



**HOUSE** GROUPS

HOUSE Groups: Discussion Questions:

Jonah 4:1-11

**(Memory Verse)**

**Jonah 4:2** NKJV - *2 ...I know that You [are] a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.*

**(Jonah 4:1-2):** But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry. (2) So he prayed to the LORD, and said, "Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You [are] a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.

**Question:** How does getting upset about God's plans really show us our lack of knowledge of the character of God?

**Question:** Why is it so hard to picture someone we don't like, and who has hurt us being forgiven of their sins by God?

**Question:** What is grace, and how does it work?

**Question:** How do we combat bitterness towards someone who has wronged us?

**(Jonah 4:3-4):** "Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for [it is] better for me to die than to live!" (4) Then the LORD said, "[Is it] right for you to be angry?"

**Question:** How does a lack of faith lead to disappointment with God's plans?

**Question:** How does a lack of gratitude for your own forgiveness harden your heart towards others sinning?

**Question:** What tools does the Lord use when asking us if what we are doing is right?

**(Jonah 4:5-8):** So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city. (6) And the LORD God prepared a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery. So Jonah was very grateful for the plant. (7) But as morning dawned the next day God prepared a worm, and it [so] damaged the plant that it withered. (8) - And it happened, when the sun arose, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat on Jonah's head, so that he grew faint. Then he wished death for himself, and said, "[It is] better for me to die than to live."

**Question:** What was it about Jonah that constantly made him say that it was better for him to die?

**(Jonah 4:9-11):** Then God said to Jonah, "[Is it] right for you to be angry about the plant?" And he said, "[It is] right for me to be angry, even to death!" (10) But the LORD said, "You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and

perished in a night. (11) "And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left--and much livestock?"

**Question:** What do we learn about the character of God in regards to the prophet Jonah (someone who knows better, but is running)?

**Question:** What do we learn about the character of God in regards to the people of Nineveh (people that are very wicked, and deserve God's judgment)?