



MOVE

**A FOUR WEEK DEVOTIONAL
FOR THOSE WHO ARE CALLED.**

INTRODUCTION

In this new chapter of the unfolding story of Wesley Mission, one that traces its origins back 210 years, God is calling all of us to be:

A Spirit-led Disciple-making movement.

Birthered from prayer, this is who we have been,
and this is who God is calling us to more fully be!

We are Spirit-led.

We have been birthered, are empowered and carried forward by the “dunamis” power of the Holy Spirit. Wherever the Spirit carries us, there will be life!

We are disciple-makers.

Jesus our Saviour and Lord has commissioned and empowered us to share His Good News with our world. We are sent as missionaries into the mission field, locally, regionally, nationally and to the nations.

We are a movement.

We do not settle for what is, or seek comfort, but press on and run the race marked out for us, the wind of the Spirit at our back, fixing our eyes on Jesus – the author, perfecter and goal of our faith.





**A SPIRIT-LED
DISCIPLE-MAKING
MOVEMENT**

HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL

The goal of **MOVE** is to inspire all of us across our Wesley Mission congregations to respond to the call of God together. Inspired by the journey of the prophet Jonah, we want to:

- Grow in Hearing God
- Stop Resisting God
- Grow in Trusting God
- Grow in Obeying God

Our hope is that this four-week devotional will inspire and equip you on this shared journey, together with the sermons, services and testimonies you will hear and experience.

This booklet comprises of:

1. Daily personal devotions - Brief reflections on scriptures that take us on a journey from hearing God to obeying God, encouraging us to take small steps and pray big prayers.

2. Weekly small group bible studies - These are best experienced together with others in community to spur one another on this adventure.

3. How to respond - You will find four ways you can step out in faith as God prompts you through this **MOVE** campaign. We encourage you to take Spirit-led action!

What an incredible adventure God is calling us into! JD Greear once said:

"The church is not an audience to be entertained; it is an army to be empowered. A large crowd will not change the world; a mobilized force of Spirit-filled believers will."

As we start this journey together, let's pray in surrender and with faith as the Spirit fills us, empowers us and mobilizes us for His kingdom.



WEEK ONE

HEARING GOD

1

THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JONAH SON OF AMITTAI: “GO TO THE GREAT CITY OF NINEVEH AND PREACH AGAINST IT, BECAUSE ITS WICKEDNESS HAS COME UP BEFORE ME”.

JONAH 1:1-2

REFLECT: The book of Jonah starts with God speaking to Jonah. From this verse, three things are on God's mind: There are people in a foreign land who are sinful that He cares about; He wants to change their future for the better; and He sends His servant Jonah to bring His message to help make that happen.

RESPOND: There are people all around us who are yet to know God whom He cares deeply about. He wants to change their future for the better too. What is God saying to you personally about them?

RELY: Jesus, you have sent me out together with every believer to make disciples in Your name. Move me towards those who are on Your heart. Give me Your love to reach out to them. Amen.

2

“THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS, HE WHO MADE THE EARTH, THE LORD WHO FORMED IT AND ESTABLISHED IT—THE LORD IS HIS NAME: ‘CALL TO ME AND I WILL ANSWER YOU AND TELL YOU GREAT AND UNSEARCHABLE THINGS YOU DO NOT KNOW.’

JEREMIAH 33:2-3

REFLECT: God is the powerful Creator and Sustainer of the Earth, yet He makes Himself so available to us. The invitation is clear to call to Him. Why? Because God wants to respond to us and tell us about things beyond our understanding, things we don't yet know. God is a communicating God!

RESPOND: Take some time today to call out to God. Move closer and ask Him to speak to you and show you what is on His heart. Be attentive to how He might be speaking to you.

RELY: Creator God, thank You that even though You are so powerful and great, that You invite me to call out to You. As I do, speak to me and show me the things and the people who are on Your heart Amen.

3

**I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU
IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO; I WILL
COUNSEL YOU WITH MY LOVING EYE ON
YOU.**

PSALM 32:8

REFLECT: This promise came to David after a season of holding onto unconfessed sin. After God's strong prompting, he eventually confessed and received forgiveness from God. God's guidance is a promise that doesn't depend on our performance but does require soft and repentant hearts.

RESPOND: Come humbly before God and confess your sin before Him. Trust in the forgiveness of Jesus (1 John 1:9) and trust in His wonderful promise to guide and move you in His plans for you.

RELY: God, thank You so much that You promise to lead and guide me into Your plans. Thank You that it is a promise that is wholly dependent on Your grace and forgiveness.

Lead me forwards I pray! Amen.

4

WHETHER YOU TURN TO THE RIGHT OR TO THE LEFT, YOUR EARS WILL HEAR A VOICE BEHIND YOU, SAYING, “THIS IS THE WAY; WALK IN IT.”

ISAIAH 30:21

REFLECT: Isaiah prophesied that a time would come when God's people would internalise His ways and He would intimately guide them, a foreshadowing of the internal guidance of the Spirit. What a wonderful promise that wherever we go, we can hear God's guidance to lead us on the right paths!

RESPOND: How might God be encouraging you to grow your attentiveness to His voice whether through the Scriptures, or the prompting of the Holy Spirit? Develop a rhythm of listening to Him.

RELY: Holy Spirit, thank You that through faith in Jesus, You have made Your home in me. Grow in me this yearning, attentiveness and sensitivity to Your voice in my life. Move me Your way. Amen.

5 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL. IT CAME UP AND YIELDED A CROP, A HUNDRED TIMES MORE THAN WAS SOWN.” WHEN HE SAID THIS, HE CALLED OUT, “WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR.” HIS DISCIPLES ASKED HIM WHAT THIS PARABLE MEANT.

LUKE 8:8-9

REFLECT: After sharing the parable of the sower, Jesus concludes with an invitation: “Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear”. The disciples didn’t understand, so they sought further understanding from Jesus. We too need that eagerness to hear and to understand so that God’s word can bear fruit in us!

RESPOND: *Read Luke 8:11-15.* Which of the different “soils” can you relate to in this parable? How do you want to respond to Jesus’ invitation to hear Him? Let’s press deeper to understand His word.

