

Gaining God's Heart for the Campus

JONAH 3:10-4:11

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. **1** But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. **2** He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that **you are a gracious God** and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. **3** And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.'

5 Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. **6** **Then the Lord appointed a bush**, and made it come over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. **7** But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. **8** When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'**9** But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush? And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.'**10** Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. **11** And **should I not be concerned about Nineveh**, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'



What are Jonah's attitudes toward Nineveh?

How does God feel toward Nineveh?

What does the scene with the bush reveal?

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Seeing Nineveh : God and Jonah

WITH GOD'S HELP	WHAT IS JONAH'S INITIAL RESPONSE?	HOW DOES GOD CHALLENGE HIM?	APPLICATION TO YOUR CAMPUS
Overcoming []	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeing sins and the evil in the city and being angry about that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desire to see repentance and delighting in God's mercy toward others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Overcoming []	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has more concern about an insignificant bush and individual comfort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern for the 120,000 people, the great city, who are lost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Overcoming []	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not believing that God could change a whole city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> God is invested in the city coming to know him 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

THINK ABOUT YOUR CAMPUS. IMAGINE GOD'S WORDS ABOUT NINEVAH TO YOUR CAMPUS...

"And I should not be concerned about [] (your campus' name) in which there are more than [] (# of campus population) who do not know their right hand from their left?"

Ask Yourself:

1. How do you develop, sustain, and pass on a vivid vision for the whole campus?
2. What obstacles prevent this from happening?

STAGES OF VISION	KEY QUESTIONS	APPLICATION TO YOUR CAMPUS
Initial Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is your vision for your campus? Why should the campus be glad that your fellowship exists? Is your vision clear and compelling? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Sustaining the Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where will it be easy to lose vision and focus? What will be key ways to renew the vision? Where does prayer for this vision happen? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Passing the Vision On	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the vision get passed on to each generation of students? What can you do to pass on the vision to those that you are leading? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

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What are Jonah's attitudes toward Nineveh?

- Judgmental – He would rather see the city destroyed than repenting and turning to God
- Angry - to see God being merciful
- Self-justified – he feels justified to tell God that he would rather die than see Nineveh repent

How does God feel toward Nineveh?

- Desires to show mercy
- Concern for the 120,000
- Sees their lostness that they "do not know their right hand from their left"
- Trying to help Jonah care about Nineveh the way he does

What does the scene with the bush reveal?

- Jonah cares more for a small insignificant bush than a whole city of people that God created and loves
- God not only loves the Ninevites, but he loves Jonah enough to take time to help Jonah understand his concern for them, and to invite him to feel the same way

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WITH GOD'S HELP	WHAT IS JONAH'S INITIAL RESPONSE?	HOW DOES GOD CHALLENGE HIM?	APPLICATION TO YOUR CAMPUS
Overcoming JUDGEMENT	● Seeing sins and the evil in the city and being angry about that	● Desire to see repentance and delighting in God's mercy toward others	● Where is it hard to see the sins of your campus? How can you pray for repentance?
Overcoming CALLOUSNESS	● Has more concern about an insignificant bush and individual comfort	● Concern for the 120,000 people, the great city, who are lost	● Where is it easier to be concerned about your comfort and insignificant "bushes"?
Overcoming HOPELESSNESS	● Not believing that God could change a whole city	● God is invested in the city coming to know him	● Where do you need to know that God is invested in your campus coming to know him?



THINK ABOUT YOUR CAMPUS. IMAGINE GOD'S WORDS ABOUT NINEVAH TO YOUR CAMPUS...

"And I should not be concerned about _____ (your campus' name) in which there are more than _____ (# of campus population) who do not know their right hand from their left?"

In the next section, we transition from a personal to community level. Not only does God want to change our hearts like he wanted to change Jonah's he also wants to help us as communities to engage with the campus. Practically, our heart for the campus will get expressed in having a strong vision for why the community exists in relationship to the campus. In order to do that, we need a vision. If we know that God has a heart for the 120,000, how is he inviting us to partner with him to reach them?

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Initial Vision	● What is your vision for your campus? Why should the campus be glad that your fellowship exists? Is your vision clear and compelling?	●
Sustaining the Vision	● Where will it be easy to lose vision and focus? What will be key ways to renew the vision? Where does prayer for this vision happen?	●
Passing the Vision On	● How does the vision get passed on to each generation of students? What can you do to pass on the vision to those that you are leading?	●

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