

**SVQ Guide Week 2**  
**Jonah 1:7-17**  
**Scripture, Video, Questions (SVQ)**

**Session 1 SVQ**

- Read Jonah 1:7-9
- Video Teaching
- Leader Wisdom
- Questions
  - **LEADERS:** There's no pressure to get through all the questions, we suggest prayerfully planning your choices for your group. Your leadership of sharing and questioning will determine how deep your group goes with each question.
  - **Why do you think the sailors cast lots to determine who was responsible for the storm, and what does this reveal about their beliefs and values?**  
The sailors likely cast lots because they believed in divine intervention and sought to identify the cause of the storm. This action reflects their belief in fate or providence and their desire to discern the will of the gods. It also demonstrates their commitment to finding a solution to the crisis and their willingness to accept the outcome, whatever it may be.
  - **How does Jonah's response to the sailors' inquiries about his identity and occupation reflect his reluctance to fulfill his prophetic mission, and what lessons can we learn from his example?** Jonah's evasive response and refusal to identify himself as a Hebrew prophet reveal his reluctance to obey God's command to preach repentance to the people of Nineveh. His actions highlight the consequences of disobedience and the tendency to prioritize personal comfort or convenience over God's calling. This challenges us to examine our own obedience to God's commands and the ways in which we may resist His will in our lives.
  - **What do you think motivated Jonah to flee from the presence of the Lord, and how does his behavior resonate with experiences of spiritual struggle and doubt?** Jonah's decision to flee may have been motivated by fear, reluctance, or a desire to avoid the difficult task of preaching repentance to Nineveh. His actions reflect a struggle with doubt and uncertainty, as he grapples with the implications of God's command and the potential consequences of disobedience. This resonates with experiences of spiritual struggle and doubt faced by believers today, highlighting the need for trust, faith, and reliance on God's guidance.
  - **How do the sailors' questions to Jonah about his identity and occupation prompt deeper reflection on the nature of God and His involvement in human affairs?** This prompts deeper reflection on the nature of God and His involvement in human affairs, as Jonah's identity as a Hebrew prophet suggests a connection to the God of Israel. It raises questions about divine intervention, justice, and the implications of disobedience, prompting the sailors to grapple with spiritual truths and concepts beyond their understanding.

## Session 2 SVQ

- Read Jonah 1:10-12
- Video Teaching
- Leader Wisdom
- Questions
  - **LEADERS:** There's no pressure to get through all the questions, we suggest prayerfully planning your choices for your group. Your leadership of sharing and questioning will determine how deep your group goes with each question.
  - **Why do you think the sailors asked Jonah about his occupation and origins, and how does his response impact their perception of him?** The sailors likely asked Jonah about his occupation and origins to better understand his identity and the cause of the storm. Jonah's response reveals his faithfulness to the God of Israel and his acknowledgment of responsibility for the storm, which may have surprised the sailors and caused them to reassess their initial impressions of him.
  - **What do you think Jonah means when he tells the sailors to "pick me up and throw me into the sea," and how does this action align with his earlier attempts to flee from God's presence?** Jonah's statement reflects his acknowledgment of guilt and his willingness to face the consequences of his disobedience. By instructing the sailors to throw him into the sea, Jonah shows a readiness to sacrifice his own life to appease God's anger and spare the sailors from harm. This action symbolizes Jonah's repentance and acceptance of God's will, contrasting with his earlier attempts to flee from God's presence.
  - **How does the sailors' response to Jonah's suggestion reveal their reluctance to harm him and their growing awareness of God's involvement in the situation?** The sailors initially hesitate to follow Jonah's advice, likely out of concern for his well-being and a reluctance to harm him. However, as the storm intensifies and their desperation increases, they come to recognize the severity of the situation and the need to appease the God whom Jonah serves. Their eventual decision to obey Jonah's command reflects a growing awareness of God's sovereignty and their desire to do what is necessary to end the storm.
  - **What spiritual lessons can we learn from Jonah's willingness to sacrifice himself for the sake of others, and how does this reflect the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ? What is the difference between the sacrifice that Jonah was willing to demonstrate and Jesus's sacrifice?** Jonah's willingness to sacrifice himself for the sake of the sailors demonstrates a selfless act of love and obedience to God, even in the face of personal danger. This reflects the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ, who willingly laid down His life for the salvation of humanity. Jonah's actions serve as a reminder of the importance of selflessness and obedience in following God's will, even when it requires personal sacrifice.

### Session 3 SVQ

- Read Jonah 1:13-17
- Video Teaching
- Leader Wisdom
- Questions
  - **LEADERS:** There's no pressure to get through all the questions, we suggest prayerfully planning your choices for your group. Your leadership of sharing and questioning will determine how deep your group goes with each question.
  - **How do the sailors' actions in Jonah 1:13-16 reflect their growing awareness of God's sovereignty and their response to His divine intervention?** As the situation worsens and Jonah reveals his identity as a Hebrew prophet, they recognize the futility of their efforts and the need to acknowledge the God of Israel. Their cry to the Lord and their act of throwing Jonah into the sea indicate a turning point in their understanding.
  - **How does Jonah's willingness to sacrifice himself to save the sailors contrast with his previous actions and attitude, and what does this reveal about his character and spiritual journey?** Jonah's willingness to sacrifice himself to save the sailors stands in stark contrast to his earlier attempt to flee from God's presence. It demonstrates a significant shift in his attitude and character, as he now shows concern for the lives of others and a willingness to face the consequences of his disobedience. This moment marks a turning point in Jonah's spiritual journey, as he begins to recognize the importance of obedience and humility before God.
  - **What spiritual lessons can we glean from the sailors' response to Jonah's sacrifice, including their fear of the Lord and their commitment to offering sacrifices and making vows?** The sailors' response illustrates the transformative power of encountering God's presence and witnessing His miraculous intervention. Their fear of the Lord and their commitment to offering sacrifices and making vows demonstrate a genuine acknowledgment of God's sovereignty and a desire to respond with reverence and obedience. This challenges us to consider how we respond to God's presence in our own lives and the importance of responding with humility, worship, and obedience.
  - **How does the calming of the storm in Jonah 1:15-16 symbolize themes of redemption and salvation, and what parallels can be drawn to other biblical narratives or spiritual truths?** The calming of the storm represents a moment of divine intervention and deliverance, symbolizing God's power to bring peace and salvation in the midst of chaos and turmoil. This parallels other biblical narratives, such as Jesus calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee, which also demonstrate God's authority over the forces of nature and His ability to bring calm in the midst of life's storms. It serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness to His promises and His willingness to rescue His people from danger, even when they find themselves in the depths of disobedience and despair.