

RUNAWAY

A grown-up story about childish ways

DAY 1

READ Jonah 4:1-4.

Have you ever been angry with God? Have you ever questioned God? Have you been exceedingly displeased with God. The original language says Jonah thought God's actions were exceedingly evil. Wow! Why do you think Jonah was so upset? What do you think of Jonah's response?

DAY 2

READ Jonah 4:4-9.

God asked Jonah, *"Do you do well to be angry?"* When was the last time you were angry? Why you were angry? Have you ever expressed your anger toward one thing only to realize you were really angry about something else? **THINK** about the last time you were angry. **FOLLOW** your feelings back to discover the real reason for the anger. Was it a legitimate reason? Or was it pride, fear, doubt, or some form of selfishness/materialism? Had something become too important and it became threatened? **ASK** yourself, *"Do I do well to be angry."* **READ** James 1:19-20.

DAY 3

READ Jonah 4:4-10.

Why do you think Jonah was so upset about the vine? Was it the vine? Something deeper? Is there a message about materialism and possessions being our source of comfort? **READ** I Timothy 6:8 and Hebrews 13:5. When was the last time you focused intently on something you lost and therefore couldn't see any of the blessings in your life? It's amazing how easily we can become angry when we lose something we think we're entitled to.

DAY 4

READ Jonah 4:5-11.

God asked Jonah a second question, *"Should I not be concerned...?"* What are you concerned about today? Are they the same things God's concerned about? Is it about something you want? Something you've lost? Something you want to do? Are you concerned with temporary things so you can't really focus on someone else's need? **READ** Matthew 14:13-21.

DAY 5

READ Jonah 4:1-11.

God asked Jonah two questions.

1] "Do you do well to be angry?" 2] "Should I not be concerned...?" God asked these to get Jonah to become aware of His very nature ~ a *"gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster."* How has He shown this in your own life? Is He able to reveal this to others through your life? **READ** Luke 10:25-31.

September 7/8, 2013

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