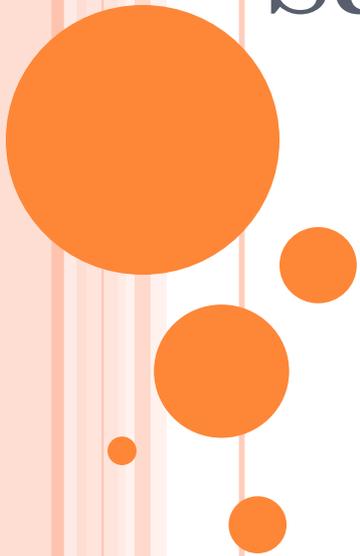


SHOULD I NOT CARE?

Scripture: Jonah 4:6-11



QUESTION

What do you care most in your life?



1. PROPHET JONAH'S PROBLEM

“Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant.” (Jonah 4:6) - NIV



THINGS THAT PROPHET JONAH CARED MOST

A leafy plant.

- ✓ **A type of plant which is similar to cucumber, growing rapidly under hot weather.**
- ✓ **Grows up to 12 feet tall & has large leaves.**

CASTOR



JONAH'S ANGER

“But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became **angry.**”

(Jonah 4:1)



1. PROPHET JONAH'S PROBLEM

“... and Jonah was very happy about the plant.” (Jonah 4:6b)

Jonah's Problem – Made himself as the centre of life, not God as the centre of life.



2. GOD'S ACTION

a) God showed Jonah **his problem** and corrected **his mistake**. (v7-8a)

“7 But at dawn the next day God provided **a worm**, which **chewed the plant so that it withered**.⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a **scorching east wind**, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that **he grew faint**.”

(Jonah 4:7-8a) - NIV

2. GOD'S ACTION

b) Jonah became **angry again!** (v8b-9)

“...He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

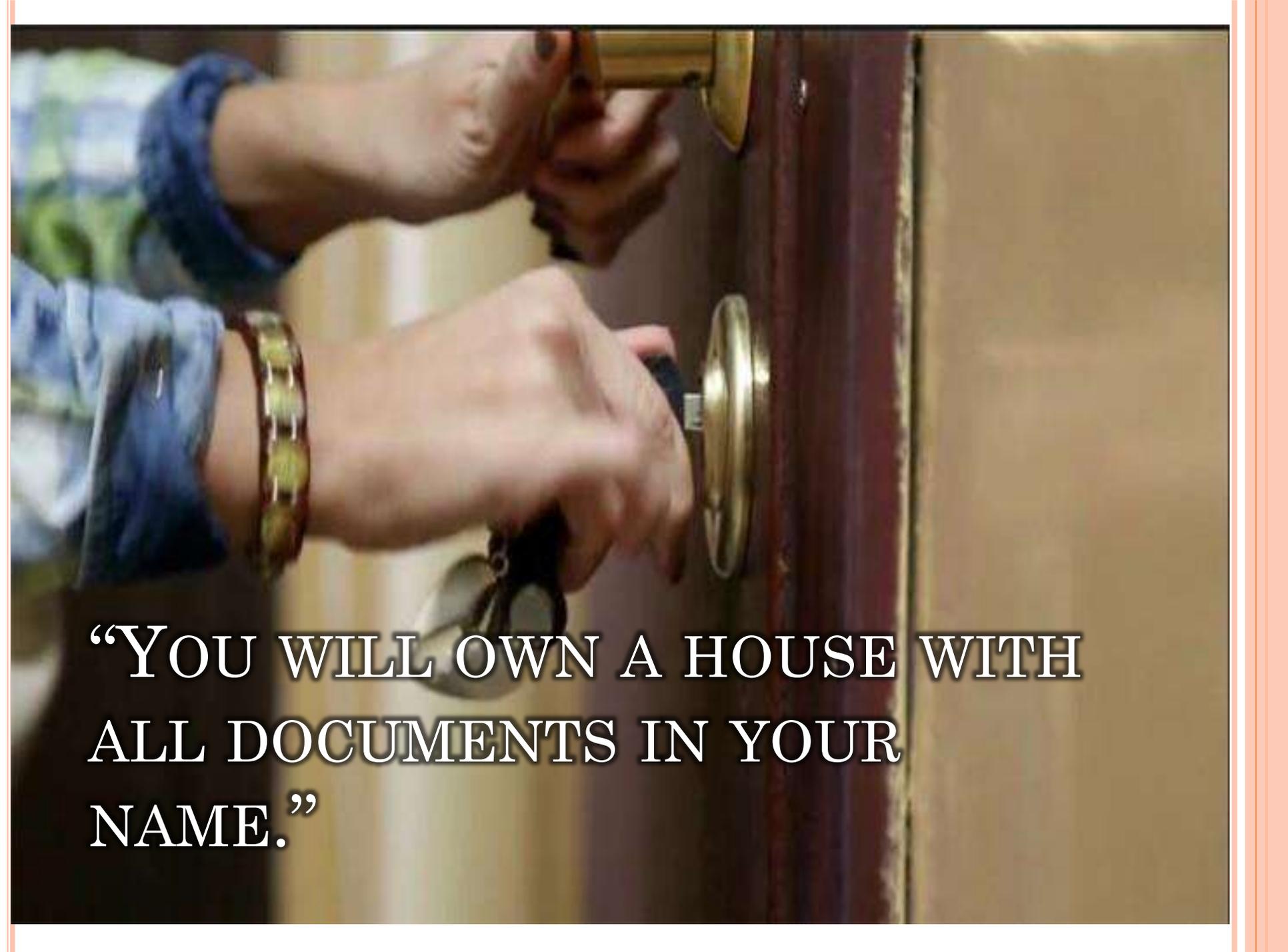
9 But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.””

(Jonah 4:8b-9)

REFLECTION

- a) Jonah cared for things that are related to him, **what about you?**
- b) "Enjoying" is not a mistake, but when we make ourselves as the centre of life, **"enjoyment" -> "discomfort"**
- c) **"Care"** for things is not a mistake, but when we make ourselves as the centre of life, **"care" -> "what a pity"**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands using a key to unlock a door. The person is wearing a blue plaid shirt and a brown and yellow beaded bracelet. The door is dark wood with a brass handle. The text is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

“YOU WILL OWN A HOUSE WITH
ALL DOCUMENTS IN YOUR
NAME.”

REFLECTION

- a) Are you always angry with God?
- b) Are you angry with God because you always care for things that are only related to you?
- c) Are you angry with God because of your financial losses, bad exam results, not working well, feeling unwell, not having a partner and so on?

3. THINGS THAT GOD CARES

“¹⁰ And the LORD said, “You cared about the plant, which you did not labor over and did not grow. It appeared in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ **So may I not care about the great city of Nineveh, which has more than a hundred twenty thousand people who cannot distinguish between their right and their left, as well as many animals?”** (*Jonah 4:10-11*) - **Christian Standard Bible**

3. THINGS THAT GOD CARES

- a) God Cares for **human beings**.
- b) “...more than a hundred twenty thousand people people who cannot distinguish between their right and their left” - refers to **the children and people with disabilities**.
- c) God also cares for **animals**.

SHOULD I NOT CARE?

"There are many people in this world who have not had the opportunity to hear the gospel, among them there are many children, should I not care?"

