

## UNDERSTANDING AND APPLYING THE BOOK OF JONAH

*Thank you so much for your help in this project!* The information you provide in this survey is critical to my research. In an effort to guard your anonymity and track your responses, please label this document in the space provided below following these guidelines:

- The second letter of your last name (surname)
  - + The day of your birth (two numbers)
  - + The first letter of the name of your home street
- 
- = Your tracking code

### Example #1:

- Amanda LYNN
  - + January 01, 2001
  - + 900 Rathburn Road W.
- 
- = **Y01R**

### Example #2:

- Stanley KUPP
  - + March 17, 1893
  - + 30 Yonge Street
- 
- = **U17Y**

**YOUR TRACKING CODE**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Let's start with some questions about you.**

Sex:       Male       Female

Age:       < 12       12–17       18–24       25–34       35–44       45–54  
          55–64       65–74       75+

How many years have you been a Christian?

< 1       1–4       5–9       10–14       15–19       20+

Do you have any formal Bible training?

No       Camp       Some Bible college       Bible college degree  
 Some seminary       Seminary degree

How often do you attend a corporate, Sunday morning worship service at your church?

1–4 times per year       About once a month       About every-other week  
 Basically every Sunday

When you do attend church, where do you go?       Oakridge Bible Chapel       Other

**Now to the main course!** Without consulting your Bible or any other resource, circle the best answer to the following questions. *Don't be discouraged* if you find it tough! Remember, you're going to get another shot at this after working through Jonah as a church family.

1. In the first chapter of Jonah, God sent the prophet to \_\_\_\_\_ but he went to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Tarshish, Nineveh      (b) Nineveh, Jerusalem      (c) Nineveh, Tarshish  
(d) Jerusalem, Tarshish      (e) Jerusalem, Babylon      (f) Babylon, Jerusalem
2. What was Jonah's stated motivation for disobeying God in chapter 1?  
(a) Fleeing God's assignment      (b) Fleeing God's presence      (c) Fleeing wickedness  
(d) Fleeing God's judgement      (e) The chapter doesn't tell us      (f) I'm not sure
3. What was the result of Jonah's disobedience in chapter 1?  
(a) Loss of divine blessing      (b) Loss of prophetic position      (c) Loss of salvation  
(d) Loss of physical health      (e) Both (b) and (d)      (f) All of the above

4. What best describes the main point, *thrust*,<sup>1</sup> or focus that God is communicating through the text of Jonah 1? (Note: While all below statements may be taught in the Bible, not all are the primary teaching of this particular chapter.)
- (a) No matter how hard the attempt and how far the retreat, God’s people cannot escape God’s presence and plan.
  - (b) Jesus, in His obedience to the Father, is the “perfect Jonah,” successfully accomplishing the task the disobedient prophet failed to accomplish.
  - (c) God’s people are to flee wickedness and judgement, not righteousness and opportunities for evangelism.
  - (d) To run from opportunities to demonstrate God’s compassion to others is to forfeit divine blessings.
  - (e) The disobedience of God’s people negatively affects not only them but often those around them.
  - (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What best describes the *divine demand*<sup>2</sup> God places upon readers of Jonah 1? In other words, from this passage of Scripture, God’s people are called to ...
- (a) Obediently show godly compassion to others and enjoy the subsequent blessings.
  - (b) Identify how God angers and disappoints us and confess that arrogance to Him.
  - (c) Run *toward* God, understanding the futility of fleeing *from* Him.
  - (d) Run *from* (wickedness) and *toward* (righteousness) that which God prescribes .
  - (e) Obediently take opportunities to share the Gospel with others.
  - (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Understanding the *thrust* and *divine demand* of Jonah 1, what is the most appropriate *applicational command*<sup>3</sup> for God’s people today?
- (a) Obey and enjoy!                      (b) Run *to* not *from* God!                      (c) Share the Gospel!
  - (d) Be like Jesus *not* Jonah!                      (e) Submit to God’s plan!                      (f) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

---

<sup>1</sup> The *thrust* of a text refers to what the Author is *doing* with what He is *saying*. He is using words to accomplish something, and the *thrust* is an attempt to succinctly articulate what that is!

