

## A Study of Jonah – Week 7

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### **Week 7: Jonah's anger and the Lord's persistence.**

#### **Day 1- Overview - Read Jonah 4:1-11**

1. If God only wanted to save the lost souls of Nineveh, the book would have ended with Chapter 3. What else do you think God is interested in?
2. Who would you say is the key person in this chapter – God or Jonah? Explain.
3. What do you think Jonah was missing because of his anger?
4. List some repeated phrases/thoughts in this chapter (don't have to be word for word)?
5. What do you learn from your list about the person speaking?

**Application:** How will you control your anger today? Will you do as Jonah or try to understand what is behind the anger?

#### **Day 2 – God questions Jonah's anger. Read 3:10-4:4**

1. Jonah was a prophet. His credibility was based on his prophecies coming true. What did Jonah prophesy in 3:4? What did God do in 3:10? What was Jonah missing in this picture?
2. Do you think Jonah was concerned that people would question his future prophecies as a result of this prophecy? What do you think is at the root of such a concern?
3. What do you learn about Jonah's understanding of God?
4. God appoints the prophets and He gives them the words to say. So whose responsibility is the result of the prophecy – the prophet's or God's? Explain.
5. Using verse 4:4, does Jonah have any right to be angry? Do you have any right to be angry at God for saving someone that you detest? Whose business is it to save lost souls?

**Application:** If you are angry about something, how might this lesson help you see God's perspective?

#### **Day 3 – God graciously provides Jonah shade. Read 4:5-6**

1. Why do you think Jonah stayed to watch what happened to the city?
2. God has already dealt with the Ninevites. What do you think He is dealing with now?
3. Verse 6 says that Jonah was very happy. What could be going on in Jonah's mind? Do you think Jonah's view of the Ninevites has changed?
4. What do you think God is doing by providing the vine over Jonah?
5. What do you learn about God from these verses? What has the Lord provided for you recently?

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**Application:** How will you express God’s grace towards you with others today?

### Day 4 – God questions Jonah’s anger again. – Read 4:7-9

1. What three things does “God provide” in verses 4:6-8? What do you learn about God from this?
2. God provides Jonah shade one day and takes it away the next. What message is God sending to Jonah?
3. How does Jonah respond to God’s persistence? How do you respond to God’s persistence?
4. Again God questions Jonah as to his “rights.” What is Jonah missing and how do you see God’s grace in this?
5. What do you think is the root cause of Jonah’s anger? Have you ever been like Jonah? Explain.

**Application:** How will you praise God today for His patience, persistence, and compassion that He has shown you? Will you share that with someone else today?

### Day 5 – God demonstrates Jonah’s poverty towards the lost souls of Nineveh. – Read 4:10-11

1. God by His grace blessed Jonah with the vine to protect him from the heat. But God knew Jonah’s heart, so He took the vine away. What do you think was the condition of Jonah’s heart towards the Ninevites?
2. What do you learn about God by His statement, “It sprang up overnight and died overnight.” What do you think He wanted Jonah to learn (see Job 5:2)?
3. What do you think was Jonah’s major concern was through these last few verses?
4. What would you say was God’s major concern through these verses? What do you learn about God from that?

**Application:** How about you, are you concerned for the lost? Who might you share some “good news” with today?