Discussion Questions

Jonah 4:1-11

**Pastor Bryan Collins Outline**

**Introduction**

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  + (v.1-4) God reveals Jonah’s heart
  + (v.5-8) God tests Jonah’s heart
  + (v.9-11) God rebuked Jonah’s heart
* God reveals Jonah’s Heart (v.1-4)
  + Summary Point: Though initially from a broken heart, Jonah’s prayer was from a place of anger. He wanted justice, not mercy.
    - Jonah was angry that God would extend the same compassion he showed Israel to Nineveh.
* God tests Jonah’s heart (v.5-8)
  + Summary Point: God was showing Jonah that his mercy, grace, steadfast love, patience was not just for him and Israel but for the gentiles as well. Yet Jonah found more happiness in the shade of plant then the salvation of all in Nineveh.
    - God was reminding Jonah what it was like to be: lost, helpless, and hopeless. He was now facing the same outcome he had wished for Nineveh.
* God rebuked Jonah’s heart (v.9-11)
  + Summary Point: The Father’s heart was for Jonah and Nineveh, yet Jonah’s Anger resulted in him quitting, separating himself from others, and becoming a spectator.

**Discussion Questions**

*Feel free to choose what questions will be most helpful to your group to grow in their understanding of the Scripture, learn how to better read the Bible for themselves, and faithfully apply it to their lives.*

Pray and Read Jonah 4:1-11.

1. ***Grace*** Is getting something you don’t deserve and ***mercy*** is not getting what you do deserve.
   1. Do you have relationships in life that you desire justice over mercy in?
   2. Are there people the Lord is asking you to impose mercy on but you are continually imposing justice?
2. God likes to impose questions on us because it reveals the heart.
   1. When it comes to the lost, where is your heart?
   2. Why is it sometimes easier to extend mercy to those that we think deserve it?
3. Jonah was hoping that the Lord would change his mind and bring destruction to Nineveh, or that the people would give in and turn against the Lord once again.
   1. He did, and delivered what the Lord asked him to do, but his heart was not in it. Have you ever experienced something like this?
   2. The Lord will often allow things to attack (i.e. the worm) the heart issues of our life – what are the things that the Lord is allowing to be scorched?
4. If people aren’t beyond Gods mercy and grace, then they shouldn’t be beyond ours.
   1. How can we keep from becoming a body of believers who are solely partakers of grace and the Gospel?
   2. Is there anyone you are withholding grace from? Are withholding showing mercy too? Who are you withholding the Gospel from? Are your actions reflecting the heart of the Lord?