

Week 5 – JONAH 4:1-11
God's Ways Are Not Our Ways

God demonstrates extraordinary grace at times when His own children cannot.

- 1. God is gracious, compassionate, slow to anger, and just; we are selfish.** v. 1-3
 - a. Jonah becomes angry when his desires are not met. v. 1
 - b. Jonah recognizes God's consistent character. v. 2
 - c. Jonah responds to God's character selfishly and childishly. v. 3

- 2. God desires we approach him as a father; we are ungrateful.** v. 4-9
 - a. God responds to Jonah like a father. v. 4
 - b. God creates a new vine in order to care for Jonah. v. 5-6
 - c. God demonstrates his authority over the vine. v. 7
 - d. Jonah responds selfishly to God's provision. v. 8-9

- 3. God states His love for mankind above all else He has created; we are unforgiving.** v. 4-11

Practical Application

1. Focus more on God and less on yourself.
2. Approach God as your father.
3. Show grace to a difficult person in your life.

Jonah's Preaching

4 Jonah was greatly displeased and became furious. ² He prayed to the Lord: "Please, Lord, isn't this what I thought while I was still in my own country? That's why I fled toward Tarshish in the first place. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger, abounding in faithful love, and one who relents from sending disaster. ³ And now, Lord, take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

⁴ The Lord asked, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

⁵ Jonah left the city and found a place east of it. He made himself a shelter there and sat in its shade to see what would happen to the city. ⁶ Then the Lord God appointed a plant, and it grew over Jonah to provide shade for his head to rescue him from his trouble. ⁷ When dawn came the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, and it withered.

⁸ As the sun was rising, God appointed a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah's head so much that he almost fainted, and he wanted to die. He said, "It's better for me to die than to live."

⁹ Then God asked Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" "Yes, it's right!" he replied. "I'm angry enough to die!"

¹⁰ So the Lord said, "You cared about the plant, which you did not labor over and did not grow. It appeared in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ But may I not care about the great city of Nineveh, which has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot distinguish between their right and their left, as well as many animals?"