<sup>2</sup> The *divine demand* is the specific call of God in a specific passage of Scripture for His people to live a specific way for their good and His glory.

<sup>3</sup> Rooted in a right understanding of a passage’s *thrust* and *divine demand*, an *applicational command* is an authoritative assignment from God to His people.

7. What is the setting of the second chapter of Jonah?
- (a) A ship deck                      (b) A fish stomach                      (c) A foreign city  
 (d) The text doesn't say              (e) Jerusalem                      (f) I don't know
8. What is the *main* literary genre of Jonah 2?
- (a) Psalm / poetry                      (b) Narrative / story                      (c) Prophetic  
 (d) A combination of genres              (e) A genre unique to Jonah              (f) I'm not sure
9. What is the emotional tenor of Jonah 2? In other words, according to the text, what is the best description of the prophet's mood and/or heart condition at this point of the story?
- (a) Self-righteous, hypocritical      (b) Fearful, rebuked, humbled      (c) Thankful, repentant  
 (d) Reverent, worshipful              (e) Both (c) and (d)                      (f) I'm not sure
10. What best describes the main point, *thrust*, or focus that God is communicating through the text of Jonah 2? (Note: While all below statements may be taught in the Bible, not all are the primary teaching of this particular chapter.)
- (a) Like Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, God's people are to call out to Him in times of suffering, oppression, and grief.
- (b) The prayers of God's people should reflect a heart that is consistent with the character of the God to whom they pray.
- (c) Regardless of the depths of disobedience to which God's people may fall, God's grace is sufficient to deliver, redeem, and reconcile.
- (d) The tasks to which God calls His people are always for *our* good and for *His* glory, regardless of how they may seem.
- (e) For His people, thanksgiving is the only appropriate response to God's gracious deliverance from the consequences of our sin.
- (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
11. What best describes the *divine demand* God places upon readers of Jonah 2? In other words, from this passage of Scripture, God's people are called to ...
- (a) Trust that God's will is *always* good and right and, as such, should be followed even without total understanding.
- (b) Live lives marked by thankfulness for all God *has* done, *is* doing, and *will* do both for us and for the whole world.

- (c) Even in times of crises, ask ourselves “what would Jesus (not Jonah) do?”
- (d) Pray prayers that are consistent with the compassionate character of God.
- (e) Call out to God for deliverance no matter the depth of our current sin.
- (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Understanding the *thrust* and *divine demand* of Jonah 2, what is the most appropriate *applicational command* for God’s people today?

- (a) Trust God always!
- (b) Live *thankful* lives!
- (c) Pray *with* God!
- (d) When in *deep*, call to be lifted *up*!
- (e) Praise God always!
- (f) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

13. What happens to the prophet that marks the *beginning* of Jonah 3?

- (a) Rebuked by God
- (b) Thrown into the sea
- (c) Swallowed
- (d) Forgiven by God
- (e) Re-commissioned by God
- (f) I’m not sure

14. Regardless of how it begins, chapter 3 finds Jonah serving as God’s mouthpiece to a specific people. What is the main tone of the message he is given to proclaim?

- (a) Believe the Gospel!
- (b) Judgement is coming!
- (c) God loves you!
- (d) Leave Israel alone!
- (e) Both (b) and (c)
- (f) I’m not sure

15. The people to whom Jonah preaches respond to his message with \_\_\_\_\_ and thus, God responds with \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) Repentance, eternal life
- (b) Fear, judgement
- (c) Fear, compassion
- (d) Repentance, mercy
- (e) Unbelief, judgement
- (f) Belief, forgiveness

16. What best describes the main point, *thrust*, or focus that God is communicating through the text of Jonah 3? (Note: While all below statements may be taught in the Bible, not all are the primary teaching of this particular chapter.)

- (a) The God of the Bible is the God of second chances, always being willing to use His people if they will walk in obedience and submission to His revealed will.
- (b) God, being gracious and loving, desires His message of reconciliation to spread to *all* nations, a desire that found its full realization in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- (c) Forgiveness, reconciliation, and mercy are *always* available to *all* who will humble themselves in repentance toward God and His Word.

