

JOYAH

SUMMER
READING
PLAN



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I will say, 'Salvation
comes from the Lord.'

JONAH 2:9

This summer we want to invite everyone to take a journey in one of the most memorable books in the Old Testament. Jonah.

Over the past two summers as a community we have been invited to spend time in Paul's letters to the Philippian and Colossian churches. This year we wanted to mix it up by moving from the New Testament into the Old, and also from a letter to a story about a prophet.

This is a favourite story for telling ours kids... 'The Amazing Jonah!', but those children's books so often get the point of the story so very wrong. So, here's the question to start with. What would it take for me to come to the book afresh?

It's a short book - read it with intrigue. Ask questions of it. Be encouraged and challenged by it. Explore the questions the text is asking of you. Read with friends, spouses, the kids (and grandkids!). Compare notes, exchange ideas, encourage those around you. Above all, enjoy it.

Don't let this reading plan become a legalistic thing in your life this summer - enjoy the word of God. We've put in 'rest' and 'catch-up' days to reflect this.

How do I study the Bible?

"I don't really know how to study the Bible" is a really common place to be. We're excited for you on this journey over the summer!

We want to help everyone grow in their understanding of the Scriptures. To this end, we've prepared some Bible Study 'methods' and other helpful resources and videos: nenevalley.church/jonah

Listen

Maybe you're not a reader. The Bible App (available on most mobile phones) will read the Scripture to you, if this is an easier way for you to engage with the Scripture. Download the app using the QR code below:



Always read

Monday 22nd July - Sunday 18th August

Read slowly.

For the first read-through of Jonah, we want to 'read slowly', reflectively. The Bible is an intricate and intentional book, it's just of rich literary tools. Read and enjoy!

Struggling?

To find some Bible study frameworks that might help you reflect, head to www.nenevalley.church/jonah. Don't be afraid to try out a few as you journey on.

Date	Reading
Mon 22nd Jul	Jonah 1:1-3
Tue 23rd Jul	2 Kings 14:23-27
Wed 24th Jul	Jonah 1:4-6
Thu 25th Jul	Jonah 1:7-10
Fri 26th Jul	Jonah 1:11-13
Sat-Sun: Catch Up & Rest	
Mon 29th Jul	Jonah 1:14-16
Tue 30th Jul	Mark 4:35-41
Wed 31st Jul	Jonah 1:17
Thu 1st Aug	Matthew 12:38-41
Fri 2nd Aug	Jonah 2:1-3
Sat-Sun: Catch Up & Rest	

Date	Reading
Mon 5th Aug	Jonah 2:4-6
Tue 6th Aug	Jonah 2:7-10
Wed 7th Aug	Jonah 3:1-3
Thu 8th Aug	Jonah 3:4-5
Fri 9th Aug	Luke 11:29-32
Sat-Sun: Catch Up & Rest	
Mon 12th Aug	Jonah 3:6-10
Tue 13th Aug	Jonah 4:1-3
Wed 14th Aug	Jonah 4:4-6
Thu 15th Aug	Jonah 4:7-8
Fri 16th Aug	Jonah 4:9-11
Sat-Sun: Catch Up & Rest	

Making sense of the story: Tim Keller notes repeating patterns and themes. Can you see them as you read?

Scene 1: Jonah, the pagans & the sea	Scene 2: Jonah, the pagans & the city
Theme: Jonah & God's Word	
1:1 God's word comes to Jonah	3:1 God's word comes to Jonah
1:2 The message to be conveyed	3:2 The message to be conveyed
1:3 The response of Jonah	3:3 The response of Jonah
Theme: Jonah & God's World	
1:4 The word of warning	3:4 The word of warning
1:5 The response of the pagans	3:5 The response of the pagans
1:6 Response of the pagan leader	3:6 Response of the pagan leader
1:7... Pagan response better than Jonah's	3:7... Pagan response better than Jonah's
Theme: Jonah & God's Grace	
2:1-10 God taught grace to Jonah through the fish	4:1-10 God taught grace to Jonah through the plant



Monday 19th August - Sunday 8th September

Picking up pace.

We have 3 weeks now to read more quickly - whole chapters, but also reading across chapter markings. Then, for the last week we're going to read the story in full and see how reading at different paces can help enrich our experience of the Scriptures.

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Date	Reading
Mon 19th Aug	Jonah 1:1-7
Tue 20th Aug	Jonah 1:8-16
Wed 21st Aug	Jonah 1:17-2:10
Thu 22nd Aug	Jonah 3
Fri 23rd Aug	Jonah 4:1-4
Sat-Sun: Catch Up & Rest	

Date	Reading
Mon 26th Aug	Jonah 4:6-10
Tue 27th Aug	Jonah 1
Wed 28th Aug	Jonah 2
Thu 29th Aug	Jonah 3
Fri 30th Aug	Jonah 4
Sat-Sun: Catch Up & Rest	

Reflect

Try to consider ways in which you've experienced the story differently by reading slowly and more quickly:

Does reading in smaller chunks help me memorise what I'm reading?

Did my perspective on what I'm reading change by reading in larger sections?

Can I see myself in Jonah's behaviour?

What are a few takeaways from Jonah, as you have read so far, that you want to carry forward into your walk with Jesus?

Lastly, let's read Jonah in full, repeatedly, and see what the Holy Spirit might highlight to us with each reading.

Date	Reading
Mon 2nd Sep	Read Jonah 1-4 in full
Tue 3rd Sep	
Wed 4th Sep	
Thu 5th Sep	
Fri 6th Sep	
Sat-Sun: Catch Up & Rest	

Reflect

Did reading in full change my experience at all?

Who are 'my Ninevites', and where do I need God to give me a change of heart?

But the Lord replied, “Is it right
for you to be angry?”

JONAH 2:9



Do share this with anyone you think may find it useful. You can download a fresh copy at nenevalley.church/jonah