

Begin with prayer:

To begin with, pray. Ask God to teach you of Himself from his word.

Just for starters question:

Share with each other an occasion when God has disciplined you. (i.e. Corrected you and helped you to mature as a Christian). How did you find it?

Picking up from where we left off:

We pick up the story of Jonah having been thrown into the sea by the reluctant sailors. Jonah had told them to do so believing he was the cause and it will calm the storm.

Read Jonah 1:17-2:10:**Questions:**

1. What happens!?! (Jonah 1:17)
2. From what you know of Jonah from the book how do you think Jonah initially felt having been saved from drowning by being swallowed by a large fish? Do think he was surprised, grateful, scared, disappointed, or something else?
3. Whilst inside the big fish, God disciplined Jonah. It began with God helping Jonah to remember Scripture. Scripture he may well have learnt off by heart from an early age, especially the Psalms. As he quotes portions of Psalm 18 and 116, how did God help Jonah? (Clue: What did God help Jonah to realise about himself, God, and possibly the people of Nineveh?)
4. When God disciplines you, have you noticed him doing the same for you? Share your insights with others.

Unlike Jonah, God's Son our Lord Jesus Christ is no reluctant messenger of God the Father. The context of this second of three parables Jesus gave is the "muttering" of the Pharisees and teachers of the law (Jewish leaders). They were not comfortable that Jesus sought to connect with sinners. I believe Jonah had the same issue as they did with the people of Nineveh. But Jesus was different.

Read Luke 15:8-10:**Questions:**

5. From what you read of the parable of the woman and the lost coin how is Jesus different to Jonah towards – "the lost"?
6. What does Jesus expect from his people with regards to "the lost"? Why?

Contemplate:

Go through the two readings and highlight or underline all the words and phrases that mention something that God did (e.g. Jonah 1:17 "**God provided**" a huge fish to swallow Jonah). What do you learn about God from what you've noted?

Finish with prayer:

Think on what you have learnt about God and thank him in a prayer.

This Bible Study is such that it can be done on one's own or with others in a Bible Study Group - even around the table at home. It's designed to help you to remember the sermon, grow in your knowledge and love of God, appreciate your fellowship with other believers and to take your part in the life of the Church as followers of Jesus Christ.

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