Life Interrupted: Reluctant Prophet, Relentless God

It's Not Fair!
July 30, 2023

Notes

Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion

1. Read Jonah 4:1-4 and Ephesians 2:4-5.

How do you react when things don't go the way you planned? In what ways can you relate to Jonah's frustrations?

Clearly Jonah knows something about God's character. What does he say about God in his complaint?

Why do you think Jonah is angry? What expectations does he have that God doesn't meet?

Have you ever been disappointed when God didn't do what you thought He would or should? How did you respond?

What did you learn about God through that experience?

Is there anyone who is exempt from the mercy and grace that Paul describes in Ephesians 2? Is there anyone to whom you have a hard time extending mercy and grace, even though God has extended it to you?

2. Read Jonah 4:5-11.

What do these verses reveal about what Jonah's priorities and his heart? In what ways does he show that he is out of alignment with the heart of God?

What do your reactions and responses to unmet expectations reveal about your alignment with God's heart?

3. Read Luke 6:27-31, 35-36.

Write out the instructions that Jesus gives about how to treat our enemies in these verses.

Who do you think of as an enemy in your life? What makes you think of them that way? How do you treat them?

What would it look like for you to really follow Jesus' commands? Give some practical examples of ways you could live out these words of Jesus.