



Anger With God

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We have all been mad at God at one time or another. We resist God's call because we think we know how the situation 'should' turn out; however, when the result is the complete opposite, we become disappointed and angry. Read Jonah 1-4.

I. Jonah's journey - the messy road of an honest prophet.

- Jonah thought God should punish the people of Nineveh.
 - 1. Share a time when a situation did not turn out the way you expected.**
 - 2. What was your reaction? What was the final result?**

II. Jonah's personal sense of justice was offended.

- God's offer of grace often offends our sense of justice.
 - 3. When was your sense of justice offended by God's offer of grace to someone or some group?**
 - 4. Explain why your sense of justice was offended.**
 - 5. Be honest: who in your life do you secretly hope does not receive God's offer of grace?**

III. Jonah is not our only example of someone who was disappointed and angry.

- Scripture is full of examples of those who were disappointed and angry about the way God handled a situation.

- a) Moses (Numbers 20:8-12)
- b) Naomi (Ruth 1:20-21)
- c) David (Psalm 13)
- d) Elijah (1 Kings 19:3-4)
- e) Mary and Martha (John 11:20-21)
- f) Peter (John 21:15-17)

6. Which of these biblical stories feels most like your own experience with disappointment/anger toward God?

7. What can you learn from these biblical stories about handling disappointment/anger toward God?

IV. God addresses Jonah's disappointment and anger.

- "Shouldn't I care about the great city of Nineveh?" Jonah 4:11 (NLT)

8. Are you willing to be honest with God about your disappointment/anger even when your feelings do not change right away?

9. How can you better align your sense of justice with the marvelous grace of God?