



Angry about love (Jonah 4:1-2)

“But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry... I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love...”

See also: Exodus 34:6
Jeremiah 18:6-8
2 Peter 3:9

Nothing like God (v.3)

“Now, O LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

Home sweet Home (v.2)

“Oh LORD, is this not what I said when I was at home?”

– Scared to reach out

A safe distance (v.5)

“Jonah went out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city”

God provided... (v.6–8)

– ‘a vine’ (v.6)

– ‘a worm’ (v.7)

– ‘a scorching east wind’ (v.8)

My rights, My comfort (v.9)

“But God said to Jonah, “Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?” (v.9)

Ready to invest (v.10-11)

“...more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city?”

Chapter 5? – Being part of the story

What’s your story (and how does God fit in)? This is a great question to think about for yourself and also to ask other people. Why not use it this week?



Growth group questions

You will find it helpful to have heard the talk so why not listen at:

<http://leightonbaptists.org.uk/media-links/current-teaching/>

Some of these questions are personal and others are more general. Feel free to pick and choose which questions your group will find most helpful.

1. Read Jonah 4:1-3. Have you ever felt angry about God blessing someone you didn't think deserved it?
2. Can you think of a time where you have experienced God's mercy? Do you think you deserved it?
3. Read verse 4. What is the right attitude to have towards God at such times?
4. Read Jeremiah 18:6-8 and 2 Peter 3:9.
 - What do these verses tell us about God's unchanging heart for people?
 - How should these verses effect the way we see and treat people?
5. Read verse 5. How withdrawn or involved do you feel with what is happening in the world? Do you feel called to make a difference?
6. Read verses 6-9. What is the danger of finding your comfort in temporary things? Where should our focus be?
7. Read verses 10-11. What might it mean for your personal life and/or for the life of HSBC to reach out to people in Leighton Buzzard who 'don't know their right hand from their left'?

Pray that God would give you more compassion and direction (both as individuals and as a growth group) for reaching out to this town.