

## The Response to Grace

Text: Jonah 4:1-11

February 19, 2022

**Big Idea: God decides how to display His grace; to respond faithfully to it, you must believe 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?

To respond faithfully to God's grace, you must believe...

**Point 1: The STANDARD of Grace: GOD not YOU (vv. 1-4)**

**Key Question: Only God is the standard of grace. Have you become your standard?**

### Question #5

- a) What was Jonah's response to God's grace in saving the Ninevites? (vv. 1-3)
- b) Why did he respond this way?
- c) Where are you most tempted to respond like this when you see God's grace in another's life? How about in your life when His grace doesn't look like you want it to?
- d) What fruits become evident when you respond in this manner?
- e) What are you thinking as you respond this way?
- f) What is it you actually want?
- g) How does the gospel fulfill what you are seeking in those moments? (Use Scripture)

### Question #6

- a) How did God respond to Jonah's temper tantrum? (v.4)
- b) Do you ever have a reason to be angry towards how God chooses to display His grace in your life or in the life of others? Why or Why not?
- c) What is the faithful ways to respond to God's grace in your life & others? (Use Scripture)
- d) What means of grace has God given you to help realign your perspective on God and His grace towards you in those difficult moments? Discuss these as a group.
- e) In what area(s) do you need to repent and realign your perspective right now?

### Point 2: The **MOTIVE** for Grace: **LOVE** not **MERIT** (vv. 6-11)

*Question: God's motive for grace is His love not your merit. Do you recall what you deserve?*

### Question #7

- a) What was the object lesson God was trying to teach Jonah through appointing the plant and worm?
- b) What was Jonah loving more than the people he was called to minister to?
- c) What things do you have more compassion for than the souls of those around you?
- d) Why is remembering what you deserve apart from Jesus essential if we are to extend & celebrate the grace of Jesus in our lives and the lives of others?

## SERIES SUMMARY

### Question #8

- a) How has this series impacted how you view God?
- b) How has this series impacted how you view yourself?
- c) How has it impacted your understanding of God's grace?
- d) What stood out to you the most about God and His grace?
- e) What areas do you need to grow the most in trusting God's grace in your life?
- f) What are some ways that you can ask your small group to support you in doing this?

### Question #9

- a) Read Matthew 12:38-41. Describe the ways the book of Jonah points to the true "Sign of Jonah" Jesus Christ.
- b) Based on the picture in Jonah, write out the gospel in 1 paragraph.
- c) Now, based on your paragraph, write out the gospel in one "big idea" sentence.
- d) Pray for the opportunity & courage to share the gospel with those around you this week.

### Prayer Application

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

- a) **REVERENCE** before God: God, You are a God of grace and show it thru \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) **HUMILITY** before God: Confess & repent of unbelief & your unfaithful responses to His grace.
- c) **THANKSGIVING** to God: Thank the Lord for His grace towards you in specific areas.
- d) **SUPPLICATION** to God: Ask the Lord...i) To be the standard of grace that you live by ii) To help you remember what you truly deserve apart from the grace of Jesus. iii) To grow your love for Him & others to receive & extend His grace to those around you.

### Memory Verse:

*"And the LORD said, 'Do you do well to be angry?'"-Jonah 4:4*