RELY: Jesus, thank You for Your life transforming word. Open wide my ears and move my heart to understanding. Help me be the soil that experiences a harvest from the seed of Your words in my life. Amen.

6

SO, AS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYS:

“TODAY, IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS YOU DID IN THE REBELLION, DURING THE TIME OF TESTING IN THE WILDERNESS...”

HEBREWS 3:7-8

REFLECT: When we hear the voice of God, we must decide how we will respond. The Holy Spirit urges us to not “harden” our hearts. For the Israelites, testing times brought out their worst and they rebelled against God. Their hearts began to stray away from Him.

RESPOND: What is the condition of your heart before God? Are there ways you feel a hardness of heart? If so, what may be causing this? With God's help, choose to have a soft heart to His voice.

RELY: Holy Spirit, help me to heed Your wisdom and not harden my heart to God's voice in my life. Soften me that I might move in loving obedience to Your voice in my life. Amen.



IN THE PAST GOD SPOKE TO OUR ANCESTORS THROUGH THE PROPHETS AT MANY TIMES AND IN VARIOUS WAYS, BUT IN THESE LAST DAYS HE HAS SPOKEN TO US BY HIS SON, WHOM HE APPOINTED HEIR OF ALL THINGS, AND THROUGH WHOM ALSO HE MADE THE UNIVERSE.

HEBREWS 1:1-2

REFLECT: God loves to speak to His people. But the greatest and most wonderful way He has spoken is through Jesus, the Son of God. He is both Heir of everything and Creator of everything, and the clearest way to hear God's voice is by paying attention to Jesus' words, works and ways.

RESPOND: Spend time being more attentive to Jesus through the gospels and through prayer. Pay close attention to His words, His works and His ways and invite God to speak through Jesus to you.

RELY: Father, Son and Spirit, thank You that the greatest revelation of You and Your word comes in the person of Jesus. Speak to me Jesus and transform me into Your likeness to move in Your ways. Amen.



WEEK TWO
RESISTING GOD

1

BUT JONAH RAN AWAY FROM THE LORD AND HEADED FOR TARSHISH. HE WENT DOWN TO JOPPA, WHERE HE FOUND A SHIP BOUND FOR THAT PORT. AFTER PAYING THE FARE, HE WENT ABOARD AND SAILED FOR TARSHISH TO FLEE FROM THE LORD.

JONAH 1:3

REFLECT: Immediately after God called Jonah to preach in Nineveh, Jonah ran away from his God-given mission and even tried to run away from God! He went to great lengths to sail in the opposite direction of where God was calling him. I'm sure we can relate to Jonah's resistance in some ways.

RESPOND: Are there ways that you resist God's call to mission and discipleship? Are there areas of life where you're resisting God's will? Bring these to God in prayer and ask Him to soften your heart.

RELY: Jesus, I confess the ways in which I resist or disobey your call to share the good news of the gospel with others. Forgive me, soften my heart and move me to listen to and obey Your will for me. Amen.

2

...OBEY ME, AND I WILL BE YOUR GOD AND YOU WILL BE MY PEOPLE. WALK IN OBEDIENCE TO ALL I COMMAND YOU, THAT IT MAY GO WELL WITH YOU. BUT THEY DID NOT LISTEN OR PAY ATTENTION; INSTEAD, THEY FOLLOWED THE STUBBORN INCLINATIONS OF THEIR EVIL HEARTS. THEY WENT BACKWARD AND NOT FORWARD.

JEREMIAH 7:23-24

REFLECT: The love God has for His people is so great that He wants to bless us and bless through us. His ways lead to that blessing. But instead God's people chose three things: to not listen to God; to pay Him no attention; and to follow their evil hearts- as a result they went backwards!

RESPOND: Identify the desires in you that pull you away from obedience to God. Bring these to God and ask for help to resist them. Choose today to be attentive to God and move where He leads.

RELY: Holy Spirit, create in me a clean heart, purify me of my stubbornness and sin. Give me ears to listen; eyes to watch; and a heart to follow after You and Your purpose in this world. Amen.

3

I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO; I WILL COUNSEL YOU WITH MY LOVING EYE ON YOU. DO NOT BE LIKE THE HORSE OR THE MULE, WHICH HAVE NO UNDERSTANDING BUT MUST BE CONTROLLED BY BIT AND BRIDLE OR THEY WILL NOT COME TO YOU.

PSALM 32:8-9

REFLECT: The loving guidance and intimate counsel of God is something many people long for. Willingly drawing near to God is a crucial step to enjoying His loving guidance. The stubborn resistant mule won't come close, but by God's grace let's willingly draw near to Him and follow His lead.

RESPOND: Today, choose to draw near to God willingly and expectantly. Be ready as you do so for God to move you, to instruct, teach and counsel you with His loving eye on your life - for His glory.

RELY: God, forgive me for the times I am like the resistant horse/mule. Thank You that You desire to guide and counsel me because of Your love. I draw near to You today, lead me in Your ways. Amen.

4

SEE TO IT, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THAT NONE OF YOU HAS A SINFUL, UNBELIEVING HEART THAT TURNS AWAY FROM THE LIVING GOD. BUT ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER DAILY, AS LONG AS IT IS CALLED “TODAY,” SO THAT NONE OF YOU MAY BE HARDENED BY SIN’S DECEITFULNESS.

HEBREWS 3:12-13

REFLECT: Sometimes our hearts can be overcome by sin or doubt. Our hearts can even be hardened as sin tricks us to move away from God instead of towards Him. One antidote to hard hearts is to mutually encourage each other in our faith, hope and love in God. This can keep our hearts soft.

RESPOND: Prayerfully encourage someone today in their faith in God. Perhaps it's someone who is

struggling with their faith in God. Your encouragement can make a huge difference.

Connect with someone who can encourage you in your faith too!

RELY: Jesus, keep my heart soft towards You. When sin and doubt threaten to overwhelm me, move me with Your strength to persevere in my faith. Use me to encourage someone today. Amen.

5 PETER TOOK HIM ASIDE AND BEGAN TO REBUKE HIM. “NEVER, LORD!” HE SAID. “THIS SHALL NEVER HAPPEN TO YOU!” JESUS TURNED AND SAID TO PETER, “GET BEHIND ME, SATAN! YOU ARE A STUMBLING BLOCK TO ME; YOU DO NOT HAVE IN MIND THE CONCERNS OF GOD, BUT MERELY HUMAN CONCERNS.”

