

Jonah Rising: Kaleidoscope
Jonah 3:1-10
May 19, 2019

WARM-UP QUESTIONS:

1. What factors commonly shape or influence a person's perspective?
2. Have you ever been in a situation where your perception of someone or something changed? What was that like?
3. Think of a time when you didn't do what was expected of you. How did it affect those around you? What were some of the consequences? What did you learn?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Read Jonah 3. What do Jonah's actions in this chapter say about his attitude towards the Ninevites?
2. God's pronouncement included animals. What may be the reasons why?
3. How do you view the power of God? Why do we typically see God's power as punitive rather than loving? Why do you think the people of Nineveh were ready to listen to God through Jonah?
4. Our youth director, Ryan Granucci, proposed that God's activity is often "kaleidoscopic" (multifaceted, many hued, variegated, complex, etc.). What do you appreciate about God's response in Jonah 3:10?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. What personal tendencies, habits, or behaviors do you want to exchange for God's ways of responding to others?
2. Does the view of a God who relents from punishment or changes mind sit well with you? How can we reconcile this with His just nature? How can we model this in our own lives?
3. Ryan described a perspective shift of Christ's death as the final act of violence, and a freedom to respond with mercy, grace, and love. What might mercy, grace, and love look like in your life and interactions?