

ANYWHERE  
BUT THERE

#MC3AnywhereButThere



Discussion  
Gu'ide

“Anything But This”

01/19/20

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## God Is More Concerned About His Pardon Than Our Punishment

### The Repeats (required)

They are the same, but *WE* change, so please discuss these with your group

- [Share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group]
- At mc3, God Moments are a chance for us to *be intentional* about noticing what God is doing in our lives—try to use your week to notice these moments to share in Pr'me. Go around your group and share your God Moments: how have you seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another over the past few months?
- Is there anything that you want to share that has stood out to you so far from the current Point series?

### The Review (optional)

Use this section only if you want to review for those who were not in the Point

- Have someone explain the Point in their own words.\*
- What object lesson or illustration was used to communicate the Point this week? How did this apply to the Point?\*
- Have someone read or summarize the main Bible passage/story from the Point (see "The References" section).
- How did this Bible passage teach the Point?\*

\*someone who was in the Point may need to explain this

## The Reenergizer (optional)

Use this question if you need to get your group talking

- Which is worse: forgetting to pay a bill OR forgetting to leave a tip? Why?

## The Reflection (required)

Discuss these to go deeper, *and more personal*, into applying the Point

- Read & summarize each section as Jonah's story continues:
  - *Jonah Presented* Jonah 3:3-4
  - *Nineveh Repented* Jonah 3:5-9
  - *God Relented* Jonah 3:10
- What about this story makes you angry or frustrated? Why?
- What about this story makes you glad? Why?
- Read these passages and determine: 1) what was the expected punishment 2) what did the pardon look like? Then answer the questions
  - **John 8:2-11** Does this mean that Jesus ignores sin? Why/not?
  - **Luke 15:11-24** In what ways was story this *similar* to the one above (John 8)? In what ways was it *different*?
  - **Luke 23:32-34** What do you think "they don't know"?
- What do these stories make you think about others who hurt you?
- What do these stories make you think about your own sin? Why?
- How do these change your perspective on anyone you may want to see follow Jesus, but is really far from God right now?
- As we read these accounts, we need to remember that God can't change His character or justice (see James 1:17). Since God can't simply ignore sin, Jesus took our place. **Read 1 Peter 2:22-24.**
- What is one thing from this passage that makes you grateful?
- Close your time by having everyone share 1 of the following options:
  - something they have learned about what God has done for them.
  - someone far from God that they would like to see follow Jesus.

## The References

Main Passage: Jonah 3:1-10 (NLT) \*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

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

John 8:2-11 (NIV) \*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

..."Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women." ...Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

Luke 15:11-24 (NLT) \*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.' "But his father said to the servants,... We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began...

Luke 23:32-34 (NLT) \*selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing." ...

1 Peter 2:22-24 (NLT)

He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone. He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed.