**Title:**Steadfast Love: Who Will Pilot the Ship?

**Scripture:**Jonah 4

**Speaker:** Jeff Terrell

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**Big Idea:**God’s steadfast love must be our **pilot** in the midst of storms.

**Outline**

1.   Evaluate Anger’s Rationale (1-2)
2.  Evaluate Anger’s Resolutions (3)
3.  Evaluate Anger’s Role (4)
4.  Evaluate Anger’s Reality (5-8)
5.  Evaluate Anger’s True Resolution (9-11)

***WHAT DID YOU LEARN?***

1. We can use Scripture sinfully or poorly. (Read Matthew 4:5 - the Devil uses Scripture to tempt Jesus!) How can we make sure that our use of Scripture is not sinful or poor?

2. Jonah is a story about the tension between God’s sovereignty and man’s response and responsibility. What aspects of obedience is God calling you to (through His Word) that you need to follow? How can your reflections on this story spur you on to act on this calling to obedience?

***HOW WILL YOU APPLY IT?***

**Confess**

1. The first step to getting help is a willingness to own that you have a problem. The next step is owning where the true solution can be found. Is there any area of your life you need to admit you have a problem? Are you willing to own that it is through the Gospel where true solutions can be found? Who is piloting *your*ship?

2. What in the example of the Lord’s questioning of Jonah (Jonah 4:4, 9) is so crucial for us to follow when evaluating our “dark” times? What do you need to repent to God about your response to your circumstances? (bitterness, jealousy, anger, gossip, etc.)

**Renew Your Mind**

1. When we are spiraling, it can be difficult for us to see any other way than the resolutions we come up with. What are some safeguards we can put in our lives to ensure that we don’t slip into the “lies” of resolutions we can often believe in our “dark” times? (Read: Colossians 3:16-17; Hebrews 10:24-25; James 5:16; Philippians 4:8…for starters)

2. What reality of Jonah’s heart is exposed in the circumstances God sovereignly ordains in verses 5-8? What circumstances (grace or otherwise!) are you experiencing now that God may be using to expose in your own heart?

***Live It Out***

Jonah 4 reveals the desperateness and hopelessness people can find themselves in God’s trial. If you are in a place like Jonah, be humble and willing enough to seek help. Find someone who will be able to give you wise biblical counsel. If you are joyfully persevering through trials, find someone to help who is in a place like Jonah. Be bold and caring to come alongside the person and share the wonderful truths of encouragement. If you need help being bold, find a godly friend who will partner with you to help this person.

***READ AHEAD***

Read 1 Peter 1. How do verses 1-2 fit in the context of this first chapter? What aspects of God’s character and work are emphasized in these verses?