

# children's WORSHIP GUIDE

**READ:**

**JONAH 4:1-11**

*Jonah's Anger and the  
Compassion of God*

**JOURNAL**

**IN YOUR BIBLES:**

- highlight or circle the words: **JONAH, LORD, WORM, AND NINEVAH**
- underline any words you don't know
- draw a 😞 next to the word angry in verse 1
- draw a 😊 next to the words: gracious, tender, kind, slow to anger and full of love

**THE BIG IDEA:**

**GOD'S  
COMPASSION**

## Things to REMEMBER:

1. God's Compassion Makes Us Angry (It doesn't seem fair)
2. God's Compassion Points Us To Jesus (A Greater Jonah)
3. God's Compassion Breaks Us Of Our Self-Righteousness

# things to **DISCUSS** together:

1. God spared Ninevah because they repented of their evil ways. But Jonah was still upset with God and his situation.

Talk about a time things didn't go your way or you didn't get what you wanted. You might have been angry with your parents, a teacher, a coach or even God. Knowing what you know about God in these verses (Jonah 2:4) how will you respond the next time you are disappointed? Your circumstances might never change, but how can God change your heart?

2. Jonah was angry with the withering vine, but not over what could have happened to Ninevah. Most of us have cried at the death of a pet or when an object of sentimental value is broken but have we cried over the fact that a friend does not know God? It's easy to be more sensitive to our own interests than the spiritual needs of the people around us.

Who can you tell about Jesus? Who do you need to pray for?

3. The people of Nineveh had turned away from doing things the wrong way. God showed His love for them by forgiving them. God showed his love for us by sending Jesus to die for our sins when we repent. Talk about the fact we can forgive others because we too are forgiven. Who do you need to forgive?

## **family** ACTIVITY:

1. If you have younger kids use the attached Jonah wordsearch to review this week's lesson.

2. Use the Repentance workshee attachedt to dig deeper into what repentance means.

3. Go on Esty or Pinterest...lots of great craft ideas for Jonah and the "big fish".

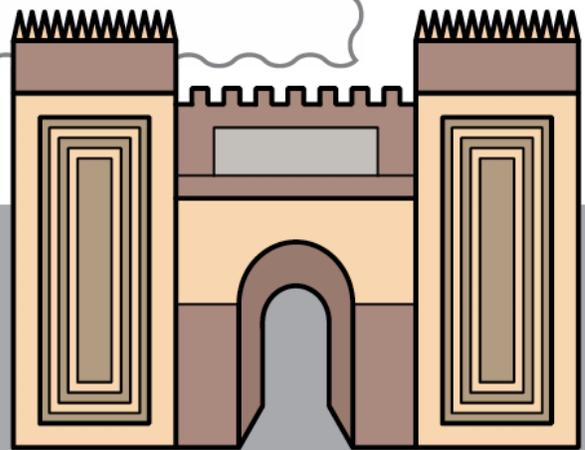
# **Jonah visits Nineveh**

Find and circle each of the words from the list below.

F S U A B W  
G I Z H O O  
H O S X A R  
H A D H T M  
K I N G R T  
C I T Y G L

BOAT  
CITY  
KING

FISH  
GOD  
WORM



# REPENTANCE

Repentance means turning towards God. The Bible says, "I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds" (Acts 26:20). To show God they had repented, the Ninevites wore sackcloth. This was a coarse, black cloth made from goat's hair that was worn with burnt ashes as a sign of repentance. Although the people of Nineveh repented after Jonah preached, their children didn't follow God's ways. One hundred years later, the prophet Nahum warned that God would destroy Nineveh because the people were so wicked. Sure enough, Nineveh was completely destroyed by the armies of the Median and Babylonian empires in 612 BC.

Color God's commandments!



**What is repentance?**

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**How did the Ninevites show God they had repented?**

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