JONAH … – WEEK 4 – Questioning God's Plan
PREACHER - DAVE HASTINGS
SCRIPTURE REFERENCE – Jonah 4:1-11

PRIMARY OUTCOME
- That we would follow the model of God's heart by seeking out messy people who need grace.

FIRST TIME JONAH GETS MAD
- God has asked him to go to Nineveh and preach to enemies. It infuriated him to the point he ran in the opposite direction to Tarshish.
- Often our natural instinct is to avoid messes. We don't know what to say, have judged them, or are uncomfortable in their mess.
- God calls us to *run to the mess*.

SECOND TIME JONAH GETS MAD
- In 3:10 we see God applying grace because of their repentance, and in 4:1-2 Jonah is not happy about it.
- If God pours grace upon us in our life how can we not extend that to the people around us.
- God calls us to *pour grace on the mess*.

THIRD TIME JONAH GETS MAD
- In 4:5-9 Jonah cannot understand that God had taken his vine of shade of away.
- In 4:10-11 God reminds Jonah that the most important thing is not the vine but the messes around us who need grace.
- God calls us to *prioritize the mess*.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Ice Breaker – When have you ever been disappointed with God? How did you express that?

2. In terms of character traits, what similarities and what differences do you think you have with God?

3. Nineveh was a type of a "mess"; people who were dealing with the consequences of poor choices. Give some examples of messes in society today. Have you ever had messes in the circle of relationships you have?

4. What is your initial reaction to messy people; run toward them or away from them? Explain the reason for your tendency.

5. Does God put conditions on His grace being offered to us? Should we have conditions on the grace we give to others?

6. What is your vine in life right now? If it were taken away from you it would cause you great frustration.

7. Have you ever experienced running toward a mess being a priority for you in that it required sacrifice on your part?

8. Have you ever been the mess and had someone extend grace to you?

COMMUNITY
gr:ups