

SERIES TITLE: **CASTAWAY**

PART FOUR: **ANGER SIGNALS**

TEXT: **JONAH 4**

INTRODUCTION.

This is a study of the prophet Jonah, and his emotional argument with God. The story begins with Jonah refusing God's mission, and ends with Jonah's regret over the mission's success. These four chapters illustrate the power and mercy of God in spite of human weaknesses and reactions.

DISCUSSION.

- How do you usually express anger?

EXAMINATION.

Vv.1-3 Based upon what Jonah says here, and what has happened in the previous chapters, why is he so angry and ready to die?

- Given the size of the city, the message given, and the response, how would you have felt if you were Jonah? Why?
- Compare what Jonah says about God with Exodus 34:5-7.

Vv.4-9 What is the significance of God's repeated question? (v.4 and v.9)

- What does the Lord's provision of the plant, worm, and wind reveal about God?

Vv.10-11 What lesson is God teaching Jonah through the life and death of the plant?

- Based upon these words, how great is God's compassion?

APPLICATION.

- Consider this statement: "We get angry at people we see as too sinful to deserve mercy." If you have any tendency to limit God's mercy to certain people, or even to yourself, what does that look like?
- What causes you to react angrily toward God, and what answer to that reaction emerges from this chapter of Jonah?

- From Jonah's example, how can unresolved anger toward God or unrighteous anger toward people be detrimental to your life and mission?
- Are there limits to Jesus' words in Matthew 5:44? Why or why not?
- To whom is God calling you to respond with compassion and why?
- If you have been challenged to "share God's compassion with all people" what are some specific ways you want to respond?
- FACT: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- REACT: What did you feel?
- ACT: What are you going to do?