 2:10)
6. What are some ways that God has pursued you when you have tried to evade him?
7. What evidence do you see that God is a God of second chances?
8. When has God given you a second chance to do what he has asked you to do? Have there been times when you did not get a second chance?
9. What was Jonah's message and how did the people of Nineveh respond? (Jonah 3:5-9)
10. In your opinion, what individual, nation or people group is undeserving of God's mercy?
11. What are some ways that you can you show God's compassion and mercy to people who do not deserve it?

Read Thru the Bible

"How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey. Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life. Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path."

Psalm 119:103-105

<u>March</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Proverbs</u>
22	Numbers 21:10-22:41	Mark 16:1-20	36:7-12	8:27-29
23	Numbers 23:1-24:25	Luke 1:1-23	37:1-6	8:30-31
24	Numbers 25:1-26:22	Luke 1:24-56	37:7-13	8:32-33
25	Numbers 26:23-65	Luke 1:57-80	37:14-20	8:34-36
26	Numbers 27:1-28:31	Luke 2:1-20	37:221-26	9:1-2
27	Numbers 29:1-30:16	Luke 2:21-38	37:27-33	9:3-6
28	Numbers 31:1-54	Luke 2:39-52	37:34-40	9:7-9
29	Numbers 32:1-42	Luke 3:1-20	38:1-8	9:10-12

LifeGroup Prayer Requests:

"You are not responsible for everyone in the church family - but you are responsible to them. So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind."

1 Thessalonians 5:11

LOOKING TOWARD NEXT SUNDAY

Solomon - Deuteronomy 32:29

To examine the life of Solomon and be challenged to make wise choices, always staying prepared for his/her final day.

MONDAY - MARCH 22, 2010

Read 1 Kings 3:5-9: The Spiritual Man

5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." 6 Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. 7 "Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. 8 Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. 9 So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

- For what 2 things is Solomon most well-known? (One of these is described in this passage)
- What did Solomon ask of God and why?
- If God were to say to the average American "Ask for whatever you want me to give you" what sort of responses might you expect?
- In the fourth year of Solomon's reign, at great personal expense he began building the temple. Considering the building of the temple and the request for wisdom, what interests would you presume were close to Solomon's heart during this season of his life?

TUESDAY - MARCH 23, 2010

Read Deuteronomy 17:16-17; 1 Kings 10:26-11:3: The Secular Man

16 The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD has told you, "You are not to go back that way again." 17 He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

26 Solomon accumulated chariots and horses; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horses, [a] which he kept in the chariot cities and also with him in Jerusalem. 27 The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar as plentiful as sycamore-fig trees in the foothills. 28 Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt [b] and from Kue [c]—the royal merchants purchased them from Kue. 29 They imported a chariot from Egypt for six hundred shekels [d] of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty. [e] They also exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and of the Arameans.

1 Kings 11

1 King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh's daughter—Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites. 2 They were from nations about which the LORD had told the Israelites, "You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods." Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love. 3 He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray.

- In what ways was the king to be the spiritual leader of his people?
- What was the purpose of God's commands?
- How do these commandments compare to Solomon's actions as described in 1 Kings? In your opinion, why did Solomon do these things?
- If David was "a man after God's own heart," what was Solomon?
- What "loves" draw you away from devotion to God?

WEDNESDAY - MARCH 24, 2010

Read 1 Kings 11:4-13: The Sinful Man

4 As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been. 5 He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molech the detestable god of the Ammonites. 6 So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the LORD; he did not follow the LORD completely, as David his father had done. 7 On a hill east of Jerusalem, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable god of Moab, and for Molech the detestable god of the Ammonites. 8 He did the same for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and offered sacrifices to their gods. 9 The LORD became angry with Solomon because his heart had turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice. 10 Although he had forbidden Solomon to follow other gods, Solomon did not keep the LORD's command. 11 So the LORD said to Solomon, "Since this is your attitude and you have not kept my covenant and my decrees, which I commanded you, I will most certainly tear the kingdom away from you and give it to one of your subordinates. 12 Nevertheless, for the sake of David your father, I will not do it during your lifetime. I will tear it out of the hand of your son. 13 Yet I will not tear the whole kingdom from him, but will give him one tribe for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem, which I have chosen."

- What gods did Solomon allow to be worshipped in Israel because of his foreign wives?
- What reason did God have to be especially angry with Solomon?
- Why is it only acceptable to follow God wholeheartedly?
- Which of your weaknesses injure your relationship with God?

THURSDAY - MARCH 26, 2010

Read Ecclesiastes 2:17-23: The Skeptical Man

17 So I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. 18 I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. 19 And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the work into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. 20 So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. 21 For a man may do his work with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then he must leave all he owns to someone who has not worked for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune. 22 What does a man get for all the toil and anxious striving with which he labors under the sun? 23 All his days his work is pain and grief; even at night his mind does not rest. This too is meaningless.

- Why did Solomon hate life and all the things for which he had worked?
- According to Solomon, what does a person get in return for work?
- What sort of distractions do you pursue that you hope will give your life meaning and purpose?
- What can you do to find fulfillment in your life?

FRIDAY - MARCH 26, 2010

Read Ecclesiastes 12:13-14: The Conclusion of the Matter

13 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

- According to Solomon, what is the “whole duty of man?”
- Why did Solomon say that it was important to keep God’s commandments?
- What can one do to always be conscious of God’s commands?