



Book
— **By** —
Book

OUR GOAL

To encourage you to read at least one book of the Bible each month so that you may:

- 1) better understand who God is and where you fit into his story
- 2) build a strong faith
- 3) face the future without fear

BIBLE STUDY METHOD

OBSERVATION

What does the text say?

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean?

APPLICATION

What did I learn that should affect my life?

WHAT IS OBSERVATION?

Observation is the process of collecting facts, like a detective at a crime scene.

It's about focusing only on what the text says.

Do not rush observation.



Interrogate the Text

Who?

What?

When?

Where?

Why?

How?

KEYWORDS OR PHRASES

A keyword is one that is essential - often repeated for emphasis.

LISTS

Topical lists help us to capture a truth, quality, or characteristic of a specific subject.

CONTRASTS & COMPARISONS

Contrasts and comparisons use highly descriptive language to drive home significant truths and vital lessons.

EXPRESSIONS OF TIME

The relationship of events in time often sheds light on the true meaning of the text.

TERMS OF CONCLUSION

Look for wherefore, therefore, for this reason and finally.

GROUP TALK

Let's give it a try!

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up.

Hebrews 12:1-3

TERMS OF CONCLUSION

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith

KEYWORDS OR PHRASES

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to **the life of faith**, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up.

LISTS

- 1) strip off every weight that slows us down
- 2) run with endurance the race God has set before us

LISTS

How can we do this?

- 1) by keeping our eyes on Jesus the champion who initiates and perfects our faith
- 2) think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people

CONTRASTS AND COMPARISONS

We are surrounded by such **a huge crowd of witnesses.**

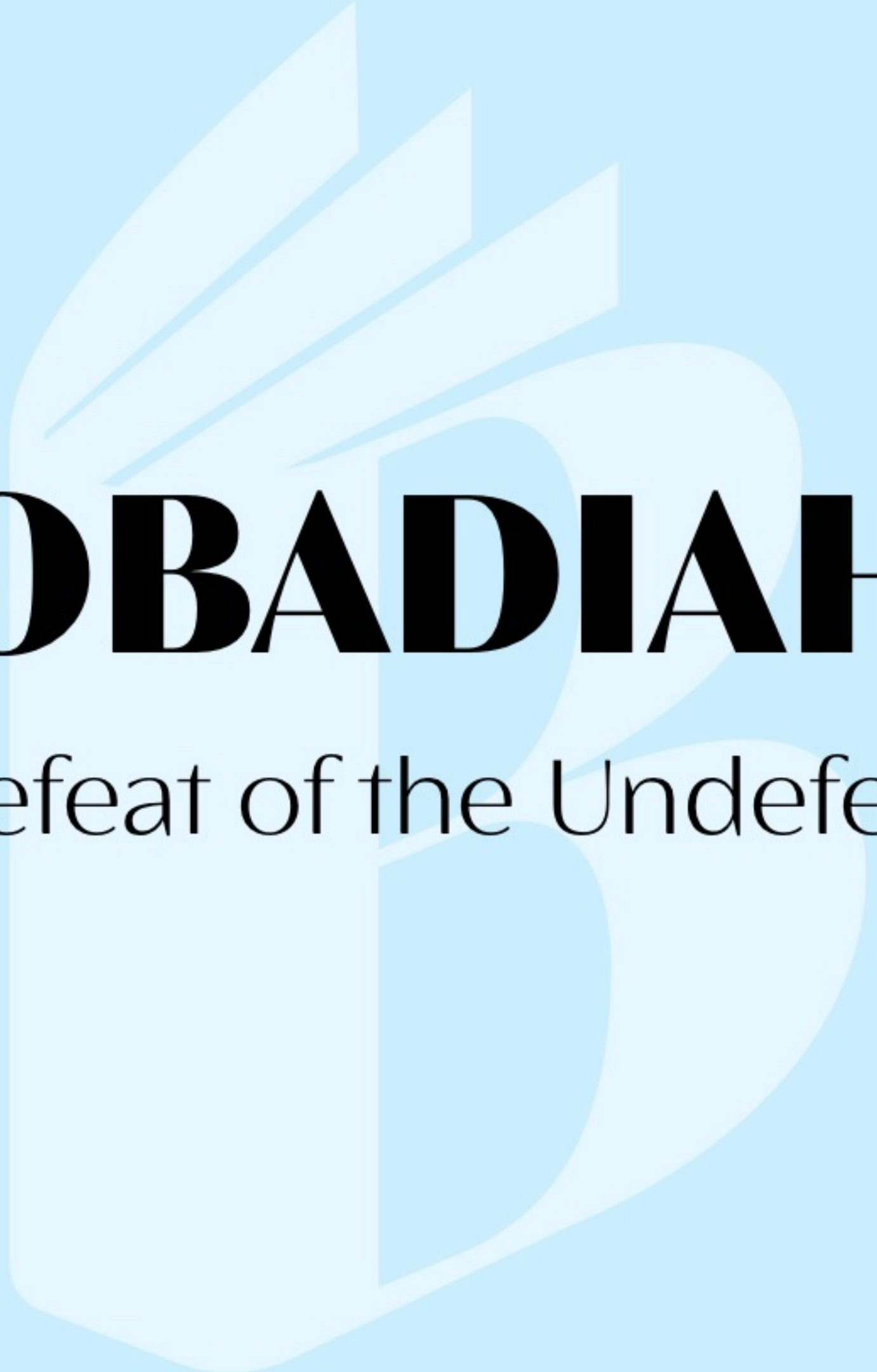
Because of the **joy** awaiting him , he [Jesus] endured the cross, disregarding its **shame.**

