Growth Assignment

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Jonah - When You Don't Like God's Plan - Part 2

Jonah 4: 4 (NLT) The LORD replied, "Is it right for you to be angry about this?"

1. Reflect on a time when you were disappointed with God, but later realized God know what was best for you. How well are you doing at trusting God even when you're going through tough times?

Jonah 4: 6 (NLT)

And the LORD God arranged for a leafy plant to grow there, and soon it spread its broad leaves over Jonah's head, shading him from the sun. This eased his discomfort, and Jonah was very grateful for the plant.

2. Describe a time when God was good to you even though you had the wrong attitude.

Jonah 4: 7 & 8 (NLT)

But God also arranged for a worm! The next morning at dawn the worm ate through the stem of the plant so that it withered away. ⁸ And as the sun grew hot, God arranged for a scorching east wind to blow on Jonah. The sun beat down on his head until he grew faint and wished to die. "Death is certainly better than living like this!" he exclaimed.

3. List the big, small, new, sudden, slow, or surprising things God brought into your life in order to get or keep your life heading in the right direction. How do those experiences help you to understand that God is in control of the details of your life?

Jonah 4: 10 & 11 (NLT)

Then the LORD said, "You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there. It came quickly and died quickly. ¹¹ But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn't I feel sorry for such a great city?"

4. What do you care about most, that which gives you comfort or the salvation of people that God created and loves and wants them to know Him?

This whole study through Jonah has been about your life mission. The greatest use of your life is to invest it in something that outlasts it. You see, you can waste your life... there are lots of ways to waste it. You can **spend your life** (there are a lot of ways to spend it), or **you can invest your life**. And the greatest use of your life is to invest it in something that will outlast it. Focus on what's going to last.

There are only two things that are going to last forever:

- 1) The Word of God
- 2) The souls of people

Are you investing your life into the Word of God?

Are you investing your life into people who need to know Jesus?

Who are the people within your sphere of influence that you are investing in?

2 Corinthians 4: 18 (NLT)

So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.