



**Jonah ... The  
Prophet of God and  
the God of Grace**

*NorthRidge Church*

*Dr. M. David Myers*

August 18, 2019

**Truth for Life**

For the week of August 18, 2019

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

*This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry. – Jon. 4:1*

**Jonah and the God of Grace ... Jonah 4:1-11**

- I. Jonah and God's Grace (1-3)  
There's a little Jonah in all of us and a lot of Jonah in most of us.
  - a. Jonah was a Recipient of \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Nineveh didn't Deserve \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Jonah believed he would rather \_\_\_\_\_, than for Nineveh to \_\_\_\_\_.  
One writer brought the truth home this way: "You can tell you have made God in your image when it turns out he hates all the same people you do."
- II. An Object Lesson of God's **Grace** and **Sovereignty** (4-9)
  - a. We discover the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jonah's \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. We discover the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jonah's \_\_\_\_\_
- III. The Heart of the \_\_\_\_\_ and the Heart of \_\_\_\_\_ (10-11)

**Our Take Away ...**

- God Desires for us to \_\_\_\_\_ as He Sees It.  
cp. John 3:16
- God Requires the \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_ of Grace, not to just some, but to all.  
cp. John 13:34
- God's Grace received by the Church must be demonstrated to those around us in a way that looks a lot more like the \_\_\_\_\_ than it does the \_\_\_\_\_.  
cp. John 13:35

1. Have you ever seen Christian people isolate, ignore, or alienate a person or a group of people for some reason? What was the reason? Did they have Biblical reasons for their actions?  
  
From the person who received the alienation, did they see Christ in the actions of the Christian? Was God honored through this action? This may be a topic where disagreement occurs, please be sensitive to the opinions of those who may disagree.
2. Read Jonah 4:1-3 in several translations. Why was Jonah angry? With whom was Jonah angry? How did Jonah display his anger? Reread the subpoints under point #1, "Jonah and God's Grace." Why was his anger so great that he would rather die?
3. Jonah's real issue was with God. Nineveh didn't deserve God's Grace and Mercy and God demonstrated it to them anyway. God did not act in a way that Jonah thought He should act. Have you ever known anyone who was angry with God? Why were they angry? How long did they remain angry? Did you ever observe any joy in their life while they were angry? Why? Support your answers from Scripture.
4. List all of God's "appointment" (or sovereign acts) in chapter 4. What do we learn in this chapter regarding God's sovereignty and providence?
5. We are not given any further information about Jonah beyond what his book gives. Jonah lives in and potentially dies in anger and frustration. Could God have changed his heart? Could God have restored him to good place? Why didn't God fix Jonah? Why would God allow Jonah to (potentially) die in this bad place?  
  
Talk through the possible scenarios as to why God would allow Jonah to remain in this place. Discuss that considering what the world sees and how the bad attitude may mess up an onlooker's perception of God's love. Why would God allow this?
6. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
  - a. Why doesn't excellent theology regarding the character of God always translate into a heart that is consistent with God's heart?
  - b. Where do we try to control God and become angry when He refuses to conform to the image, we have tried to create of Him? How does our anger manifest itself?
  - c. How do we attempt to hoard God's grace in a prideful or exclusivist sense? Why do we harbor bitterness and vengeance towards certain individuals or groups and resent God's extension of mercy to them?



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- I. Jonah and God's Grace (1-3)  
There's a little Jonah in all of us and a lot of Jonah in most of us.
  - a. Jonah was a Recipient of **God's Grace**
  - b. Nineveh didn't Deserve **God's Grace**
  - c. Jonah believed he would rather **die**, than for Nineveh to **live**.  
One writer brought the truth home this way: "You can tell you have made God in your image when it turns out he hates all the same people you do."
- II. An Object Lesson of God's **Grace** and **Sovereignty** (4-9)
  - a. We discover the **Source** of Jonah's **Emotions**
  - b. We discover the **Futility** of Jonah's **Priorities**
- III. The Heart of the **Prophet** and the Heart of **God** (10-11)

### Our Take Away ...

- God Desires for us to **See the World** as He Sees It.  
cp. John 3:16
- God Requires the **Recipients of God's Grace** to be **Givers** of Grace, not to just some, but to all.  
cp. John 13:34
- God's Grace received by the Church must be demonstrated to those around us in a way that looks a lot more like the **Love of Christ** than it does the **Bigotry of the World**.  
cp. John 13:35

1. Have you ever seen Christian people isolate, ignore, or alienate a person or a group of people for some reason? What was the reason? Did they have Biblical reasons for their actions?

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