MATTHEW 16:22-23

REFLECT: When Jesus explained He would suffer, be killed and be raised to life, Peter took Jesus aside and told Him off. How could God's plan possibly involve Jesus suffering? Jesus explained that Peter did not have God's concerns on his heart, but instead human concerns. Sometimes our resistance to God's mission is caused by our priorities not aligning with God's priorities.

RESPOND: Take some time to consider: 1) Your main priorities and concerns; 2) God's priorities and concerns. Seek God about how He might help you better align your concerns with His.

RELY: God renew my heart. Help my heart be moved with what is on Your heart. Help me to follow and trust You more and encouraging others to do the same. Amen.

6

THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SUCH A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US THROW OFF EVERYTHING THAT HINDERS AND THE SIN THAT SO EASILY ENTANGLES. AND LET US RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE MARKED OUT FOR US...

HEBREWS 12:1

REFLECT: Ancient athletes competed in next to no clothing that they might be unhindered in their race. We too are to throw off "everything" that hinders our race of faith; and to avoid the entangling sin which can slow us down or injure us. To run this race encumbered and entangled will wear us down.

RESPOND: What hindrances to your "race of faith" are slowing you down? (These may even be good things). Submit them to God. Are there sins tangling you up? Confess them today.

RELY: God, I want to run this race, to move with purpose in every step. Help me throw off the things that are weighing me down, help me to avoid the entangling sin. Help me run to You and for You! Amen.



COME NEAR TO GOD AND HE WILL COME NEAR TO YOU. WASH YOUR HANDS, YOU SINNERS, AND PURIFY YOUR HEARTS, YOU DOUBLE-MINDED.

JAMES 4:8

REFLECT: God invites us to draw near to Him. As we do, we're urged to take purity seriously in both in our hearts and our minds. To be double-minded is to love God and worldly pleasures at the same time or to have two masters so to speak. James firm call is to wholehearted devotion to Jesus.

RESPOND: Take time today to draw near to God with confidence in Him. Take time to confess any sins and divided devotions that come to mind. Trust in Jesus' forgiveness and power to move forward!

RELY: Jesus, give us an undivided heart that we might live in godly awe of You. Spur in my heart and stronger desire to move with You. Thank You that Spirit for transforming my heart to be like Jesus.



WEEK THREE
TRUSTING GOD

1

THEN THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JONAH A SECOND TIME: “GO TO THE GREAT CITY OF NINEVEH AND PROCLAIM TO IT THE MESSAGE I GIVE YOU. JONAH OBEYED THE WORD OF THE LORD AND WENT TO NINEVEH. NOW NINEVEH WAS A VERY LARGE CITY; IT TOOK THREE DAYS TO GO THROUGH IT.

JONAH 3:1-3

REFLECT: After reluctant repentance and longing for God with prayer, then the word of God came again; Jonah's response is actions with obedience: obeying and going, he accomplished his mission by following God's directions.

RESPOND: Do we genuinely trust in God? What can manifest our faithful obedience? The answer is always action, which is doing what

God asks. Sometimes, our trust is in our words, but not with action. This kind of trust is not helpful for our spiritual life, perhaps even harmful.

REPLY: Dear God, please help me to trust in You through my actions. Please move my heart first, then move my whole body to follow your will and commandments. Amen!

2

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR UNDERSTANDING; IN ALL YOUR WAYS, SUBMIT TO HIM, AND HE WILL MAKE YOUR PATHS STRAIGHT.

PROVERBS 3:5-6

REFLECT: The key word in these Bible verses is "all" - all your heart and all your ways; we would prefer to leave some spaces, even a tiny bit to ourselves, our wisdom, understanding and methods to deal with our life. Unless we submit ourselves fully to our Lord Jesus, we cannot make our paths straight.

RESPOND: Let's take some time to reflect in our daily prayers and invite the Holy Spirit to enlighten our hearts, revealing the ways we follow Jesus in our own way and not His. What will help you come humbly before God and truly trust him?

REPLY: Heavenly Father, we praise Your holy name! Holy Spirit, please help me to move out any thoughts that stray from You. Lift me and move in Your way. Amen!

3

VINDICATE ME, LORD, FOR I HAVE LED A BLAMELESS LIFE; I HAVE TRUSTED IN THE LORD AND HAVE NOT FALTERED. TEST ME, LORD, AND TRY ME, EXAMINE MY HEART AND MY MIND; FOR I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MINDFUL OF YOUR UNFAILING LOVE AND HAVE LIVED IN RELIANCE ON YOUR FAITHFULNESS.

PSALM 26:1-3

REFLECT: Psalm 26 is praying for God's justice and a cry for vindication. The assurance of the Psalmist salvation is: God's unfailing love. "Test me, Lord, and try me, examine..." indicates the Psalmist's willingness to submit to God's examination. Just as Job trusts in God, the writer has confidence that he will lead a blameless life.

RESPOND: When Jesus says, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay"

[Romans 12:19], let's be confident and assured that this truth is God-spoken. Trust in God, be faithful, keep obeying Him, keep moving with Him- even if things are not turning out the way you have hoped.

REPLY: Dear God, please examine me and strengthen me to lead a blameless life and protect me with Your mighty power. Help me be faithful in the face of wickedness around me. Amen!

4 WHOEVER DWELLS IN THE SHELTER OF THE HIGHEST WILL REST IN THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY. I WILL SAY OF THE LORD, “HE IS MY REFUGE AND MY FORTRESS, MY GOD, IN WHOM I TRUST.” INDEED, HE WILL SAVE YOU FROM THE FOWLER’S SNARE AND THE DEADLY PESTILENCE. HE WILL COVER YOU WITH HIS FEATHERS; UNDER HIS WINGS, YOU WILL FIND REFUGE; HIS FAITHFULNESS WILL BE YOUR SHIELD AND RAMPART.

PSALM 91:1-4

REFLECT: Two phrases used to describe God are: the Highest, and the Almighty. The writer had such a profound relationship with God. He trusts in God and believes that God will protect him when he chooses to make the Highest One his home where he dwells.

