

Southwest Life Groups

A Place to Belong...A Place to Transform

January 31st, 2010

Focus: To dive into the love and grace of our God!

The Book of Jonah Nineveh Repents - Lesson #5

Introduction: Grace is indescribable isn't it? We can say it's a free gift or and an undeserved pardon but we struggle with the practical theology. Most of us will not view grace though the once saved always saved mentality. However, we also realize our works can not save us. Begin tonight with a conversation about grace.

- How would it make you feel if God decided at the last minute to let everyone into heaven?
- Assess what your answer reveals about your view of God
- Assess what your answer reveals about you.
- Is grace really free?

Text: Jonah 3

- Read the text and share your initial thoughts.
- Why does God send Jonah to the Assyrian capital?
- Discuss this pagan people's response to Jonah's prophetic warning.
- Compare and contrast the people of God's response to Amos' warnings to the Assyrian's response to Jonah's.
- Defend the compassion of God we see here in this text.

Application:

- How do we really feel about a God who invites all?
- Are we, as his ambassadors, offering the same love to all or just the ones we have decided deserve it?
- What can we learn from the repentance of the Assyrian's?
- What might repentance look like in our day and age?