

**JONAH:**  
***"IS GOD TOO MERCIFUL?"***

**An interactive Bible study for  
individuals, families,  
and LIFE Groups**



Life Groups

**~June 10-16, 2007~**

**"Extending God's Mercy to Others"**

Jonah 4

**This week** we conclude our four-part study of the Old Testament book of Jonah entitled "Is God Too Merciful?" Each week this discussion guide will help you reflect upon the Sunday sermon and apply its content to your life. If you miss a sermon, you can always listen to it online at [www.upc-orlando.com](http://www.upc-orlando.com).

**LISTEN**

*Record your insights and observations from this week's sermon:*

## SHARE

Like Jonah, we sometimes have a hard time doing what we know God has called us to do. Describe a situation when you struggled to do what you knew what was right. Why was it so hard? What did you end up doing?

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## REFLECT

a) Review Jonah 4. Why is Jonah angry in this chapter? Is Jonah justified in his anger? Why or why not?

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b) What right belief(s) does Jonah have about God in this chapter?

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c) What wrong belief(s) does Jonah have about God?

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d) Explain in your own words what God does in Jonah 4 to teach Jonah about his character.

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e) What other examples in the Bible can you think of in which God shows unusual compassion and mercy to people?

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**APPLY**

a) Describe a time when someone cut you some slack. Did that situation demonstrate God's character? If so how?

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b) What is so challenging about showing people compassion and mercy?

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c) What will it take for you to become more of a merciful person? Think of things you will need to give up, change, or trust God about.

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d) Spend some time individually or as a LIFE Group praying and thanking God for the compassion and mercy He has shown you. Ask Him to give you a heart that is patient and merciful towards others. Consider writing out your prayer:

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And Jonah stalked  
to his shaded seat  
and waited for God  
to come around  
to his way of thinking.

And God is still waiting  
for a host of Jonahs  
in their comfortable homes  
to come around  
to His way of loving.

- Thomas John Carlisle, 1968