



Jonah – Chapter 4

When God Doesn't Make Sense

Please watch the sermon video and read Jonah Chapter 4. Then use the questions below to begin your discussion of the message in your group. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you an understanding of His Word.

Core Message:

God sees the world from his eternal and purposeful perspective. Many times we see the world with the blinders of everyday life on our eyes. God asks us to trust him even when we cannot see the world as He sees it. Trust and obey. Living with this kind of obedient faith just might teach us to see the world more like He does.

Ice Breaker Question:

- If you were to look at the earth from outer space, how would it look different than when you look at it from your front porch?

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever felt that God should bless you but not bless your enemies? Jonah could easily see the sin of Nineveh and did not think they deserved God's mercy. Yet Jonah himself had just received God's grace even after he had disobeyed a direct command from God. Read Matthew 7:1-5. Why do you think it is so easy to see the sin of others and yet remain blind to our own sin?
- Do you find any similarities between Jonah's attitude in verses 1-4 and the older brother's attitude in the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:25-32)? How are they alike? How are they different?
- Read Genesis 12:1-3. Who did God say would be blessed through Abraham?

- The people of Nineveh were outsiders – not God’s chosen people like the Israelites – yet He demonstrated care for them. What does that imply about God’s heart for those we consider “outsiders” today? How should we respond to those we consider “outsiders”?
- Read John 3:16-17. How does God see the world? What can we do to intentionally see the world the way God sees it? Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-19. What happens when we have God’s perspective on the world? Who benefits?

Thought Questions:

- Read through the chapter again and reflect on the message.
 - Do you need to imitate the people of Nineveh and ask for God’s forgiveness?
 - Is there someone who needs your forgiveness?
 - Are you struggling to forgive someone?
- What is God’s call on your life – and what will you do about it?