

Campfire Stories | Week #03

Those People! | July 22nd and 25th

Anchor Verse: "There are also many other things that Jesus did, but if these were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world would contain the books that would be written." John 21:24

What's the Issue Anyway?

We have all thought or said at some point, "I just can't stand _____."

Fear and anger towards the _____ leads to elitism and dehumanization.

That Reminds Me of the Story of Jonah

The _____ of the Lord came to Jonah and he didn't like the sound of it.

The _____ at sea revealed Jonah's heart to the sailors.

Jonah would rather _____ than love his enemies.

The great fish made a great _____ closet.

The word of the Lord comes to Jonah again, this time he _____.

The city _____ and turns away from evil.

Jonah's _____ replaces God's anger.

God recruited a _____, a _____ and a _____ to make a point.

Don't Miss This!

God loves and died for the people we would rather _____ than _____.

Lessons from Jonah for my everyday, peacemaking life?

God is responsible for _____ of creation. (1:9)

We are invited to _____ God in the moments we feel the most alone. (2:8-10)

God shows _____ mercy, kindness, grace and patience. (3:10) (Isaiah 58:1-12)

We have no _____ to fear, hate and neglect those God loves, includes and died to save? (4:1-4)

How can this make me a better human and our world a better place?

We will participate in the healing of our _____.

When we get _____ with Nineveh, the Ninevites transform us.

What is God inviting you into today?

1. To believe that I am loved by God and invited to a life of community and faith
2. To pray for those I don't care to see; the ones I think of as not worthy of my time and attention
3. To intentionally live a more inclusive, loving, justice and mercy-oriented life.

Thought Provoking Questions for Groups or Personal Reflection

1. What person or attitude do you find difficult to understand or show patience towards?
2. What do you think about the depiction of the sailors and their faith verses the depiction of Jonah's? What might you think the storyteller wants us to know about God, faith and religion?
3. Can you think of a moment or season where you felt like you were in the "belly of a great fish" and remembered God? How did you experience God in that time of darkness?
4. How can you get more proximate to the people that live in the margins or outside your social/religious circle?