

## Long Story Short: Jesus Mission

### Reflect

1. What do you think Jesus expects of you in terms of sharing your faith with others?
2. Why do you think Jesus wants you and me to join Him in His mission?
3. What benefits do you receive from sharing your faith with others?
4. Think about when you have shared your faith. In what ways do you best reach out with the good news of Jesus to others?

### Read Your Bible

- Jonah 1: 1-13 (for best understanding read the whole book of Jonah)
- Mark 6: 1-13

### Apply God's Word to Your Life

1. Jonah, a faithful man of God, didn't want to share his faith with the people of Nineveh. He ran away from God's command to join in God's saving work in this world. Reflect on why he did that and then think about what your greatest fears are about sharing your faith with others?
2. Jonah tried to keep who he was hidden from everyone, even the sailors on the ship. In what ways do you hide who you are as a follower of Jesus?
3. See Jonah verse 14. God used Jonah's disobedience to bring the sailors to a moment of recognition looking up to God, pleading for forgiveness. Does this shed some light on God's ability to use even your stumbling and bumbling attempts to share your faith with others? Discuss.
4. Even Jesus sharing the good news of the kingdom of God was rejected, interestingly enough by those who knew Him best. What do you learn from Jesus' example here about sharing your faith with others?
5. See Mark, verse 11. Why do you think Jesus told His disciples (and us) to move on if attempts to share our faith fall on deaf ears?
6. See Mark, verse 12. Notice that as the disciples shared their message of the good news of Jesus they gained power to do things that Jesus Himself could do. In what ways do we gain God's power as we share our faith with others?
7. Why does God need you to share the good news of Jesus?

God's plan for bringing salvation to light and reaching the world with the Good News flowed from the work of Jesus to followers of Jesus. We are God's plan for sharing the good news to the ends of the earth. Certainly, we face our own fears and the possibility of rejection when we live out our calling to share Jesus with others. The good news is that God will use our efforts to accomplish His plans for salvation. He can even use what we would deem failed attempts at sharing our faith. Our calling is to do what we are called to do as faith-filled followers of Jesus. We are to share our faith through telling others why we believe, through actions of service, and through prayers for those who are hurting and struggling. We are God's plan to spread the good news and there is no plan B!

### Pray

Lord, I want to be used by You to spread the good news of Jesus through my words and actions. Use who I am in my areas of influence to address the demons people face, to anoint the sick and pray for them, to share the good news that is mine in Christ. I trust You Lord to use what I see as failed efforts at reaching others for You. Replace my fears and uncertainties with confidence in You. I love You Lord and will do what I can to share the Good News of Jesus with others. In the name of my Savior, I pray. Amen.