



From the message on May 18, 2025

## Jonah: Flora & Fauna

Text: Jonah 3:7-9, 4:5-11

### From the Message

While God is the unquestioned hero of Jonah, he has a willing accomplice. Several really. When Jonah didn't get it: a whale, a sea, a worm, and a vine played their part. Jonah is too stubborn, so a sea screams his name; goes too far, so a whale transports him to a relevant shore; gets too hot, so a vine intervenes; nurtures conceit, so a worm calls his bluff. Creation is responsive to God, even when Jonah isn't.

Missional engagement is alignment with God's gracious heart. He sent Jesus into the world not to condemn the world but to save the world. This is a matter of the heart, and we need to listen.

### Opening Interaction

Ask everyone, *Have you ever witnessed a part of creation that displayed the glory of God? Tell your story!*

### Read the passage and discuss

1. Read Jonah 3 aloud. Then read Jonah 4:5-11. What does God see that Jonah doesn't? How do the Ninevites behave that exposes Jonah's hypocrisy?
2. One of Jonah's hangups is comfort. (Shows up in v5, and in God's use of the word "pity.") Describe the culture of the suburb we live in. What is our collective relationship to comfort? Does comfort ever cause you to shy away from missional engagement?
3. Missional engagement is alignment with God's gracious heart. Are you able to confess ways in which your heart is out of alignment with grace? (If someone is willing, share publicly. Encourage everyone to pray about their heart-alignment in private.)

### Encourage Each Other Through Prayer

Talk and pray together. Ask, how can this group pray for you today?

## Points for Prayer and Places for Information

- Pray for the 8 small groups that have begun, spinning off of our Deeply Formed discussion groups!
- Pray for our Deacons, who are busy organizing improvements to guest experiences, benevolence requests, care responses, facility upkeep, and more!

A financial overview is available at [calvary.church/givenow](https://calvary.church/givenow)

Events and programs, [calvary.church/events](https://calvary.church/events)

Student Ministry Summer Camp is July 23-26, [calvary.church/students](https://calvary.church/students)