



TRUST ISSUES

*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

3/4/2018

Trust takes knowing a person's character. This week, Derek discussed knowing God as the "The Lord Who Sanctifies". When we understand who he is, we can trust God to make us better (sanctify us).

QUESTIONS

1. Did you learn something new about God from Sunday's message?
What?
2. Did you learn something new about yourself from Sunday's message?
What?
3. Reflecting on Jonah's story, do you see any parallels to your life? Or, have you experienced something similar to Jonah?
4. What New Year's resolutions have you made? Are you keeping up with your 2018 resolution?
5. Why does becoming better often require such hard work?
6. Jonah went through the hard process of change—becoming more like God. In this instance, what did God want to change in Jonah?

7. When you think about the types of things God wants to change in us, what comes to mind? (consider Psalm 51:10; Matthew 5:1-11, 5:12-7:29; Galatians 5:13-26; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12)

8. What do you feel has been the hardest thing to work on in your spiritual journey?

9. The name, *Jehovah Mekoddishkem* (יהוה מקדשכם), means “The Lord Who Sanctifies” but can also be translated “the Lord who makes you holy”. What does it mean to be made holy?

10. When it comes to your life, do you really want God to make you better? Or do you share Jonah’s tendency to run?

11. Derek mentioned that the process to better isn’t climbing a ladder but walking with Jesus. How do you imagine this process working?

12. (For personal reflection) Have there been any areas that you consider off limits to God? Why?

13. Trust God to make you better reflects a deeper reality. “Better” is not necessarily what happens to us, but what happens in us. When you think about your interactions with others and with God, what would you like to see change within you?

Closing Prayer

God, we thank you that you care for us and know what is best for us. Help us to learn from the story of Jonah that we might turn to you rather than run from you. May we discover the process and the goal of sanctification that you would truly create what is “better” inside of us. Grant me the strength to yield those areas of my life that I hold dearest, and the trust in you to bring healing and growth. I pray this in Jesus’ name, amen.