

OBSERVE

- What did God do that angered Jonah?
- How was Job's response different than Jonah's?
- How do we grieve the Holy Spirit? (see Ephesians 4:30, 31)
- What do these passages tell me about God?

APPLY

- What person or group of people do I struggle to show mercy toward? How might I be able to extend compassion and mercy toward them?
- Do I have trouble trusting that God is in control of every situation?
- Do I have trouble trusting that God is good?

WEEK 6: JONAH GETS ANGRY

JONAH 4:1-4

"But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry. He prayed to the Lord , "O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, O Lord , take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live." But the Lord replied, "Have you any right to be angry?"

FURTHER READING

Exodus 34:6
Romans 12:19-21
Ephesians 4:30, 31
Job 40:1-5

THE FAMILY ROOM

JONAH GETS ANGRY WITH GOD

DISCUSS

We all get angry sometimes. Jonah was angry because he didn't understand what God was doing and thought he knew better.

Why was Jonah angry with God? Do you think Jonah should have been angry? What makes you angry sometimes? Do you think your anger is always justified? What are some good ways we can deal with our anger? What are some things we can do or think about to avoid getting angry? Is anger always a sin? How can dad and mom (and God!) help us sort things out when we are angry?

VERSE

Ephesians 4:26-27 ““In your anger do not sin” : Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold..”

James 1:19-20 “My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this:

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires..”

Proverbs 3:5 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

FAMILY ACTIVITY IDEAS

PRACTICE APOLOGIES & FORGIVENESS

Talk with kids about strategies that might help them handle their feelings of anger.

Encourage older kids to journal their feelings. Encourage them to pray and ask God to help them to know how to view and handle the situation they are angry about (just like David in the Psalms). Offer to talk things through with them.