

God's Compassion for the Lost: Pt. 1

January 21, 2018

Passage: Jonah 1:1-2



Main Point: God desires for the wicked to repent and the faithful to be obedient.

Case Study:

You have someone in your workplace who is not a Christian. Your church has been talking about sharing the Gospel with all people, but this person is intimidating. What hesitations might you have about speaking with this individual? What do you do to share the Gospel with him/her?

The Word:

1. Why does God tell Jonah to preach to the Ninevites?
2. Read Isaiah 3:8-9. The people of Jerusalem would have benefited from Jonah's message to the Ninevites. How were the people of Jerusalem similar to the people of Nineveh?
3. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees just as Jonah was instructed to rebuke the Ninevites. In Matthew 23:37-39, Jesus laments over Jerusalem after delivering a strong message against the Pharisees. How does this teach us about God's compassion?

The World:

1. Are there places in the world where you feel as Jonah did against Nineveh? Why? (Leader's Note: This pertains to 1:3 ->).
2. The world hates the Gospel message, but needs it desperately. What can motivate Christians to get the word out regardless of the consequences?
3. All nations of the world sin and are defiant toward God. How can you share the Gospel in your neighborhood, city, state, country?

The Application:

1. God does not show favoritism. How can we keep ourselves from showing favoritism as we share the message of Christ with others?
2. Have you had a gospel conversation with someone recently? Share your outreach stories with your group.
3. Have you raised your outreach temperature? How have you gone about doing so?

<u>What Questions do I have for my Family Group?</u>	<u>Key Cross References:</u>
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How to use this guide:

- **Study and discuss the passage**, not necessarily the outline of the sermon
- Don't feel pressure to ask all the questions, use your discernment based on time and needs of the group
- Engage the mind with good doctrine and move to the heart pushing toward application (A Key diagnostic for the leader to discern the health of his group is to listen "heart" conversation.