

**I. Contempt - Jonah 4:1-4**

1. Forty days later (**verse 1**)
    - he became angry
  2. Why angry?
    - A. He believed only Israel were God's chosen people - nationalism
    - B. They would pose a threat to Israel
    - C. If they repent he looks like a failed prophet
    - Rea D. Racism?
    - Rea E. I hope they get what they deserve
  3. Jonah did not share the heart of God... for all people
  4. He took his anger to the Lord (**verse 2**)
    - he knew how God's heart was compassionate
    - Rea -so, he knows he's wrong and still prays??? - this is really good
  5. Take my life (**verse 3**)
    - he'd rather die than go to Nineveh
    - Rea -so, is Jonah suicidal?
  6. The Lord's question - is it right for you to be angry? (**verse 4**)
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Why are people often so opposed to missions to other peoples?
  2. Are we jealous when someone "else" gets the attention?
  3. Have we ever adopted the attitude "they'll never repent"
  4. Have you ever gotten mad when God gave you an assignment that you did not want?
  5. Perhaps "these people" had been ugly to Jonah or someone in his family

**II. Anger - Jonah 4:5-9**

1. Leaves town, sits down and broods (**verse 5**)
  2. Receives shade from a leafy plant - pleased him
    - "very happy"
    - God had compassion on His prophet
  3. So Jonah is angry over the Ninevites repenting and happy about the plant
  4. God provided the plant (**verse 6**)
    - God provided a worm (**verse 7**)
    - God provided a scorching wind and sun (**verse 8**)
    - Rea God had already provided a storm
    - God had already provided a great fish
  5. God says is it right for you to be angry? (**verse 9**)
    - angry about the plant - not pleased about their repentance
    - Rea -feelings often reveal our hearts
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. People often get very angry when they don't get what they want - you know, like children
  2. Why are people reluctant to help other nations/ peoples?
  3. Discuss why we are reluctant to simply obey God's will and work

**III. Compassion - Jonah 4:10-11**

1. You have been caring about this plant (**verse 10**)  
-a plant you did not plant nor care for
2. Conversely you have been uncaring about 120,000 people in Nineveh (**verse 11**)  
-should I not have cared about them?
- Rea 3. Discuss God's compassion for all peoples
4. Cannot tell their right hand from the left - ignorant of the things of God
- Rea -or these are infants
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
  1. Are we compassionate? - about the illegal immigrants?
  2. Are we compassionate about those who've found themselves tied up in their own sins?
  3. Then... what ARE we compassionate about? - what do the people of the United States care about the most?- football? - their monies? And our economy? - our easy life-style?
  4. We are more compassionate about the plight of pets than we are about the plight of the poor in other nations

TJ Betts - Lesson for 10-9-22