

Series: *A Moody Missionary Meets the Merciful Master*

Lesson: *A Prophet And His Plants*

Text: Jonah 4:1-11 (L7)

Date: Sunday, October 14, 2011

*Colonial Hills
Baptist Church*

INTRODUCTION

While many principles and truths have been gleaned throughout the book of Jonah, the author has been carefully tightening his focus toward a climactic point—toward the main moral of the story. This “big idea” has to do with the loving heart of God and our response to it. Let’s discover today what that “moral of the story” is and how we might respond to it.

THE _____ STUDENT (vv. 1-4):
We are _____ and forfeit our joy.

1. *Self-centeredness is expressed in* _____.

Application:

2. *Self-centeredness is expressed in* _____.

Application:

3. *Self-centeredness is expressed in* _____ *attitudes.*

Application:

THE _____ TEACHER (vv. 5-9):
God is _____ and patiently corrects us.

1. *God’s salvation is* _____ *and misused by our self-centeredness.*

Application:

2. *God’s salvation is guaranteed and accomplished by His* _____.

Application:

THE _____ LESSON (vv. 10-11):
We have a love-problem, in that we don’t love as we have been _____.

1. *We love insignificant* _____; *God loves ignorant* _____.

2. *Our love is* _____; *God’s love is* _____.

Application:

CONCLUSION

Just like that, the moral has been stated and the short story of Jonah is over. “This unusual ending prompts us to do what God is leading Jonah to do—to compare God’s heart with our own....God’s heart is for a multitude of people whom He created, and who will live forever in eternity, either with God or in hell.” What’s your heart?

*Yesterday, my time was filled with vain and empty things,
And I was so busy with all that life brings.
People crowded in my way,
And I pushed them all away.
They were just a senseless bother,
Till I heard the Saviour say—
“Love as I loved, give as I gave;
These are the people that I came to save.
Love as I loved, and I will shine through;
Let others see My love in you.”*