RESPOND: Dwell in God today. Don't fear the attack from your enemies. Fear may signal

problems with our trust in God. We can be confident that if we dwell in God, just like the psalmist, we don't need to be afraid.

REPLY: Almighty God, You are the Highest One, as we shelter under Your wings, take away all our fear. Help us move in Your presence enjoying Your caring protection over us. Amen!

5

MAY GOD HIMSELF, THE GOD OF PEACE, SANCTIFY YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH. MAY YOUR WHOLE SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY BE KEPT BLAMELESS AT THE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. THE ONE WHO CALLS YOU IS FAITHFUL, AND HE WILL DO IT.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

REFLECT: This is one of the most beautiful benedictions in the New Testament. The blessing asks that God will keep your holistic person (spirit, soul and body) blameless in your whole life. His faithful, precise and divine nature ensures that He will do it!

RESPOND: God is trustworthy, this is an unshakable truth. Trust Him and His promises- both of which are unfailing. Invite Him to continue to sanctify us because of His faithfulness.

REPLY: Dear God, You are a trustworthy God. Please help us not move anywhere or everywhere but stand firm in You and Your promises. Amen!

6

HERE IS A TRUSTWORTHY SAYING: IF WE DIED WITH HIM, WE WILL ALSO LIVE WITH HIM; IF WE ENDURE, WE WILL ALSO REIGN WITH HIM; IF WE DISOWN HIM, HE WILL ALSO DISOWN US; IF WE ARE FAITHLESS, HE REMAINS FAITHFUL, FOR HE CANNOT DISOWN HIMSELF.

2 TIMOTHY 2:11-13

REFLECT: The Apostle Paul suffered for Gospel, even being chained like a criminal, and he endured everything for the sake of the elect, who will receive salvation from Christ. He placed his trust in God, who remains faithful, even when we may be faithless, struggling with our doubt.

RESPOND: Faith is God's grace towards us and as Jesus said, even faith the size of a mustard seed can accomplish anything. Be confident that our God remains faithful even when we may

struggle with our faith in Him. Let's keep persevering in our faith together.

REPLY: Dear Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness and the assurance of our eternal life with you, even when we struggle. May this confidence move us to proclaim Your gospel. Amen!



LET US HOLD UNSWERVINGLY TO THE HOPE WE PROFESS, FOR HE WHO PROMISED IS FAITHFUL.

HEBREWS 10:23

REFLECT: Hope is unseen. What matters more is not about the hope itself, but the One who gives us the hope. "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." (Hebrews 11:1). We can hold fast to our hope in Jesus because He who made these promises to us is faithful!

RESPOND: Hope in ourselves won't last long and can easily give up. Let's fix your eyes on Jesus today, and His promises. Be confident in your hope in Him, even in the middle of our uncertainty.

REPLY: Dear God, please help us to look to Jesus always. Help us move towards your promise which is our true hope. Holy Spirit, strengthen us with Your power to fulfil Your mission, Amen!



WEEK FOUR
OBEYING GOD

1

**BUT SAMUEL REPLIED:
“DOES THE LORD DELIGHT IN BURNT
OFFERINGS AND SACRIFICES AS MUCH
AS IN OBEYING THE LORD? TO OBEY IS
BETTER THAN SACRIFICE, AND TO HEED
IS BETTER THAN IS BETTER THAN THE
FAT OF RAMS.**

1 SAMUEL 15:22

REFLECT: Saul thought he could buy God's affection with his sacrifices, all while disobeying God's specific instructions. In the end it was window-dressing, hollow religious ritual that couldn't hide Saul's rebellious heart. The prophet Samuel reminds him and us that God longs for lives joyfully surrendered to him through simple and consistent obedience.

RESPOND: I have a friend who says that 'obedience is God's love language' – the response God

most longs for from his children. Obeying God requires us to set aside our agenda and embrace his. How is God calling you to obey him today? Ask God for the strength to walk in obedience.

RELY: Thank You God for Your patience towards me. Even though in so many large and small ways I have disobeyed You, You continue to shower me with grace. Holy Spirit, strengthen me to walk, to move in obedience.

2

TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT AND JUST IS MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE LORD THAN SACRIFICE.

PROVERBS 21:3

REFLECT: We live in a confused and conflicted culture – where right and wrong isn't so much measured by objective truth, but the subject of personal opinion. In stark contrast, God has made plain what is right – 'to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.' [Micah 6:8].

Wesley Mission seeks to do what is right and just as empowered by the Holy Spirit, we continue the work of Jesus Christ in Word and deed.

RESPOND: Doing what is right requires our active participation in what God is doing in the world. Where and how is God calling you do 'do right' – through and acts of service, generosity, courage or sacrifice?

RELY: Jesus, You never tired of doing what is right and just. Your mission was to proclaim good news to the poor and to set the oppressed free. Breathe Your courage and strength into me that I might faithfully proclaim with my words and actions Your good news. I want to move with You.

3

WHOEVER HAS MY COMMANDS AND KEEPS THEM IS THE ONE WHO LOVES ME. THE ONE WHO LOVES ME WILL BE LOVED BY MY FATHER, AND I TOO WILL LOVE THEM AND SHOW MYSELF TO THEM.

JOHN 14:21

REFLECT: We cannot earn the love of God. It is a free gift of grace – outrageous and lavish in its infinite scope. We were created by love, for love and to love. In receiving and responding to the love of God with our active obedience we find ourselves drawn deeper still into intimate communion with God, lost in 'wonder, love and praise' at his majesty.

RESPOND: Jesus said the law can be summarised as loving God with heart, soul, mind and strength, and loving our neighbour as

yourself. Which of your neighbours (friend, family member, work colleague etc) is God calling you to practically love today, and how? Go, do it!

RELY: Jesus, thank You that You do not hide Yourself from me. Thank You that as I respond to Your love by placing my faith and trust in You, I experience Your presence closer than my own heartbeat. You move me so deeply. Thank You that one day I will see You face to face, and in all Your glory. Amen.

