

When God Disappoints

Jonah 4

Jonah disagrees with God and runs to avoid God's will. Ch 1

Jonah finds himself in an impossible situation. Prays. Ch 2

Jonah is given a second chance but God's will doesn't change. Ch 3

Jonah is so disappointed with God he is angry and feeling deceived. Ch 4

Let us look at four reactions of being hurt that we encounter as found in Jonah's life.

1. We become Angry. Vs 1-3

@ People - they were so evil, violent, corrupt, deserving of punishment, just because they repent don't they still have to pay?

@ God - compassion, love, forgiveness, grace extended? How???

2. Our pain leads to Isolation. Vs 5

Feeling alone

Separating from others

3. We experience misdirected values. Vs 6-9

Our shame, hurt and self righteousness out weigh our need to forgive.

We want them to continue to pay for their sin even after they have repented, so we ghost them.

We focus on things and work, not on God and His will

4. Our head knowledge of God does not guarantee a heart response. Vs 2

We know God is gracious, compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in love, relents from sending calamity but we are not forgiving them.

However, if the pain and wound are not dealt with, it will infect all of your relationships because ultimately we are disappointed with God.

What are some of the steps to healing and forgiveness?

- Complain to God, expressing our inability to understand forgiveness, compassion and love. Vs 2-3, 9 Admit our problem
- We must listen to God's heart. Vs 2, 10-11
God loves the 120,000+ who mocked him a few days before.
- We talk about it. We verbalize our forgiveness struggle. We write about it. We read about it. James 5:15-16, Ep 4:32, Col 3:13, Matt 18:21-22
- We realize we can't change what has happen but we can change the future. Jesus has changed the world by offering forgiveness.

Are you ready to forgive God and others as we reflect before taking communion? 1 Cor 11:27-31