



Jonah Chapter Three: Resources for Families

After Jonah repents, God delivers him from the whale and sends him to Nineveh with a message: Repent! Imagine you are Jonah entering the huge city of Nineveh, a city filled with people who are your enemies. How would you feel about having to tell the people of Nineveh to repent?

Discussion Questions

1. What was Jonah's message to the people of Nineveh?
2. Are you surprised by how the people of Nineveh responded to Jonah? How do you think Jonah might have felt?
3. Remember: the Ninevites had persecuted God's people. Why would God send Jonah to warn them? What does that show us about God's heart?

Further Reading

Today, the ancient city of Nineveh is the modern Iraqi city of Mosul. For thousands of years, Nineveh was home to a large Christian population. Iraqi Christians point to the story of Jonah as one of the reasons why a large Jewish (and then later Christian) community developed in Iraq.

Many of the Christians in Iraq had to flee Mosul during the conquest of Mosul by ISIS. (Explain to your children that ISIS was a group of fighters who wanted Iraq to be a country for Muslims only—they persecuted Christians who wouldn't become Muslims.)

Pope Francis visited Mosul earlier this month and urged the Christians of Iraq to forgive ISIS and rebuild their churches. You can read more about this story [here](https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2021/march/iraq-pope-francis-mosul-qaraqosh-church-nineveh-plain-visit.html): <https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2021/march/iraq-pope-francis-mosul-qaraqosh-church-nineveh-plain-visit.html>

AND THE PEOPLE BELIEVED
IN JONAH AND HIS
MIRACLES