“I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE BRANCHES. IF YOU REMAIN IN ME AND I IN YOU, YOU WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT; APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING. IF YOU DO NOT REMAIN IN ME, YOU ARE LIKE A BRANCH THAT IS THROWN AWAY AND WITHERS; SUCH BRANCHES ARE PICKED UP, THROWN INTO THE FIRE AND BURNED. IF YOU REMAIN IN ME AND MY WORDS REMAIN IN YOU, ASK WHATEVER YOU WISH, AND IT WILL BE DONE FOR YOU. THIS IS TO MY FATHER’S GLORY, THAT YOU BEAR MUCH FRUIT, SHOWING YOURSELVES TO BE MY DISCIPLES. “AS THE FATHER HAS LOVED ME, SO HAVE I LOVED YOU. NOW REMAIN IN MY LOVE. IF YOU KEEP MY COMMANDS, YOU WILL REMAIN IN MY LOVE, JUST AS I HAVE KEPT MY FATHER’S COMMANDS AND REMAIN IN HIS LOVE. I HAVE TOLD YOU THIS SO THAT MY JOY MAY BE IN YOU AND THAT YOUR JOY MAY BE COMPLETE. MY COMMAND IS THIS: LOVE EACH OTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.”

JOHN 15:5-12

4

“I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE BRANCHES. IF YOU REMAIN IN ME AND I IN YOU, YOU WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT; APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING...”

JOHN 15:5-12

REFLECT: Jesus' disciples are called to bear fruit, not produce it. It is not our concerted efforts, our straining to do good that makes a difference, but our surrendered partnership with him that can change our life, and by extension, the world around him. 'Abiding' isn't passive, but our proactive and willingly chosen surrender to the one in whom we live and move and have our being. Unspeakable joy in and through all circumstances is the reward of the one who chooses to abide in Jesus.

RESPOND: Dallas Willard said that *'Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning. Earning is an attitude. Effort is an action.'* What acts of obedience is Jesus calling you into today as you seek to abide in him and remain in his love?

RELY: Jesus, thank You for the joy I experience in and through Your presence. Take me deeper into Your joy that my life might move with the overflow of Your love, grace and mercy in ways that invite others to experience Your joy as well.

5

IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH ONE ANOTHER, HAVE THE SAME MINDSET AS CHRIST JESUS...

READ FULL PASSAGE ON THE NEXT PAGE.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

REFLECT: In calling us to obedience, Jesus is not asking for something he did not fully give himself to. On the lonely night of his betrayal and arrest, agonising in prayer Jesus surrendered his will to the Father – 'not my will, but yours.' In doing so he knowingly embraced the suffering of the cross. No greater sacrifice has been made, a sacrifice that resolutely walked the path of humble, faith-filled obedience.

RESPOND: More often than not obedience isn't convenient, requiring the humility to set aside our own agenda and priorities in

order to embrace those of God. What 'inconvenience' is God calling you to embrace in order to walk the path of obedience today?

RELY: Jesus, You gave up Your life for mine. You willingly embraced death that I might joyfully experience life. You suffered the lonely agony of the cross that I might experience the intimate love of the Father. Your sacrificial obedience moves me to follow You. Thank You, thank You, thank You!

IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH ONE ANOTHER, HAVE THE SAME MINDSET AS CHRIST JESUS: WHO, BEING IN VERY NATURE GOD, DID NOT CONSIDER EQUALITY WITH GOD SOMETHING TO BE USED TO HIS OWN ADVANTAGE; RATHER, HE MADE HIMSELF NOTHING BY TAKING THE VERY NATURE OF A SERVANT, BEING MADE IN HUMAN LIKENESS. AND BEING FOUND IN APPEARANCE AS A MAN, HE HUMBLER HIMSELF BY BECOMING OBEDIENT TO DEATH — EVEN DEATH ON A CROSS!

THEREFORE GOD EXALTED HIM TO THE HIGHEST PLACE AND GAVE HIM THE NAME THAT IS ABOVE EVERY NAME, THAT AT THE NAME OF JESUS EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH AND UNDER THE EARTH, AND EVERY TONGUE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

6

THEREFORE, I URGE YOU, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCY, TO OFFER YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD— THIS IS YOUR TRUE AND PROPER WORSHIP. DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS—HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL.

ROMANS 12:1-2

REFLECT: 'Therefore' is one of the most dangerous words in the bible. Especially in Paul's writing, it usually follows a glorious explanation of the good news of the gospel - of what God has done for us in and through Jesus. That's exactly what he does in Romans chapters 1-11. And then in Romans 12 he turns from what God has done, to how then we should respond... 'therefore'. Considering what God has done for us in Christ the only right response is to offer ourselves as 'living sacrifices', to live with joyful, surrendered obedience to Jesus.

RESPOND: Renewing our mind requires a day by day commitment to drink in whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable (Philippians 4:8) - a saturation in God's truth and beauty. How is God calling you to love him with your mind today?

RELY: Father, too easily I wriggle off the altar of obedience, looking to control my own life in my own foolish ways. Remind me that true freedom is found through surrender to Your love and mercy. Thank You that Your grace is deeper than any ocean. Renew me as I move with You. Amen.



THEN JESUS CAME TO THEM AND SAID, “ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME. THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE.

MATTHEW 28:18-20

REFLECT: Jesus cannot be any clearer in his commission of us. We are disciples called to make other disciples, who in turn make disciples. Our world is Nineveh writ large, filled with lost, lonely, confused and stubbornly rebellious people. All are loved by God. Without exception. They are the ones Jesus gave his life for. Following Jesus, sent by him just as he was sent, our privilege is to continue his revolution of love, grace and mercy as we boldly proclaim his good news in Word and deed, inviting others to join us in walking with Jesus up to, and into eternity.

RESPOND: JD Greear reminds us that, biblically speaking, we are 'either a missionary or the mission field. There is no third option.' Which are you? If you have experienced and have surrendered your life to the love of Jesus – then GO! Go with confidence in the news you carry and willingly share, go in the power of the Holy Spirit and go with expectation – that God can and will do amazing things.

RELY: Jesus, thank You for Your commission to make disciples. With humility, I embrace your command. I cannot do this other than with Your authority and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Fill me again and again that I might follow and obey You all my days. I will move with Your commission. Amen.



WEEKLY STUDIES

HEARING GOD

READ: MATTHEW 4:18-20

AS JESUS WAS WALKING BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE, HE SAW TWO BROTHERS, SIMON CALLED PETER AND HIS BROTHER ANDREW. THEY WERE CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY WERE FISHERMEN. 'COME, FOLLOW ME,' JESUS SAID, 'AND I WILL SEND YOU OUT TO FISH FOR PEOPLE.' AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

RELATE: In groups of two or three, spend a few minutes sharing about a time in your life when you experienced a big change.

