**Sunday 9th March – Connect Group Notes**

**‘The Pattern of Love**

**Read Jonah 1:10-17**

1. In verse 10 the sailors knew that Jonah was running from God, because he had told them so. How far would we admit our failures to others?
2. Verse 12. How could Jonah be so sure that the storm would end when he was thrown into the sea? How sure are we of God intervening in our lives?
3. Verses 13 and 14 are key verses in this passage. Amid the storm, the sailors reached a point where they realized they could not save themselves, and turned to the Lord. What storms are you facing? How is God acting in your life to make you more aware of Him? Where do you need to stop trying to save yourself?
4. The sailors have lived through a storm – but they have also experienced a journey of faith. Discuss
5. Was Jonah literally dead in the water?

**Read Matthew 12: 38:42**

1. What is the sign of Jonah? Why does Jesus answer the scribes and Pharisees like he does?
2. What is your response to the sign of Jonah? What is your response to Jesus’ death and resurrection? How does understanding the sign of Jonah help you understand Jesus’ death and resurrection?
3. Are there other Old Testament characters who could be Signs of Jesus?

**General**

1. When did you first hear Jonah’s story? Have you ever had a hard time believing it? What makes the Bible and its supernatural events hard or easy to believe? (cf. Hebrews 11:3; 1 Corinthians 2:10–16)
2. How was it appropriate to study this passage on a Communion Sunday?