

SERIES: Ancient Voices for a Fractured Age
WEEK 3: When Yesterday's Obedience Becomes Today's Resistance
TEXT: Jonah 4:1–11 (ESV)

Big Idea: Spiritual maturity requires continual surrender because yesterday's obedience never exempts us from today's transformation.

I. PAST OBEDIENCE CAN CREATE PRESENT RESISTANCE

"But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. And he prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country?... Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me...'" **Jonah 4:1–3**

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." **Luke 9:23**

Personal Application: Have I begun defending attitudes that God is trying to confront?

II. GOD CONTINUES TO TEACH THOSE WHO THINK THEY'VE ALREADY LEARNED.

"Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort... But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm... When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind..." **Jonah 4:6–8**

"For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives" **Hebrews 12:6**

Personal Application: Am I resisting a lesson God is patiently trying to teach through the circumstances of my life?

III. GOD IS ALWAYS RESHAPING WHAT WE VALUE

"And the LORD said, 'You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow... And should not I pity Nineveh...?' " **Jonah 4:10–11**

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind..." **Romans 12:2**

CONCLUSION: The book of Jonah ends with a question, not an answer. Have we stopped allowing Him to shape us?