

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE: JONAH - PART 4 - THE BRILLIANCE OF LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF DAY 40

Keep this conversation no longer than 40-45 minutes. Do your best to draw out the contributions of everyone. Don't be 'rigid' in the use of this guide - reword or change or leave out questions if you want. Be aware of any people who might not yet be Christ-followers, and be inclusive of them.

### Optional opener

When you were small what did you imagine the future would be like?

### Applying Jonah chapter 3

1. Read Jonah 3:1-10 and Hebrews 9:27. Day 40 is a powerful picture of Judgment Day where we meet our Maker and he evaluates our lives. Tim said, 'The Gospel says 1-39 is not all there is. 40 is coming, and on day 40, time as we know it ceases to exist and eternity commences and nothing matters in the first 39 days more than aligning them with day 40. 39 days are a gift from God, they're meant by God to be good and a blessing, but its all heading in one direction: day 40. *Christian faith is futurist.*'
2. Read Romans 12:9. In the light of what this verse says, how does Day 40 change how we deal with bitterness that comes from someone hurting us or someone we love?
3. Read Matthew 6:20. In the light of what this verse says, how does Day 40 change how we deal with money?
4. Read Matthew 19:29. In the light of what this verse says, how does Day 40 change how we deal with sacrifices that God may call us to?
5. Read Philippians 3:20. In the light of what this verse says, how does Day 40 change how we perceive our own identity?
6. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13. In the light of what this verse says, how does Day 40 change how we deal with the loss of loved ones who know Christ?
7. Read Galatians 3:8. In the light of what this verse says, how does Day 40 change how we perceive the church, especially when it comes to opening the doors of our lives to all kinds of people?
8. Read John 9:4 and Matthew 25:41. In the light of what these verses say, how does Day 40 stir us to reach out to people far from God?

### Pray together

- *Either as a whole group or in subgroups of 3 people:* Share which point(s) or verse(s) is/are most applicable or challenging to you right now. Then pray for each other in that area.
- Since we're encouraging people to pray more for God's grace on us as a church, we include a few prayer pointers. The ones for this week are:
  - Please pray for success in our Bucket List series (starts 21 Feb). Pray many many people to come and are changed by the power of the gospel. (Think of who you can invite).
  - Please pray for Community Christian Church in Chicago (from where Tim comes). A church of 6000 people who are trying to help more and more people far from God find God, with 10 locations. If you have any prophetic words for that church please email them to [sarahhjane@commongroundchurch.co.za](mailto:sarahhjane@commongroundchurch.co.za) for the attention of the elders.