

# Ev Preschool Kids: The Assyrians Repent

(Jonah 3)

God commands all people everywhere to turn and follow him.

20 September 2020



## Kids Talk

Remember what God told Jonah to do?

God said, "Go to Nineveh. Tell the people of Nineveh to stop doing bad things. I am very angry with them."

At first Jonah said, "No!"

But a storm, some sailors and a big fish changed everything. Again God said to Jonah, "Go to Nineveh. Tell the people of Nineveh to stop doing bad things. I am very angry with them."

This time Jonah said, "Yes."

Jonah obeyed God.

Jonah took a deep breath.

Jonah went to Nineveh.

Jonah walked through the city.

It took Jonah three whole days to walk through the city of Nineveh. All day long Jonah cried out, "In forty days God will destroy this city."

The people of Nineveh stopped.

They stared at Jonah.

They believed Jonah's message.

They sent a messenger to go and tell the King.

When the King heard the message, he was very upset.

He got up from his throne.

He took off his crown and royal robes.

He put on old clothes and lay down in the dirt.

Then the King told the messenger to tell all the people to put on old clothes and beg God to forgive them.

So the messenger ran to tell the people.

And the Assyrians... put on old clothes, they stopped eating, they stopped doing bad things, and they fell to the ground and cried out to God, "God forgive us!"

When God saw that they had stopped doing bad things and had turned to him, he was kind to them.

He did not destroy them.

Conclusion:

The Assyrians heard the warning and turned back to God. God was kind to them.

God commands all people, everywhere to turn back to him. And if we do, he will be kind to us.

## Bible Time

Aim: as a group retell the story using the following props: - blocks to build a big city, one set per group

Seat children in a circle with blocks to one side.

Encourage the children to retell the story and as they do give each child who speaks some blocks to build up the city.

Use the following questions only if the children are finding it hard to retell the story.

- Jonah did eventually go and warn the Assyrians. What did the King do?

(put on rags, stopped eating, begged God to forgive them, sent a message to all the people to do the same)

- What did the Assyrians do?

(put on rags, stopped eating, begged God to forgive them)

### Conclusion:

- The Assyrians repented.
- They said sorry for all the bad things they had done.
- They stopped going their way and decided to go God's way.
- God was kind to them.
- God promises to be kind to us, when we repent.
- We need to stop going our way and doing what we want to do.
- And go God's way.

## Pray together in response

Repeated Prayer

Dear God, – help us – to be like the Assyrians. – To turn from going our own way. – And to turn – and go your way. – Amen.

Individual Prayer

Encourage the children to say sorry to God for going their own way.

## Memory Verse

God commands all people everywhere to... repent. Acts 17:30

## Song

1. Hello Song
2. My God is a very, very big God
3. God's in charge of the weather.

Click for the ([Ev Preschool Kids Playlist](#))