

## MISALIGNED LIFE

### JONAH 4:1-11

5/26/24

*Jonah 4:1-4 – “But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. <sup>2</sup>And he prayed to the Lord and said, ‘O Lord, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. <sup>3</sup>Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ <sup>4</sup>And the Lord said, ‘Do you do well to be angry?’”*

#### I. JONAH HAS A DIVIDED HEART

**A. His divided heart meets God and exposes his misaligned life.**

#### II. JONAH HAS MISALIGNED PRIORITIES

**A. Jonah’s priority is the preservation of Israel, not the salvation of the lost**

**B. The Gospel has no place of supremacy of any kind**

**C. The Gospel levels the playing field because no one is deserving**

*Jonah 4:5-11 - Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. <sup>6</sup>Now the Lord God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’ <sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, ‘Do you do well to be angry for the plant?’ And he said, ‘Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die.’ <sup>10</sup>And the Lord said, ‘You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?’”*

#### III. JONAH HAS MISALIGNED JOY

**A. Verse 1 - “it displeased Jonah EXCEEDINGLY”, Verse 6 - “Jonah was EXCEEDINGLY glad”**

**B. His joy is in the wrong thing**

1. His joy was for the temporary things - Plant

2. God’s joy is for the Eternal things – Salvation

**C. The only eternal joy we have is to do the will of God**

**IV. WHEN WE ALIGN OUR LIVES WITH GOD AND HIS HEART, WE ALLOW HIS PRIORITIES TO BECOME OUR PRIORITIES AND HIS JOY TO BECOME OUR JOY!**

**V. MESSAGE OF JONAH – SALVATION BELONGS TO THE LORD... AND WE ARE SAVED BY HIS AMAZING GRACE**

## COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. In our study of the book of Jonah what has impacted you the most? Why? Are there new things that you saw in our study of Jonah that you hadn't seen before?
3. What God was doing in Jonah 4 did not make sense to Jonah. What do we do when God doesn't make sense in our life?
4. What are some signs that your spiritual life is out of alignment? What are some ways you go about realigning your spiritual life?
5. The picture of God in Jonah is that He pursues us. How does this picture of God encourage you?
6. How has God pursued you in your life?
7. What is one practical application from the sermon that you want to implement this week?

## **PRAYER SPOTLIGHT**

- This week we celebrate our graduating seniors from college and high school.
  - Pray for them as they make their way into work and college.
  - Pray that they would be salt and light at work and college campuses.
  - Pray that they would continue to grow spiritually as they venture out in their new independence.