



**NEWMARKET COMMUNITY CHURCH**

*Connecting people with God  
within authentic community  
where all are welcome.*

Word Notes: Sunday 11/03/18

Tony Hodge: Spot the difference: Jonah – 2, Fishy business

Series Text: Jonah 2

### **Summary**

After 3 days and 3 nights in the belly of the fish Jonah calls out in prayer. God's rescue plan for Nineveh is still on track even though Jonah takes himself to the very edge with God. As a result of this deep encounter Jonah is brought back to his determined faith in God, seeing the stark difference between being lost chasing after vain idols and the salvation found in God. Now he's ready to fulfil his mission and he is rescued from the deep, being vomited up onto dry land.

### **Study & Application**

Jesus himself draws a parallel between Jonah's time in the whale and his 3 days in the tomb. Read Matt 12:3-41 and Mark 14:32-41 then discuss these questions:

What parallels does Jesus draw between himself and Jonah? What more can you see knowing from Scripture what then happened for Jesus?

Compare Jonah's prayer time with Jesus'. What is their respective starting positions and at the conclusion of their prayer times?

Both Jonah and Jesus needed to "do business" with God. Share a time when you had to do some serious business when you were struggling. How did God meet with you, in what ways did your attitude, expectations or outlook change as a result?

Encourage any who are facing serious difficulty or are in some sense running away from a challenge to do business. How can you support them as they seek God?