REFLECT: Over these four weeks, we're going to be looking at the discipleship journey of Peter. In the gospels, Peter often represents all the disciples. As we look at key moments from Peter's story, we'll see some parallels and contrasts with the prophet Jonah's journey that we're exploring together in our sermon series. More importantly, we will be looking for how Peter's discipleship journey reflects ours and helps us to move forward with Jesus.

In this first session, Peter hears God's voice in Jesus' call to follow him. In Matthew's telling of that call and response, it's just about as simple as that. Jesus calls Simon Peter and his brother to follow, with nothing more than a mysterious promise that he will send them out to fish for people. And they follow. Matthew (like Mark) doesn't focus our attention on what Peter thinks or says in response to Jesus. He focuses us squarely on what Peter and the other fishermen do. They hear. And they move.

RESPOND:

1. When Peter and his brother drop their nets, they are letting go of everything they hold dear. Their nets are their most valued possessions, symbolic of not only their livelihoods, but of their families, their home community and their whole way of life. Think about the moment when Peter let go of his net and stepped forward, leaving it behind in the sand. ***What kind of thoughts and feelings can you imagine might be swirling through his heart and mind?***

2. Jesus never actually commanded the fishermen to drop their nets. ***How might Peter's discipleship journey have been different if he had said yes to following Jesus, but insisted on bringing his nets along with him?***

3. ***Have you heard Jesus' call, "follow me" in your life?***
 - a. If you haven't yet, what might it mean in your life if you could hear that call?
 - b. If you have, how have you heard it? And what has His call meant for your life?

4. Jesus promises Peter that he will be sent out to fish for people. ***What promise does He give us today when we hear His call to follow?***

5. Whenever we hear God speaking in scripture or in prayer, His voice always leads us towards a greater love of God and neighbour. ***Can you think of ways in which your group or congregation has heard God and been moved in this way? How has that changed the church? Wesley Mission? The community and world around us?***

6. ***What are ways you might listen for God speaking to you together as a community of faith?***

RELY: As a group, share in a dedicated time of silent prayer. A leader can open and close the prayer, but in between, give yourselves time to listen for the Holy Spirit. Don't worry if your minds wander or if you feel a little awkward or bored or restless. Just keep re-centring your heart and mind to hear God speaking. At the end of the prayer time share with one another whatever you heard in silence. Even if you don't hear anything from God in the silence, you might hear God speaking through what someone else has heard.

RESISTING GOD

READ: MATTHEW 16:21-28

FROM THAT TIME ON JESUS BEGAN TO EXPLAIN TO HIS DISCIPLES THAT HE MUST GO TO JERUSALEM AND SUFFER MANY THINGS AT THE HANDS OF THE ELDERS, THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW, AND THAT HE MUST BE KILLED AND ON THE THIRD DAY BE RAISED TO LIFE.

PETER TOOK HIM ASIDE AND BEGAN TO REBUKE HIM. “NEVER, LORD!” HE SAID. “THIS SHALL NEVER HAPPEN TO YOU!”

JESUS TURNED AND SAID TO PETER, “GET BEHIND ME, SATAN! YOU ARE A STUMBLING BLOCK TO ME; YOU DO NOT HAVE IN MIND THE CONCERNS OF GOD, BUT MERELY HUMAN CONCERNS.” THEN JESUS SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, “WHOEVER WANTS TO BE MY DISCIPLE MUST DENY THEMSELVES AND TAKE UP THEIR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME. FOR WHOEVER WANTS TO SAVE THEIR LIFE WILL LOSE IT, BUT WHOEVER LOSES THEIR LIFE FOR ME WILL FIND IT. WHAT GOOD WILL IT BE FOR SOMEONE TO GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD, YET FORFEIT THEIR SOUL? OR WHAT CAN ANYONE GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR THEIR SOUL? FOR THE SON OF MAN IS GOING TO COME IN HIS FATHER’S GLORY WITH HIS ANGELS, AND THEN HE WILL REWARD EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO WHAT THEY HAVE DONE.

“TRULY I TELL YOU, SOME WHO ARE STANDING HERE WILL NOT TASTE DEATH BEFORE THEY SEE THE SON OF MAN COMING IN HIS KINGDOM.”



WEEK TWO STUDY

RELATE: In groups of two or three, share about a time when you've found it hard to trust God.

REFLECT: This episode happens soon after Jesus affirms Peter for identifying him as Messiah and calls him Peter: "the rock" on whom the Lord will build his church. In that same affirmation Jesus calls him "Simon son of Jonah" (elsewhere he calls him Simon son of John. cf., John 1.42; 21.15-17). While the name "Peter" speaks to the role he will, in time, live into, "son of Jonah" speaks to where he is coming from. And "son of Jonah" alerts us that Peter's discipleship journey may follow some of the same contours as the prophet's journey. Including resisting God.

From verse 21, Jesus Messiah is on the move. He's headed for Jerusalem where there's a cross with his name on it. This is where Peter resists. Peter actually takes Jesus aside to rebuke him. Can you imagine what that rebuke would sound like? "Look, Jesus. You can't talk like this. All this talk about undergoing great suffering, being rejected by the Jerusalem authorities and being killed. It's got to stop. It's not going to happen. You're not going to Jerusalem, Jesus, OK? And neither are we."

Peter is afraid to move with Jesus towards Jerusalem. At this point it appears that he's afraid for Jesus' life. But later we'll see that beneath Peter's brash bravado, he's afraid for his own life too. Peter hears his Lord, but he resists following him where he doesn't want to be led.

