

■ Discuss

How does Jonah's response (4:1) to the Ninevites' repentance differ from God's response (3:10)?

What does the difference tell us about Jonah's disposition?

According to 4:2, why did Jonah flee to Tarshish (1:3)?

When have you experienced God's compassion extended to those you do not like?

How does bitterness cause us to misunderstand God's compassion for all people?

What circumstances has God used in your life to reveal your true view of His character? How has He graciously intervened to surface the disconnect between what you claim to believe and what your actions communicate?

What does Jonah ask of God in response to the Ninevites' repentance (4:3)?

How does God answer Jonah's request (4:4)?

What does His answer tell us about the heart of God?

How should God's kindness cause us to view the sin in our lives?

In what ways do we tend to live like Jonah?

What does our behavior reveal about our view of God's character?

What is keeping you from full submission to God's call today? How will you begin to ask Him to do surgery on your heart?

HANDOUT

Session 7: Jonah 4:1-4

THE BOOK OF

JONAH

■ Live it Out

Prayer: Start at least four days out of the next week by asking God to shed light on any misplaced anger in your life. As He does, pursue forgiveness and reconciliation in response.

Memorize: Commit to memory James 1:19–20. Strive to apply it to your day-to-day interactions with others. Practice being quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

Settle Anger: Before finishing your days this week, do whatever necessary to rid yourself of anger. If you are in conflict, apologize, seek forgiveness, and share openly to make peace in submission to God's Word.

Spread Compassion: Think of someone in your life you struggle to love. After doing so, write down three ways you can serve them compassionately this week. Make a point to follow through on at least one by next week.

Consider Speech: How do you speak to and about others? In your family? At work? At church? Think deeply about the influence of your words. Intentionally make changes that will make your speech an encouragement to those around you.