EXPRESSIONS OF TIME

Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

Then [when you think of all the hostility he endured] you won't become weary and give up.





OBADIAH

The Defeat of the Undefeatable

WHO IS OBADIAH?

This is the vision that the Sovereign Lord revealed to Obadiah concerning the land of Edom.

Obadiah 1:1

This Obadiah gives us no other information as to his identity.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This is the vision that the Sovereign Lord revealed to Obadiah
concerning the land of Edom.

Obadiah 1:1

WHEN IS “THEN”?

“Then my people living in the Negev will occupy the mountains of Edom. Those living in the foothills of Judah will possess the Philistine plains and take over the fields of Ephraim and Samaria. And the people of Benjamin will occupy the land of Gilead.

Obadiah 1:19

“For the day of the Lord draws near on all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head.”

Obadiah 1:15

WHEN IS “THEN”?

The exiles of Israel will return to their land and occupy the Phoenician coast as far north as Zarephath. The captives from Jerusalem exiled in the north will return home and resettle the towns of the Negev.

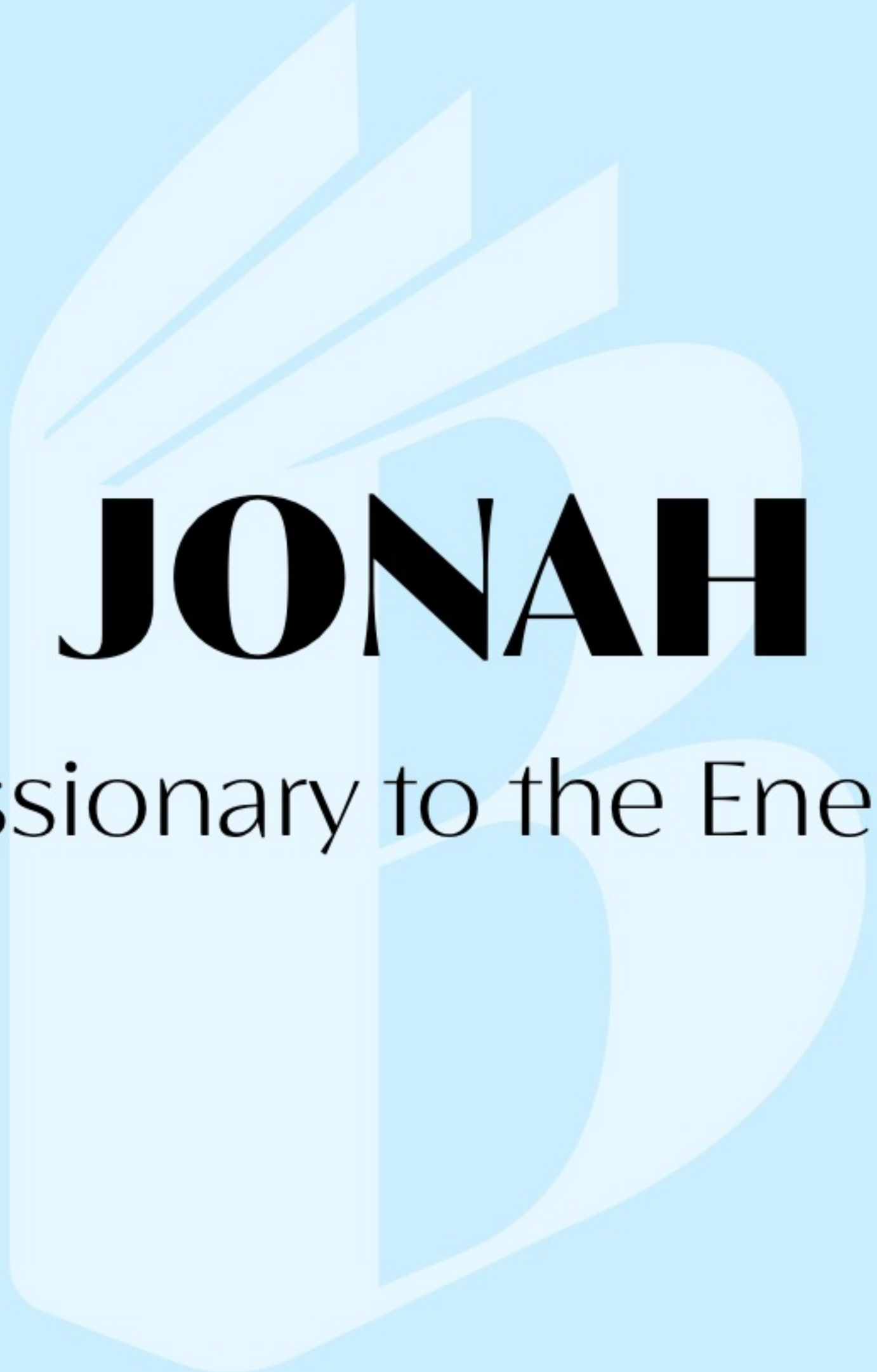
Obadiah 1:20

WHEN IS “THEN”?

Those who have been rescued will go up to Mount Zion in Jerusalem to rule over the mountains of Edom.

And the Lord himself will be king!”

Obadiah 1:21



JONAH

Missionary to the Enemy

ABOUT JONAH

His father's name is Amittai. (1:1)

NORTH OR SOUTH?

Jeroboam II recovered the territories of Israel between Lebo-hamath and the Dead Sea, just as the Lord, the God of Israel, had promised through **Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath-hepher.**

2 Kings 14:25

Gath-hepher was in the northern kingdom known as Israel.

ABOUT JONAH

“I am a Hebrew, and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land.”

Jonah 1:9

HIS ASSIGNMENT

“Get up and go to the city of Ninevah. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are.”

Jonah 1:1

ABOUT NINEVAH

Capital of Assyria (Iraq)

Longtime enemy of Israel

Known for its great wealth, power, and prestige

Notorious for their cruelty, bloodshed, and idolatry

FIRST CONVERTS

- ¹⁴ Then they [the sailors] cried out to the Lord, Jonah's God.
“O Lord,” they pleaded, “don't make us die for this man's sin. And don't hold us responsible for his death. O Lord, you have sent this storm upon him for your own good reasons.”
