

Home Group Questions  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2019  
Jonah – Bitterness over the generosity of God

Read Jonah 3:10-4:11

- Icebreaker (if wanted) - describe a time when someone has shown compassion to you. What did it feel like?
- 4:1 why do you think Jonah was so angry? Did he have a point? What do we know about the Ninevites and Assyrian Empire that might help us to understand his viewpoint?
- Jonah complains that God is compassionate, but 'forgets' that God also says of himself that he will punish the guilty - read Exodus 34:5-7. Discuss the tension between God's mercy and justice. What might this be like for those we think of as 'monsters', Ninevites? What might this be like for us?
- Discuss the ways God spoke to Jonah. How does he speak to you?
- Jonah was very angry about the vine dying. What things have made you very angry?
- Who might be your Ninevites? Is there someone or a group of people that God would like to change your heart towards?
- The Hebrew root word for compassion and concerned literally means 'to have tears in one's eyes'. Discuss 3:10 & 4:11 & Luke 19:41-44 with this in mind. What is the impact on us of God's compassion? How does it make you feel?
- In what ways does Jonah point to Jesus?
- Jonah 4:11 - what happened next? What do you think Jonah replied? What is your answer to the LORD's question?
- Leave some time to pray - for God to show you who your Ninevites are and what he wants you to do about that. For God to show you his compassion.