

STUDY GUIDE: ESCAPE

“Two Judges” (Jonah 4:1-11)

Discussion Starters

1. Why do people judge others?
2. Who is your most critical judge?

Study: Read the fourth chapter of Jonah in preparation for the following questions in at least two translations (not a paraphrase).

3. To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Greek word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

Define the following words or terms, and note how understanding this term helps you understand the passage.

--“angry” (4:1)—

--“gracious” (4:2)—

--“compassionate” (4:2)—

--“calamity” (4:2)—

--“good reason” (4:9)—

--“persons” (4:11)—

4. Summarize what has transpired in the book of Jonah prior to 4:1.

Study Guide: “Two Judges”, p. 2

5. After reading this chapter, do you believe Jonah was completely open with God in his prayer in chapter 2? Please explain.

6. Contrast God and Jonah as judges as presented in the book of Jonah.

7. Why is Jonah a bad judge in this context?

8. Is a person judgmental if he concludes someone is good rather than bad? Please explain.

Taking It Home (You won't be able to answer these questions without first answering the questions above.)

9. Under what circumstances are you tempted to be judgmental?

10. Do you judge more often positively or negatively? Explain.

11. How can you avoid being judgmental?