

REDEMPTION, HOPE & HEALING



questions for reflection

series: "Redemption, Hope & Healing"

The Bible tells the stories of many broken, damaged and dented people. Some were murders, thieves and liars, while others were prostitutes, cowards and hypocrites. The Bible recounts the stories of people whom, despite their failures and faults, God still loved and used in order to tell his story of grace, mercy and forgiveness. This summer we are going to retell these stories and seek to understand how God can bring redemption, hope, and healing into our own lives.

part 6:

"Jonah: Prejudice"

by Chip Anderson on Tuesday July 14, 2009

Refresh your memory by rereading the book of Jonah (its only 48 verses total).

Jonah 4:1-2 reveals some prejudice Jonah has against the people of Nineveh and why he headed west to Tarshish instead of going east to Nineveh.

How you ever been a target of someone's prejudices?

- What was the situation?
- How did it make you feel?

What kinds or groups of people are you most comfortable around?

- Why?
- How do you interact with these people?

What kinds or groups of people are you least comfortable around?

- Why?
- How do you interact with these people?
- What prejudices may lie beneath the surface causing this discomfort?

Who are the mostly likely targets of prejudice today?

Who were the mostly likely targets of prejudice in Jesus' day?

- How did Jesus treat these people?
- Why did Jesus treat these people this way?

Chip mentioned several ways God sees people:

"God sees people created in his image."

"God sees people as a whole."

"God sees people worthy of love and compassion."

- How else might God view people?
- What affect does seeing people the way God sees people have on you:
 - o view of them?
 - o their value?
 - o your treatment of them?
 - o your prejudices?

In what ways can you be a faithful Jonah to those you are comfortable around and to those who you are not?