

8. What was God's lesson to Jonah (**Jonah 4:9-11**)?

### Taking It Home

9. Who are the people you plan to invite to church this Sunday for Easter?

10. Based on what you learned about Him in this lesson, what do you think God would want to say to you about the people you listed?

With your group, pray that God would give you the courage to invite, and that God would give people openness to Him.

*Reminder: Growth Groups will not meet next week, but will meet in two weeks to celebrate the end of the semester. Sign-ups for Summer Growth Groups begin in May!*

## LESSONS I LEARNED FROM JESUS

Matthew 21:6-11, Mark 2: 13-17

### 1. MY HEART NEEDED TO \_\_\_\_\_ FOR PEOPLE

*"As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth." Mark 2:14a*

*"See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands..." Isaiah 49:16a*

### 2. MY MIND NEEDED TO \_\_\_\_\_ GOD'S GRACE

*On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Mark 2:17*

*When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the "sinners" and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" Mark 2:16*

*"I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord." Psalm 40:1-3*

### 3. MY WORDS NEEDED TO \_\_\_\_\_ PEOPLE

*"Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him. Mark 2:14b*

## Growth Group Homework

For the Week of March 28, 2010

### My Story

1. Easter is coming up this Sunday! Do you have any special plans, activities, or prayer requests for Easter?
2. Looking over Sunday's sermon, was there a particular point, comment, or verse that caught your attention, challenged you or confused you?

### Digging Deeper

This week you're going to look at part of Jonah's story in the Bible. First, some background: God sent Jonah to go to an enemy people (the city of Nineveh) to warn them to change their ways or else experience God's punishment. Jonah didn't want to and tried to run from God, but that didn't work. Jonah eventually went to Nineveh and warned them. In response, the city of Nineveh changed their ways. The Bible says, "When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened."

3. How did Jonah respond to God's compassion (**Read Jonah 4:1**)?
4. How would you describe the attitude of Jonah's prayer (**Jonah 4:2-3**)?

5. Why do you think Jonah is so upset?

6. This Sunday we heard that we don't want to forget what kind of God we have or the people He has compassion for. How do these verses reinforce these ideas?

**Psalm 145:8-9**

**Micah 7:18-19**

**Luke 19:41**

**Romans 5:6-8**

Which one of these verses motivates you the most to have compassion on those who do not yet have faith in Jesus?

7. To help Jonah understand His heart, God uses a vine as an "object lesson." Describe what God does in **Jonah 4:4-8**.