



“Quick to Mercy”

March 21, 2021

Text: Jonah 4:1-11

Part 7 of “The Book of Jonah”

Jonah 4:1-5:

I. \_\_\_\_\_ the Anger.

A. 4:4, “Do you do well to be angry?”

B. \_\_\_\_\_ in his Attitude?

C. \_\_\_\_\_ as a Prophet?

D. \_\_\_\_\_ for his People?

E. \_\_\_\_\_ for the Future?

II. \_\_\_\_\_ with your \_\_\_\_\_.

A. We were once God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Ninevites/Assyrians

C. Phillipians 2:3-4

D. EGO=E\_\_\_\_\_ G\_\_\_\_\_ O\_\_\_\_\_

Jonah 4:6-11:

III. \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ for You.

*"We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope." -T. Keller*

IV. Connect Everyday \_\_\_\_\_ to God's Eternal \_\_\_\_\_.

### ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION FOR FAMILIES

This spring, grow a plant from seed as a reminder of the lessons from the book of Jonah. As you do, review the scene from Jonah 4; summarize it in your own words and talk about it together. Let that plant be a reminder to not let our cares and concerns get in the way of God's care and concerns. Pray and thank God for his compassion and mercy.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Dig Deeper:** Grab a good study Bible that has notes, a concordance, or a cross-reference system and study ideas, words, and themes from this sermon deeper.

Read Jonah 4 several times. Try a few different English translations if you like.

Take a moment to look back on your week. Have a couple people share: what are some highs, lows, and/or buffalos? (Highs=highpoints, Lows=low points, Buffalos=interesting)

What from the sermon jumped out at you this week?

What from the text interested you or surprised you?

What was confusing or would you like to think about more?

Anger. What is your understanding of anger? What are some ways you typically live out your anger? Give both negative and positive examples of how you deal with your anger.

It is important to have some of the big picture ideas of Scripture in mind as we read. What does God desire for all the peoples of the world?

Jonah did not want the Ninevites to come to faith and repentance? How do we seek to avoid God's command to share our faith with others?

How does prejudice compromise our Christian testimony? In what ways do we begrudge God's love for others?

As we look at Jonah 4:5-11, the Lord is trying to show Jonah that if Jonah changed his attitude toward the plant so easily, why can't the God of the Universe choose to have pity on an entire city, a great city, of 120,000 persons?

Consider the plant. What does this say in terms of the way we sometimes obsess over our problems?

Consider the people. How does Jonah's care about the plant compare to his lack of compassion for people?

Pray Together. Use these prayer prompts if you like:

- *Thank you Lord because you showed me mercy...*
- *Lord, help us to be more merciful when....*
- *Pray for specific people to come to know the Lord.*