RESPOND:

1. Peter clearly didn't want to move with Jesus towards Jerusalem. *What do you see as the reasons for Peter's resistance?*
2. *What do imagine he might have suggested to his Lord as an alternative to going to Jerusalem?*
3. *Can you think of times when God has been trying to lead you in one direction, but you've resisted? If so, how has God responded to your resistance?*
4. When Jesus rebukes Peter's rebuke He uses very strong language. And yet right after this episode, Jesus invites Peter, together with James and John, as a trusted inner circle to go with Him up the mountain to witness the Transfiguration. *What does this tell you about Jesus' relationship with Peter? And what does that tell you about His relationship with us?*
5. *What parallels or contrasts do you see in looking at the prophet Jonah's journey and the disciple Peter's journey?*
6. *Are there ways in which we as a group or as a congregation have been stuck, resisting to move where God is leading us? If so, what has us stuck and what can help us to move?*

RELY:

Have we identified any ways in which we as individuals, or as a group, or our congregation, or Wesley Mission together, have resisted God's call and leading? If not, let's spend some time in prayer humbly asking God to open our eyes to see where we're stuck.

If we have identified some of those ways though, let's confess these things together before God in prayer. This confessing isn't about beating ourselves up or taking on shame. On the contrary, it's a prayer of profound trust that God's loving grace is enough to heal us, restore us and set us back on track, in step with the Spirit. So, when we pray our confession, we pray with joyful gratitude for what God has done, is doing and will do in and through us.

TRUSTING GOD

READ: MATTHEW 14:22-33

IMMEDIATELY JESUS MADE THE DISCIPLES GET INTO THE BOAT AND GO ON AHEAD OF HIM TO THE OTHER SIDE, WHILE HE DISMISSED THE CROWD. AFTER HE HAD DISMISSED THEM, HE WENT UP ON A MOUNTAIN SIDE BY HIMSELF TO PRAY. LATER THAT NIGHT, HE WAS THERE ALONE, AND THE BOAT WAS ALREADY A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE FROM LAND, BUFFETED BY THE WAVES BECAUSE THE WIND WAS AGAINST IT.

SHORTLY BEFORE DAWN JESUS WENT OUT TO THEM, WALKING ON THE LAKE. WHEN THE DISCIPLES SAW HIM WALKING ON THE LAKE, THEY WERE TERRIFIED. "IT'S A GHOST," THEY SAID, AND CRIED OUT IN FEAR. BUT JESUS IMMEDIATELY SAID TO THEM: "TAKE COURAGE! IT IS I. DON'T BE AFRAID." "LORD, IF IT'S YOU," PETER REPLIED, "TELL ME TO COME TO YOU ON THE WATER." "COME," HE SAID. THEN PETER GOT DOWN OUT OF THE BOAT, WALKED ON THE WATER AND CAME TOWARD JESUS. BUT WHEN HE SAW THE WIND, HE WAS AFRAID AND, BEGINNING TO SINK, CRIED OUT, "LORD, SAVE ME!"

IMMEDIATELY JESUS REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND CAUGHT HIM. "YOU OF LITTLE FAITH," HE SAID, "WHY DID YOU DOUBT?" AND WHEN THEY CLIMBED INTO THE BOAT, THE WIND DIED DOWN. THEN THOSE WHO WERE IN THE BOAT WORSHIPED HIM, SAYING, "TRULY YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD."



WEEK THREE STUDY

RELATE: In groups of two or three, share about a relationship of trust that's important in your life journey.

REFLECT: It's important to remember that this is not the story of a pleasure cruise. The disciples are out in the boat because the Lord has sent them to move forward in mission.

When Jesus walked out on the water to join up with them, the disciples are understandably terrified. Peter, however, does something remarkable. He so wants to be with his Lord that he boldly asks to be called out of the safety of the boat and to move across the water to where Jesus is. Peter doesn't ask how he can do that or whether it's even possible for him to do that. The only thing he needs to know is 'if it is you.'

Jesus responds to Peter by saying, 'Come.' And Peter steps over the gunwale and starts walking towards Jesus. All of a sudden, those questions about how he can do what he's doing or whether it's even possible for him to be doing it come crashing in to his mind. Peter forgets about Jesus' call and he starts to sink like a rock. But even in his desperation, Peter doesn't try to swim back to the boat. He reaches out in trust: "Lord, save me!" And Jesus does save him. The result is that not only Peter, but all who witness it worship Jesus and confess, "Truly you are the Son of God."

When Jesus and the disciples reached the other side, they continued in mission among the people of Gennesaret, a region know for its fertile soil. And from the time they step out of the boat onto the shore, Jesus makes a profound impact there.

RESPOND:

1. Imagine that you're one of the disciples in the boat with Peter. You hear Jesus say "Come" and you watch your friend stepping out of the boat. *What thoughts and feelings are swirling in you?*
2. Peter still has a long way to go in his journey of faith. But even here, he has moments of extraordinary trust in the Lord. *Where in this story do you find Peter's faith most remarkable?*
3. *Have you ever had times in your life where you've felt fear and confusion and trust in God all at the same time? If so, what was God doing in those times?*
4. *How might Peter's discipleship have been different if he had never called out to Jesus and just sat in quiet fear with the others in the boat?*
5. Peter and the disciples are in a boat because they've been sent in mission. *Do you see any similarities or differences between this story and Jonah's story?*
6. *Do you hear Jesus calling us: "Come?" If so where is he calling us as a congregation and as Wesley Mission? What do we need to respond to his call?*

RELY:

Share with one another times in the past when God has been faithful to you, your congregation, and Wesley Mission. Share in a prayer of thanksgiving for God's faithfulness and entrust your present and your future to His ongoing faithfulness.

OBEYING GOD

READ: ACTS 11:1-18

THE APOSTLES AND THE BELIEVERS THROUGHOUT JUDEA HEARD THAT THE GENTILES ALSO HAD RECEIVED THE WORD OF GOD. SO WHEN PETER WENT UP TO JERUSALEM, THE CIRCUMCISED BELIEVERS CRITICIZED HIM AND SAID, “YOU WENT INTO THE HOUSE OF UNCIRCUMCISED MEN AND ATE WITH THEM.”

STARTING FROM THE BEGINNING, PETER TOLD THEM THE WHOLE STORY: “I WAS IN THE CITY OF JOPPA PRAYING, AND IN A TRANCE I SAW A VISION. I SAW SOMETHING LIKE A LARGE SHEET BEING LET DOWN FROM HEAVEN BY ITS FOUR CORNERS, AND IT CAME DOWN TO WHERE I WAS. I LOOKED INTO IT AND SAW FOUR-FOOTED ANIMALS OF THE EARTH, WILD BEASTS, REPTILES AND BIRDS. THEN I HEARD A VOICE TELLING ME, ‘GET UP, PETER. KILL AND EAT.’ “I REPLIED, ‘SURELY NOT, LORD! NOTHING IMPURE OR UNCLEAN HAS EVER ENTERED MY MOUTH.’