- (d) The Gospel, a message powerful enough to change lives eternally, is surprisingly simple and understandable.
- (e) God's people are to indiscriminately reflect and demonstrate God's compassionate character to others, regardless of their perceived worthiness.
- (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17. What best describes the *divine demand* God places upon readers of Jonah 3? In other words, from this passage of Scripture, God's people are called to ...

- (a) Reflect God's desire to demonstrate His compassionate character to all people, regardless of their perceived worthiness of such grace.
- (b) Remember the KISS principle: Keep it (the Gospel message) simply, silly!
- (c) Continue Jonah's assignment, taking the news of God's offer of forgiveness and reconciliation to all people.
- (d) Live lives marked by humble repentance and obedience toward God.
- (e) Thank God for the patience and graciousness He often shows us in spite of our disobedience.
- (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_

18. Understanding the *thrust* and *divine demand* of Jonah 3, what is the most appropriate *applicational command* for God's people today?

- |                                   |   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| (a) Obey the <i>first</i> time!   | (b) Repent and live well!                   | (c) Spread the news! |
| (d) Thank God for second chances! | (e) Love across all lines lines (like God)! | (f) Other: _____     |

19. Who are the characters explicitly involved in Jonah 4?

- |                            |                             |                        |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| (a) God, Jonah             | (b) God, Jonah, the sailors | (c) God, Jonah, Israel |
| (d) God, Jonah, Foreigners | (e) God, Jonah, the angel   | (f) I'm not sure       |

20. In Jonah 4, the posture of the prophet's heart could be described as \_\_\_\_\_ while God responds with \_\_\_\_\_.

- |                             |                            |                     |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| (a) unrepentant, compassion | (b) worshipful, correction | (c) humble, love    |
| (d) contrite, forgiveness   | (e) calloused, judgement   | (f) thankful, mercy |

21. In speaking with Jonah in chapter 4, which of the following does God use to illustrate the lesson He desires the prophet (and us!) to learn?

- (a) A little worm
- (b) A booming voice
- (c) A big fish
- (d) A hot wind
- (e) Both (a) and (b)
- (f) Both (a) and (d)

22. What best describes the main point, *thrust*, or focus that God is communicating through the text of Jonah 4? (Note: While all the below statements may be biblical, not all are the primary teaching of this particular chapter of Scripture.)

- (a) As an extension of His character, God shows mercy to whom He will show mercy, offering salvation to even the most vile sinner.
- (b) God's people are to reflect God's compassion to others by understanding and submitting to His will at the expense of their own.
- (c) For God's people, anger and frustration with God and His ways reveals the idolatry, prejudice, and sinfulness in our hearts.
- (d) Like Jesus, God's people are to confront prejudices in our world; unlike Jesus, sometimes they exist within our own hearts.
- (e) God's sovereignty in salvation (that He wisely and powerfully decides to whom He will extend compassion and mercy) is true regardless of how His people understand and accept that reality.
- (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

23. What best describes the *divine demand* God places upon readers of Jonah 4? In other words, from this passage of Scripture, God's people are called to ...

- (a) Stand against all forms of oppression and prejudices in this world.
- (b) Trust that God is *totally* sovereign and *perfectly* good in His work of salvation.
- (c) Praise God for the compassion, mercy, and power He puts on display in the salvation of each and every repentant sinner.
- (d) Be compassionate as God is compassionate, sacrificing their own agendas and desires in the process if necessary.
- (e) Avoid anger, disappointment, and frustration with God by growing in their knowledge of His perfect character.
- (f) Provide your own: \_\_\_\_\_

24. Understanding the *thrust* and *divine demand* of Jonah 4, what is the most appropriate *applicational command* for God's people today?

- (a) Trust God's sovereignty!      (b) Know God better!      (c) Love sacrificially!  
(d) Repent and believe!      (e) Praise the God who saves!      (f) Other:
- 

25. Considering the book of Jonah *in its entirety*, what would you consider the main theme the text itself highlights?

- (a) God's compassion      (b) God's sovereignty      (c) God's patience  
(d) Human dis/obedience      (e) Reconciliation      (f) Other:
- 

*Thank you for your help!*

Please return the completed survey in one of the following ways:

- Slide it under Josiah's office door
- Slide it under Alice's office door
- Place it in the Boyd family church mailbox
- Place it in the church mailbox