

Family Questions

- How does the story of Jonah point us to Jesus?
- Do you have friends who need “proof” that Jesus is the Son of God? How can you pray for them? What “proof” would you help them see?

Observation Questions

- Who else “tests/tempts” Jesus in Matthew’s Gospel? Explain the significance.
- Why do the Pharisees and Sadducees want to test Jesus?
- What is the relevance of Jesus’s words in v. 3 to his larger point in the passage?
- Compare the intensity of Jesus’s words in v. 4 (evil & adulterous) with the situation described in v. 1. Does this startle you? Why or why not?
- What does Jesus mean by the sign of Jonah (see Mt. 12:38-42)?

Application Questions

- How might you respond to someone who says to you that they won’t believe in God unless they see some proof?
- In what ways might Christians demand a “sign” from God? How does this passage challenge or inform this tendency by Christians?
- Jesus refuses to give more revelation to the hardened Jewish leaders. Can we apply a principle from this? If so, how might we do so appropriately?

Prayer

Pray that our faith will be sufficiently grounded in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Praise Him that he chose us and gave the Holy Spirit to understand His Word.

Notes