- ¹⁵ Then the sailors picked Jonah up and threw him into the raging sea, and the storm stopped at once! ¹⁶ **The sailors were awestruck by the Lord's great power, and they offered him a sacrifice and vowed to serve him.**

Jonah 1:14-16

JONAH'S PRAYER (CHAPTER 2)

JONAH

Remembered the Lord
Prayed earnestly (cried out)

GOD

heard
answered
rescued him from the “jaws of death”

JONAH'S PROMISE (CHAPTER 2)

“But I will offer sacrifices to you with songs of praise, and I will fulfill all my vows. For my salvation comes from the Lord alone.”

Jonah 2:9

JONAH'S OBEDIENCE (CHAPTER 3)

“This time Jonah obeyed the Lord’s command and went to Nineveh...”

Jonah 3:3

JONAH'S MESSAGE (CHAPTER 3)

On the day Jonah entered the city, he shouted to the crowds:
“Forty days from now Nineveh will be destroyed!”

Jonah 3:4

THE PEOPLE RESPOND (CHAPTER 3)

The people of Nineveh believed God's message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap to show their sorrow.

Jonah 3:5

JESUS REFERS TO THIS

“The people of Nineveh will stand up against this generation on judgment day and condemn it, for they repented of their sins at the preaching of Jonah. Now someone greater than Jonah is here—but you refuse to repent.”

Matthew 12:41

GOD'S MERCY

“When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their evil ways, **he changed his mind** and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened.”

Jonah 3:10

THAT'S NOT FAIR!

This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry. ² So he complained to the Lord about it: “Didn’t I say before I left home that you would do this, Lord? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people. ³ Just kill me now, Lord! I’d rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen.”

Jonah 4:1-3

GOD'S QUESTION

The Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry about this?”

Jonah 4:4

THE POUTING PROPHET

Then Jonah went out to the east side of the city and made a shelter to sit under as he waited to see what would happen to the city.

Jonah 4:5

GOD'S OBJECT LESSON

And the Lord God arranged for a leafy plant to grow there, and soon it spread its broad leaves over Jonah's head, shading him from the sun. This eased his discomfort, and Jonah was very grateful for the plant.

But God also arranged for a worm!

God arranged for a scorching east wind to blow on Jonah.

