

## CONNECT WITH THE MESSAGE

### Jonah 2: Inside a Fish

1) What do you remember about how you were disciplined as a child at home?

2) Read **Jonah 1v17 – 2v10**. If you had to summarise Rich's message in 1 sentence, what would you say?

3) Read **Hebrews 12v5-11**

a) i) Who does this passage say God disciplines?

ii) What reasons does this passage give for God disciplining us?

iii) What does this passage say the end result of discipline should be?

iv) How does our response to God's discipline affect the outcome?

b) i) List as many specific ways as you can that you think God might use to discipline us.

ii) Read the following verses:

2 Timothy 3v16

1 Thessalonians 5v14

Titan 3v10

1 Corinthians 5v11-13

1 Corinthians 11v27-32

In what ways do they describe God's discipline? What actions have caused the discipline?

c) Read **Romans 8v28, 29 and 35**.

i) Do you think 'all things' in **verse 28** includes difficult things in life? How does **verse 35** help you to answer this?

ii) What does **verse 29** say God's ultimate purpose for us is?

ii) How does **verse 28 and 29** help you 'endure hardship as discipline'?

# DIGGING DEEPER

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Read **Matthew 18v15-17** and **1 Corinthians 5v11-13**

- a) Summarise in 1 sentence what each of these passages are teaching us?
- b) For each passage right down:
  - i) The sins involved.
  - ii) The stages of discipline involved
  - iii) Who you think is responsible for each stage of discipline.
- c) What is the ultimate sanction used by church leaders in discipline?
- d) What is the aim of this ultimate sanction?
- e) How do these passages fit with Jesus' command to 'love one another'? Are they too intolerant of people's weaknesses?
- f) What could be the end result if this sort of discipline was not exercised?

## CONNECT IN PRAYER

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Please pray for a great turnout for our '**Taste of Alpha**' evening at Prezzo on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**. Please pray about who you can invite to come along to the meal with. Pray for a good response from the leaflets delivered across Lewes. We now have 14 guests booked in for the meal which is really encouraging.

**Kings Tots** has started back for a new term. Please pray for friendships to grow and for the opportunity to invite the families coming along on a Friday to church events. Pray for Liz, Lally and their team.

## CONNECT WITH CHURCH LIFE

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**Prayer Week** is from **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**. The week starts with a **Whole Church Prayer Meeting** on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.15pm**. Please see your Prayer Week cards for more info on the other events during the week.

**Alpha Precinct:** We will be in the precinct on the **21<sup>st</sup> September** advertising the upcoming meal and course. Meeting there at 10am on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

The next **Alpha Meal** will be on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 7pm** at **Prezzo**.

**'ORIGINS' - A Celebration of Creativity. Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September** 7pm in the Church building. Chrissie has gathered an excellent choir to present her new musical portrayal of events in the Garden of Eden. Alongside this we have an exhibition of art work, with contributions from Art Pad members and beyond. (Many works will also be available to buy). Drinks, cheese and nibbles are included in the entry price of £2 (on the door). This will be an informal, sociable evening... Bring your friends!

We are having a **Quiz Night** on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm**. Tickets will be available soon.