

A HEART LIKE HIS

Part 7.0 Jonah's Heart Exposed Jonah 4:1-11

God Asks Jonah THREE Questions

'Is it right for you to be angry?'

vs. 1-4

- God's plan, which flowed from God's CHARACTER, offended Jonah
- Jonah was angry about God's ASSIGNMENT, even though he knew it flowed out of God's character
- Jonah's heart focused more on his personal sense of JUSTICE, rather than on God's larger PLAN

'Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?'

vs. 5-9

- Jonah was deeply emotional about his personal DISCOMFORT
- Jonah was displeased about God's seeming CONTRADICTION
- Jonah's heart focused more on his personal COMFORT rather than the imminent DANGER of a nation

'And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?'

vs. 10-11

- Jonah's heart was UNMOVED by the eternal destination of 120,000 people
- God's heart was concerned for all of His CREATION in Nineveh

Auburn Grace Community Church – March 8, 2020

Life Group Questions – March 8, 2020

Jonah 4:1-2, *'But it greatly displeased Jonah and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "Please LORD, was not this what I said while I was still in my own country? Therefore, in order to forestall this, I fled to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity.'*

QUICK REVIEW

1. Read Isaiah 43:25 and Jeremiah 31:34. If we are repentant, does God literally forget our sins? What does this mean in terms of Divine Forgiveness?
2. Your alcoholic friend keeps falling off the wagon. Each time he is filled with remorse and vows to change and He genuinely seeks God. It works for a while. What is the best way to maintain a relationship with a "serial repentant offender" like your friend? (see James 1:5-6)

MY STORY

1. There will come a time in our life when God asks us to show mercy to someone who hurt us and we won't want to. Why can it be so hard to forgive?
2. Have you ever been "greatly displeased" with God? What were the circumstances? How were you ultimately reconciled with Him? How long did it take?
3. Where do we see in the Book of Jonah that Jonah himself called on the mercy of God and enjoyed the mercy of God when it was extended to him? Now in Chapter 4, we see he resents it when mercy is extended to others. Who are the groups or types of people we want to experience God's anger but not his mercy? Why do you think it's easy for us to have Jonah's double standard?

GOING DEEP

1. Read Ephesians 4:32. How might remembering the forgiveness of Jesus help us forgive others? How can we lean on God to help us forgive those people we "can't" or "won't"?
2. Re-read Jonah 4:2-3. Identify the good and bad things you observe about Jonah's short prayer. What does it mean that God is "abundant in lovingkindness"?
3. Compare and contrast God's responses between Job and Jonah. (see Job 38-41)
4. Compare and contrast Job's and Jonah's responses to God. (see Job 42)
5. What does Jonah 4 reveal to you about God? Make a list. How can you apply these observations to your life?

PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for **you** to remember?