



A Tale of Two Parties

JONAH 4:5-11



I. Jonah has a pity party instead of celebrating God's grace with Nineveh.

Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. v. 5

WHEN YOU REJECT GRACE, YOU ALSO REJECT AN INVITATION TO _____ .

II. God demonstrates His character of compassion by providing shade for Jonah.

Now the Lord God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. v. 6

GOD'S RELENTLESS GRACE NEVER STOPS REACHING FOR _____ .

III. Jonah's heart breaks over the loss of his comfort.

But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." vv. 7-8

WORMS AND WINDS EXPOSE OUR UNBALANCED CONCERN FOR _____ .

IV. God's heart breaks over Jonah's lack of concern for others.

But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die." And the Lord said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?" vv. 9-11

GOD WANTS HIS FOLLOWERS TO ADOPT HIS COMPASSION FOR THE _____ .

Every day is an invitation to a grace-filled celebration.

_____ which party you want to attend: yours or His.

_____ God's demonstration of grace in other people's lives.

_____ stop extending unlimited invitations to enjoy God's grace forever.



HOME GROUP LESSON

1. Read Jonah 4:5-11. What was the most intriguing element to you in this passage?

2. Jeremiah and Jesus looked on the city of Jerusalem and wept over it (Jer 9:1, 10; 23:9; Lk 19:41). Paul looked on the city of Athens and was greatly distressed (Acts 17:16). But Jonah looked on the city of Nineveh and seethed with anger. Why? What did Jonah need to learn?

3. How is Jonah more like the worm than the plant?

4. Warren Wiersbe wrote that Jonah's "narrow patriotism took precedence over his theology." What does that mean? How are we vulnerable to the same narrow patriotism? What does appropriate patriotism look like for the Christian?

5. Read Luke 15:11-32. How is Jonah like each of the two sons in this parable?

6. What is the main lesson you take away from this study of Jonah? (A review of the messages in the series is below.) Why do you think God included the book in His Word?

The Heart of the Matter	1:1-3	Our Jonah call conflicts with a Jonah Complex
A Descent Into the Deep Things of God	1:4-17	God is compassionate even in our failure
Sunken Treasure	2:1-10	Only God's steadfast love brings us out of the depths
A Great Awakening	3:1-10	When a nation repents, God relents
Rooting Out Anger	4:1-4	Identify anger and root your heart to God's heart
A Tale of Two Parties	4:5-11	God's compassion for the lost challenges our comfort

7. There is a certain uneasiness at the end of the book of Jonah—it doesn't have a neat ending. God does not want us to stay comfortable, for repentance and change seldom stem from comfort. What are we to feel uncomfortable about, and what change should that bring about?

"The book [of Jonah] is not written to leave us with a warm, fuzzy, good feeling, but rather to leave us very discomforted; for just as the Book of Jonah closes with no solution to Jonah's sin, so the Old Testament closes with no solution for Israel's sin. Only the coming of Christ gives us the sense of relief, repentance and restoration God wants us to experience." BOB DEFFINBAUGH

For Further Study

Whatever became of Nineveh? Read the book of Nahum for the rest of the story. Jonah and Nahum are the only books in the Bible that end with questions, and both involve Nineveh. Jonah ends with God's pity for Nineveh, while Nahum ends with God's punishment of Nineveh.

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit www.cbcfamily.org/events. They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

TEXT "CCBCSHARE" TO 555-888 FOR YOUR NEXT STEPS. If you have been serving and growing for a while, your next step is to start sharing your faith. For a few ideas and upcoming opportunities, text "CCBCShare" to 555-888.

MIDDLE EAST MISSION TRIP INFO MEETING IS TODAY AT 12:30 P.M. Interested in traveling to the Middle East this fall? Come for lunch at 12:30 p.m. in Link Classroom South and learn about the upcoming trip we're planning. Can't make it, but want to know more? Email Bill at BillH@christchapelbc.org.

FAMILY BACKYARD IS TODAY AT 6:15 P.M. Tonight the Great Room transforms into the best backyard on the block with some major family fun. Kids will learn how God keeps His promises through the story of Noah's ark, plus there will be food, face painting, crafts and a petting zoo!

YOUNG COUPLES, AVENEW BEGINS THIS TUESDAY, JUNE 11. Whether you're newly married, engaged or almost there, AVENEW is a place to find community, discover God's mission for marriage and learn practical ways to love and honor one another. The 12-part summer season begins this Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Common Ground (343 Throckmorton St., Fort Worth). Learn more and register at www.avenewcouples.com. The cost is \$30 per couple.

LADIES, SUMMER STORIES IS THIS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12. Invite a friend to lunch and get to know more of the CCBC community this Wednesday. We'll be in the Oak Room from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring a salad to share or pick up something on the way. If you work, come on your lunch break! You won't miss our speaker, Kristin Hines, and we'll have plenty of food for you.

TA ETHNE MISSIONS LUNCH IS NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 16. Dr. Rick and Susan Griffith have had the remarkable opportunity to train church planters at Singapore Bible Institute for more than 20 years. Come enjoy lunch at 12:30 p.m. in the Oak Room and get to know these CCBC missionaries. Kids Care is available for ages 0 to 11 by RSVP through this Thursday at www.cbcfamily.org/KidsRSVP.

INTERESTED IN LEADING A HOME GROUP? If you like connecting with others and building community, you'll probably love leading a home group! This fall we're starting new groups across the city—if you're interested in leading one, come for lunch on Sunday, June 23 at 12:15 p.m. in Link Classroom South and learn more about the opportunity.

LET'S SERVE OUR SCHOOLS! It's not too early to start thinking about how you can make a difference this fall. With Serve Our Schools there are opportunities to mentor a student, help a child improve their reading, be a friend to a teacher and more. Interested? Email Cathy at CathyS@christchapelbc.org.