JONAH'S RESPONSE

The sun beat down on his head until he grew faint and wished to die. "Death is certainly better than living like this!" he exclaimed.

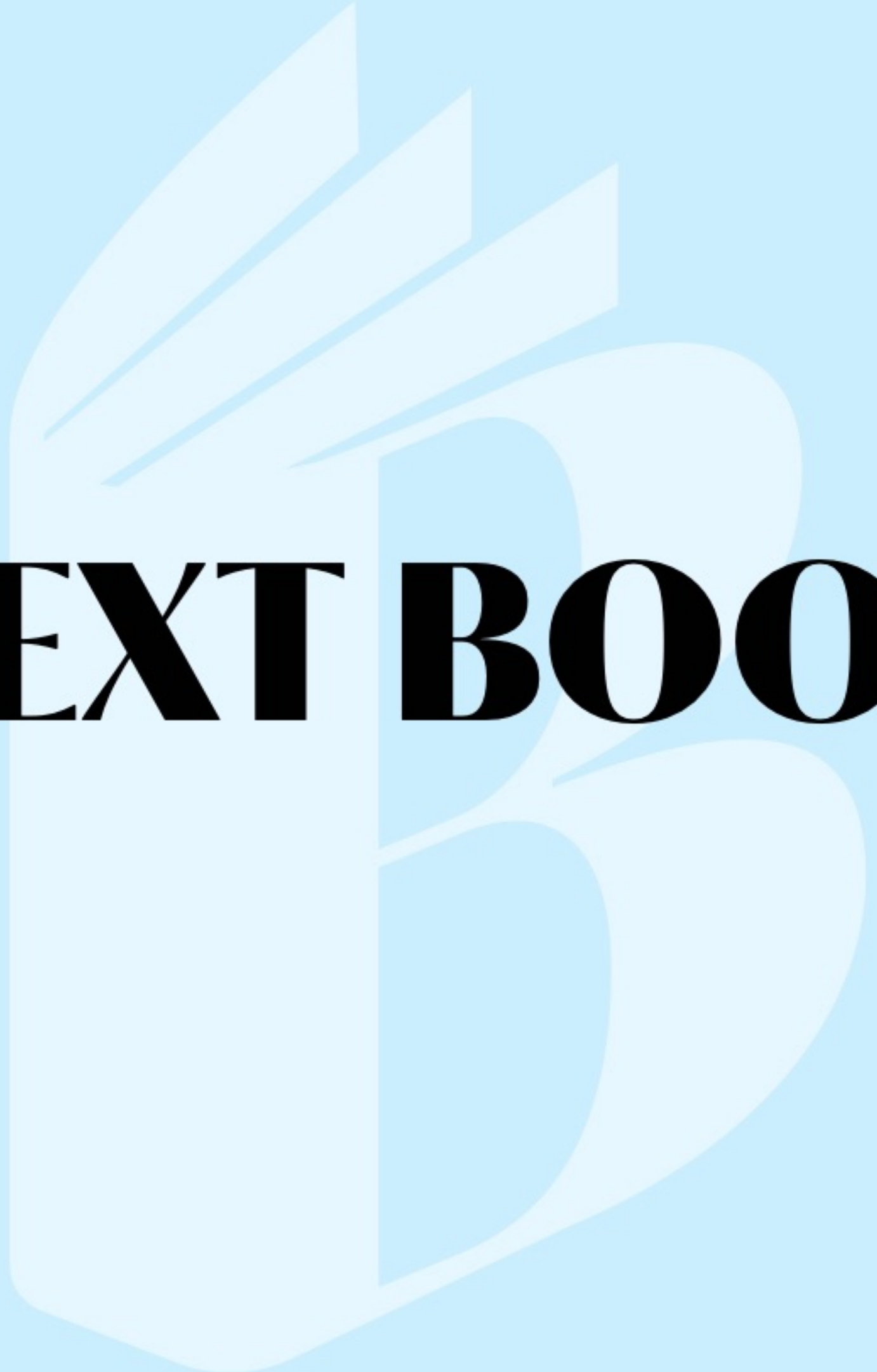
Then God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry because the plant died?"

"Yes," Jonah retorted, "even angry enough to die!"

GOD CONCLUDES WITH A QUESTION

The the Lord said, “You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there. It came quickly and died quickly. But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn’t I feel sorry for such a great city?”

Jonah 4:10-11



NEXT BOOK



MICAH

JUSTICE, PURIFICATION & REDEMPTION

GOAL FOR THIS MONTH

Read the book of Micah
(Total of 7 chapters.)

As you follow the handout, be sure to make notes of any insights you gain as you read and study along with any questions you encounter.

PREVIOUS NOTES

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