1. **Excuse #1: Fear**
   a) What did Jonah know about the inhabitants of Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian kingdom? Nahum 1:1, 3:1-4
   b) How had the LORD already protected Israel from Assyrian aggression? 2 Kings 19:32-37
   c) Why would the prophet be controlled by fear after the LORD had shown His power to protect and deliver?
   d) Share a time when fear hindered you from engaging in a mission opportunity.
   e) How can we find deliverance from all our fears?

2. **Excuses #2: Those people don’t deserve salvation.**
   a) How do the following verses reveal Jonah’s faulty view of God?
      i) Jonah 1:3
      ii) Jonah 1:12
      iii) Jonah 3:4 What is missing in Jonah’s declaration?
      iv) Jonah 3:10-4:4
   b) What are some faulty views of God that are common today that hold us back from being passionate about mission?

3. **Excuse #3: It’s too difficult.**
   a) What challenges might have caused Jonah to say, “This mission assignment is too difficult for me?”
   b) What are some reasons people give today for refusing to accept a mission assignment?
      i) Language barriers
      ii) Differences in culture
      iii) Feelings of inadequacy
      iv) Not willing to make great personal sacrifice
   c) What response to Jonah’s half-hearted preaching demonstrated that his mission assignment was not too difficult for him if the LORD was present to bless? Jonah 3:5-9
   d) Share a mission assignment that seems impossible from your human perspective. What can we learn from the experience of Jonah?

4. **Abandoning all excuses to avoid mission**
   a) What enabled the prophet Isaiah to abandon all excuses to avoid mission? Isaiah 6:1-7
   b) Having received a revelation of the glory of God, and having experienced personal cleansing and healing, how did Isaiah respond to the appeal of the LORD to engage His mission? Isaiah 6:8
   c) What are some excuses you need to abandon so you can respond to the mission appeal of the LORD?
   d) What is your testimony as you have responded to the appeal of the LORD to join Him in His mission?