“THE VOICE SPOKE FROM HEAVEN A SECOND TIME, ‘DO NOT CALL ANYTHING IMPURE THAT GOD HAS MADE CLEAN.’ THIS HAPPENED THREE TIMES, AND THEN IT WAS ALL PULLED UP TO HEAVEN AGAIN.

“RIGHT THEN THREE MEN WHO HAD BEEN SENT TO ME FROM CAESAREA STOPPED AT THE HOUSE WHERE I WAS STAYING. THE SPIRIT TOLD ME TO HAVE NO HESITATION ABOUT GOING WITH THEM. THESE SIX BROTHERS ALSO WENT WITH ME, AND WE ENTERED THE MAN’S HOUSE.

HE TOLD US HOW HE HAD SEEN AN ANGEL APPEAR IN HIS HOUSE AND SAY, ‘SEND TO JOPPA FOR SIMON WHO IS CALLED PETER. HE WILL BRING YOU A MESSAGE THROUGH WHICH YOU AND ALL YOUR HOUSEHOLD WILL BE SAVED.’

“AS I BEGAN TO SPEAK, THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME ON THEM AS HE HAD COME ON US AT THE BEGINNING. THEN I REMEMBERED WHAT THE LORD HAD SAID: ‘JOHN BAPTIZED WITH[A] WATER, BUT YOU WILL BE BAPTIZED WITH[B] THE HOLY SPIRIT.’ SO IF GOD GAVE THEM THE SAME GIFT HE GAVE US WHO BELIEVED IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO WAS I TO THINK THAT I COULD STAND IN GOD’S WAY?”

WHEN THEY HEARD THIS, THEY HAD NO FURTHER OBJECTIONS AND PRAISED GOD, SAYING, “SO THEN, EVEN TO GENTILES GOD HAS GRANTED REPENTANCE THAT LEADS TO LIFE.”

WEEK FOUR STUDY

RELATE: In groups of 2 or 3, share: Of all God's commandments, what one do you personally find easiest to obey?

REFLECT: Luke uses a lot of ink to tell this important story in Acts. It spans all of Acts 10 and continues more than halfway through chapter 11. It's so important, that Luke tells it twice. The passage we just read is just Peter's quick summary of what we read in far greater detail in the previous chapter. At its core, this whole story gives us a clear example of what it means for a Spirit-led disciple to obey God.

People often think that to obey means to "behave" or "do what you believe is right." But here we see that Peter's determination to behave and do the right thing actually puts him in opposition to the voice of God. In his vision, he resists and argues with God. Throughout the vision, God seeks Peter's obedience, and Peter is so determined to keep God's law, that he defies God. He's standing on principle and will not move. It's not until after he emerges from his vision trance that Peter finds himself actually obeying God's voice. And as he moves forward in obedience, doing things that he never thought God would ever ask him to do, he comes to understand more and more what God has been revealing to him. He witnesses the Holy Spirit unmistakably at work among a large group of Gentiles who are eager to follow Jesus. And in obedience to God, Peter clears the way for them to be baptised.

The story that unfolds across Acts 10-11 contains all four themes within the 'Move' series: Hearing God, Resisting God, Trusting God and Obeying God. These are not stages of development that we move through in our discipleship. We don't move on to one and leave the others behind. They are instead recurring themes that we encounter again and again as we follow where the Spirit leads.

RESPOND:

1. *Why did the believers in Jerusalem criticise Peter for going into gentiles' houses and eating with them?*

2. *How did Peter discover obedience to God in breaking the rules?*

3. *Have you ever experienced God clearly leading you, but struggled to obey? What made obedience hard for you?*

4. Peter was convinced that he was obeying God in his vision—even while he was defying God. *Have you ever defied God while thinking that you're abiding by biblical principles?*

5. Joppa was a seaport. Jonah departed from Joppa to flee from God's call (Jonah 1.1-3). Peter departed from Joppa to obey God's call. *What other similarities and contrasts in their stories stick out to you?*

6. As we conclude this series, *how do you hear God speaking to us through Jonah's and Peter's similar and contrasting stories? What do you hear God saying about where He wants our congregation and Wesley Mission to move?*

RELY:

Pray for others in your group. Pray for other groups in your congregation. Pray for other congregations across Wesley Mission. Pray for Wesley Mission as a whole. Pray for the church across our city. Pray for those who God is preparing to put in our path. Pray for the grace and courage to follow where the Spirit leads, even if that means connecting our lives with people we never thought God would connect us with. God is on the move. Pray that together as Wesley Mission, we would move with Him.

HOW CAN I RESPOND?

Throughout this **MOVE** campaign, we want to challenge you to take some steps of faith in response to hearing, trusting and obeying God and His commission to make disciples.

The following are four specific ways you might respond in faith. As you read, pray, listen, reflect and discuss with those around you, consider how God might be nudging you to respond, then take some steps of faith today!

To respond, simply scan the QR codes to the right and enter your details online. Alternatively, you can provide your details on the response card provided and hand it in to one of our information team after the service.

We are so excited for the future God is calling our Wesley Mission family to, and we would love to share that journey with you.

May these words from Hebrews inspire us forwards:

So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised. "For in just a little while, the Coming One will come and not delay. And my righteous ones will live by faith. But I will take no pleasure in anyone who turns away." – Heb 10:35-38 (NLT)

So, friends, let's spur each other onwards as God grows us as a Spirit-led disciple-making movement!

Blessings,



Rev Stu Cameron
CEO and Superintendent Minister



PRAY

Intercede

We are inviting faithful believers who want to move toward intimacy with God, to seek His presence, power and guidance for our church.



GIVE

\$500k Fund

We are asking you to give financially toward our seed - funding initiative for church growth and leadership development.



LEAD

Discipleship

We are looking for people who are passionate about making disciples and keen for intentional leadership development.



GO

Church Planting

We are looking for those who feel called to be a part of our future church-planting teams - locally and beyond.





church.wesleymission.org.au