

## JONAH 4:9:11

What does selflessness mean? Is it an integral part of the Christian life?

### **Jonah 4:9-10**

Nothing in God's kingdom is "luck", rather it is His undeserving favor to us, otherwise known as **grace**. God's questions Jonah's anger and Jonah attempts to justify it, but we know that his anger was more towards selfishness rather than righteous anger. The world promotes selfishness and getting ahead is more important than helping someone along. The Christian life stands in sharp contrast to this and God is very clear in His word that it is his priority. As we saw last week, God desire all people to come to Him and He gives us the responsibility and opportunity to help.

### **Jonah 4:11**

Nineveh was a city that didn't know it's right hand from left (good/evil). The Jewish nation through God's laws had this knowledge, but Jonah felt that God was only his God, not the Ninevites. He wanted others to suffer rather than be saved. God reminds Jonah of His value for all people, not just for Israel but all of His creation. We are often caught up in our own selfish attitudes about how righteous we are and forget that God's righteousness is nothing we have or can achieve, rather it is that which Christ shed blood provides us. We need to continue to share and live the example that the Gospel gives us, so that God will be glorified among all peoples.

### **Application for Life:**

1. As we continue to struggle to make decisions in our lives let us use God's word and prayer as our guide. No decision is too big or small for the Creator to lead.
2. Work on changing the selfish nature that we are all born with, into the selflessness that Christ demonstrated to us when He came to this world.

### **Verses to consider:**

*God love for all people:* John 3:16, I John 4:14

*God greater purpose:* Isa 55:8-9, Rom 11:33-34