

The Face of Compassion

Jonah: God's Amazing Mercy, part 6

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This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry. So he complained to the Lord about it. *Jonah 4:1-2 (NLT)*

What is the face of compassion?

1. Compassion looks Christian

The Lord replied, 'Is it right for you to be angry about this?' *Jonah 4:4 (NLT)*

Then the Lord said, 'You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there. It came quickly and died quickly. But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn't I feel sorry for such a great city?' *Jonah 4:10-11 (NLT)*

Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be healed!' *Mark 1:41 (NLT)*

2. Compassion feels empathy

Then the Lord said, 'You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there. It came quickly and died quickly. But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn't I feel sorry for such a great city?' *Jonah 4:10-11 (NLT)*

Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep.

(NLT)

Romans 12:15

3. Compassion chooses understanding

And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left

Jonah 4:10-11 (NIV)

Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. *Philippians 2:7 (NLT)*