

ANYWHERE
BUT THERE

#MC3AnywhereButThere



Prime
Groups

Discussion
Gu'ide

“Anyone But Them”

01/26/20

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God Is More Concerned About His Purposes Than Our Perspective

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 week?
- 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

- Would you rather be able to see details 10 miles away OR be able to see 10 seconds into the future?

The Reflection (required)

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

- Share some “visual” reasons why perspective isn't always accurate.
- Share some spiritual reasons why perspective isn't always accurate.
- Read & summarize each section as Jonah's story concludes:
 - *Jonah's Perspective: They Deserved to Die* **Jonah 4:1-4**
 - *Jonah's Perspective: He Deserved the Shade* **Jonah 4:5-9**
 - *God's Purpose: They Received His Grace* **Jonah 4:10-11**
- Read **Jonah 1:17**, **Jonah 3:10**, and **Jonah 4:6**. In what ways are these passages similar? In what ways are they different?
- Based on what we know about Ninevah, was Jonah's perspective legitimate? How can a “legit” perspective taint our view of God?
- Read these passages and discuss: 1) why was their perspective legit? 2) what would have happened if God AGREED with their perspective?
 - *Older Brother's Perspective of “Goodness”* **Luke 15:20-32**
 - *Earlier Worker's Perspective of Fairness* **Matthew 20:1-15**
 - *Jesus' Disciples Perspective of Worthiness* **John 4:3-28**
- Which of these perspectives do you most easily slip into? Why?
- The longer we follow Jesus, the easier it is to build up an “I deserve” perspective. Read **Romans 3:23** & **6:23**. What do we really deserve?
- This is hard and we all struggle with it. Is there a person or situation where you have allowed your perspective to ignore or disobey God's purposes? If you feel comfortable, confess that to your Pr'me so that they can pray with you.

The References

Main Passage: Jonah 4:1-11 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry. So he complained to the Lord about it... "Just kill me now, Lord! I'd rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen." ...Then God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry because the plant died?" "Yes," Jonah retorted, "even angry enough to die!" Then the Lord said, "You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there...But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness...Shouldn't I feel sorry for such a great city?"

Luke 15:20-32 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, but he replied, 'All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to.'...

Matthew 20:1-15 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...When those hired at five o'clock were paid, each received a full day's wage. When those hired first came to get their pay, they assumed they would receive more. But they, too, were paid a day's wage. When they received their pay, they protested to the owner...

John 4:3-28 (NLT) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans...then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, "What do you want with her?" or "Why are you talking to her?"...

Romans 3:23 (NLT)

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

Romans 6:23 (NIRV)

When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done.