



Pod Bible Reflection Questions for the week of 11/6/16

Jonah 1:1-17

Follow Up on Last Week's Response

1. Where do we see God providing for us in difficult circumstances, and/or in unexpected ways?
2. In what way is God inviting you to look beyond your circumstances at how He is already providing?
3. How will you respond to this passage in your relationship with God (Up)? In your relationship with those in the church (In)? Or, in your relationship with those outside the church (Out)?

Read the Passage(s): Jonah 1:1-17

Introduction

1. What causes someone to blatantly disobey God's commands like Jonah?
2. Why is God's grace such a challenging thing for people to understand and apply?

What Does it Say? (Context? Who? What? Where? How? Why? When?)

1. Who is Jonah? (1:1-3)
2. What does God tell Jonah to do and how does he respond? Why? (1:2-3)
3. How does God convince Jonah to do as He commands? (1:4-17)
4. How do the Ninevites respond to Jonah's message from God? (3:1-10)
5. Why is Jonah upset about the outcome? (4:1-3)
6. What object lesson does God provide for Jonah through the vine? (4:4-11)

What Does it Mean?

1. Why does God send Jonah to Nineveh and what does it teach us about God's heart?
2. How does God respond to Jonah's disobedience and hard-heartedness? Why?
3. What keeps us from offering God's grace to ourselves or to certain other people or groups?
4. What can we do when we realize God's grace and mercy are larger than our hearts? (4:1-3)
5. What is the lesson God wants to teach us through the vine? (4:4-11)
6. In what way did Jesus refer to Jonah? (Matt. 12:38-42)
7. What did Jesus teach or do that emphasized the same principles about grace God taught Jonah? (Luke 15)

What Will We Do?

1. How can you express God's gritty, sacrificial love and grace to others this week?
2. Is there any person or group that you don't think deserve God's grace and mercy? If so, what will you do?
3. How can you respond to this passage in your relationship with God (Up)? In your relationship with those in the church (In)? Or, in your relationship with those outside the church (Out)?

Pray Together about What God is Inviting Us to Do