

# Running from God

Week 4

BRBC Groups

June 25, 2023

## Scripture |

Jonah 4

## Ice Breaker |

1. Have you ever watched a show or movie, or read a book, that there was a character in it that caused you did not to enjoy it just because of that character? Share with us why that character was so unlikable for you.
2. When you get angry are you more like an oven, slow to heat up, or a microwave, getting hot quickly? How does your anger express itself?

## Going Deeper |

1. Is there anything that stood out to you from Sunday's message, or do you have any questions?
2. Do you ever find people hard to love? What makes them hard to love?
3. Read Jonah 4
4. In Jonah 4, we see Jonah's anger and frustration towards God's mercy. Have you ever experienced a similar reaction when God extended mercy to someone you didn't think deserved it? How can we cultivate a heart of compassion and grace towards others?
5. Jonah wanted God to punish the people of Nineveh rather than show them mercy. What does this reveal about Jonah's understanding of God's character? How can we avoid falling into the same mindset and embrace God's heart for all people?
6. Jonah experienced discomfort and hardship in the scorching sun and the withering plant. How does this parallel Jonah's own spiritual condition and attitudes? Are there areas in your life where you find yourself becoming bitter or resentful? What can you do to allow God to transform those areas of your life?
7. God uses a plant and a worm to teach Jonah important lessons. What do these objects symbolize, and what lessons can we learn from them?
8. Jonah's story reveals the depths of God's love, compassion, and longsuffering. How does Jonah 4 reflect the nature of God's character and His desire for repentance and restoration? How can we align our hearts with God's purposes and extend His love to others?
9. God's final question to Jonah, "Should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh?" challenges his own selfishness and narrow-mindedness. How can we guard against being self-centered in our approach to faith and instead cultivate a heart of compassion for all people?
10. Reflecting on Jonah's story, what practical steps can we take to overcome our own prejudices and preconceived notions about others? How can we actively engage in spreading God's love and message of salvation to all people, regardless of their background or circumstances?
11. In Jonah's experience, we see God's pursuit of both the lost and the disobedient. How does this encourage you in your own journey of faith? How can we draw closer to God and align ourselves with His mission of seeking and saving the those He loves?

|