

The Purpose of Grace
Text: Jonah 2:1-10
February 5, 2022

Big Idea: God has a purpose for His grace towards you, you must trust in Him.

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Question #3 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

Question #4 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is the application?

- a) What is one specific way I can live by these truths, or trust in these promises today?
- b) What is the next step that I need to take to see this happen?

Question #5

- a) What is God's grace?
- b) Why can God only work out of His grace towards His creation?
- c) How should this truth impact how you view and respond to the circumstances you face?
- d) Find and share passages of God promising His grace towards His children.

God purposes His grace to lead you to...

Point 1: The Right DECISION: "I Will CRY OUT to Him!" (vv. 1-2)

Key Question: God has purposed His grace to lead you to Him. Will you cry out to Him?

Question #6

- a) What did God, by His grace, purpose Jonah to do?
- b) Why is allowing Jonah to get to this point an act of God's grace towards Him?
- c) What would have been the result if Jonah had cried out to anything else but the Lord?
- d) Why do you find it difficult to cry out to the Lord as your first response?
- e) What does God promise to those who cry out to Him? (Use Scripture)

Point 2: A Realigned PERSPECTIVE: “I Will REMEMBER Him!” (vv. 3-7)

Question: God purposes His grace to give right perspective. Will you remember Him?

Question #7

- a) What happens to Jonah after he cries out to God?
- b) What truths does Jonah remember about God that help to realign His perspective to the truth?
- c) Why is it difficult to keep a right perspective on the Lord in the day to day and in the trial?
- d) What are some fruits that become evident that show our eyes are off the Lord in a situation?
- e) What are ways that you can remember the Lord throughout the day?
- f) Where do you need to realign your perspective & remember the Lord in what you're facing?

Point 3: A Resulting CONFESSION: “I Will FOLLOW Him!” (vv. 8-10)

Question: The purpose of grace is to save you not destroy you. Will you follow the Lord?

Question #8

Tim Keller: “An idol is whatever you look to and say, in your heart of hearts, ‘If I have that, then I’ll feel my life has meaning, then I’ll know I have value, then I’ll feel significant and secure.’”

- a) a) What declaration does Jonah make in vv. 8-9?
- b) Why does pursuing vain idols lead us to forsake our hope in the steadfast love of God?
- c) What vain idols are you most tempted to pursue/pay regard to?
- d) What are some fruits that are evident in your life when you don't get them?
- e) What are you thinking they will give you?
- f) What is it you ultimately want from pursuing those and forsaking Christ?
- g) How does the gospel fulfill what you desire from those? (Use Scripture)

Question #9

How do vv. 8-10 point to Jesus and the gospel?

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group/in accountability in prayer...

- a) REVERENCE before God: God You are _____.
- b) HUMILITY before God: Confess & repent of vain idols you are pursuing.
- c) THANKSGIVING to God: Thank the Lord for His grace towards you.
- d) SUPPLICATION to God: Ask the Lord...i) For faith to cry out to Him first! ii) A Realigned Perspective that Remembers who He is in light of what you face iii) Faith, conviction & joy to follow Him.

Memory Verse:

“Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. But with a voice of thanksgiving I will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!”

-Jonah 2:8-9

