

Sermon Notes

Unrivaled Compassion
Jonah 4

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Big Idea: If we recognize the depth of God's mercy that has come upon us it will create within us a desire to see his mercy come to all

Unrighteous Anger

Anger at injustice is a good thing, but we have to make sure we are angry at the right things and in the right ways

1. We get angry over things God isn't angry about
2. We prioritize justice over repentance and restoration

Self-Righteous Anger (Luke 18:9-14)

If our anger over God's mercy to others reveals our belief that in some way we think we deserve God's mercy and they do not, we have slipped into self-righteousness

If we recognize the depth of God's mercy that has come upon us, it will create within us a desire to see his mercy come to all.

Unrivaled Compassion (Matt. 5:43-48)

God's compassion extends not only to accidental sinners, but even to those who actively rebel against him and his ways.

Questions for Reflection/Discussion:

As always feel free to tweak, skip, or add questions to focus on areas you think most relevant to your group.

1. Share one of your pet peeves. What irritates you more than it should?
2. Jonah was angry over God's compassion toward Ninevah, if you were Jonah's friend what would you say to guide and care for him in this moment?
3. What are some of the things going on right now in your life or our world that make you justly angry?
4. Jonah was angry because this situation "seemed wrong" to him. How can we tell if something just seems wrong or is actually wrong?
5. What is behind a desire to prefer justice over repentance? Why is this attitude so prevalent right now in society?
6. How do you think the world would respond if Christians became known as people who sought repentance and restoration first when confronted with injustice?
7. How does the parable in Luke 18 connect to Jonah and how Jesus might have interacted with him?
8. How might we guard against self-righteousness?
9. What are some of the challenges we encounter when we seek to love our enemies?
10. As we've gone through the book of Jonah, what's something that has impact or challenged you?