



**Title** | “God, You didn’t do it MY way!”  
**Series** | Barf on the Beach  
**Text** | Jonah 4  
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# Sermon Notes

**Jonah 4 (ESV)** — **1** But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. **2** 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. **3** Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” **4** And the LORD said, “Do you do well to be angry?” **5** 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. **6** 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. **7** But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. **8** 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.” **9** 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.” **10** 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. **11** 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?”

## Big Idea:

**Jonah 4:2b (ESV)** “... I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. “

## For Reflection and Application:

### Monday:

Read Jonah 4:1-2. Why was Jonah's response not in keeping with how he described God's character? Can you think of a time when you responded negatively because God didn't act like you thought He should?

### Tuesday:

Read again Jonah 4:2 and meditate a few moments on his description of God. Which of the characteristics resonate most with you right now? Why?

### Wednesday:

Read Jonah 4:11. What does this say about God's compassion? What groups of people do you struggle with being compassionate towards? How do you think God might want you to change your thinking? How can you do that?

### Thursday:

Read Jonah 4:3, 8-9. Jonah may have simply been having a "temper tantrum," but the verses do point to a major issue even among believers: depression. Have you ever in the past or are you now feeling depressed? Who are you talking with to help you through? Or maybe you sense someone is depressed. How can you encourage them?

### Friday:

Prayerfully consider: In light of the whole book, starting with Jonah's disobedience, to God's rescuing him from the sea, to the response of the Ninevites to God's message, to Jonah's response to their repentance, what key lessons do you see for your heart and life?

### Daily Prayer:

Lord, help me see where I have hardened my heart to certain people. Help me see them through your eyes and let your Spirit love them through me.

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