

Jonah 3 Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." 3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. 4 Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" 5 And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.6 The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. 7 And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, 8 but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. 9 Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish."10 When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

Start Talking. Conversation starter for your group.

• Name a famous person or people group that you seriously doubt will ever become followers of Christ. Share your reasons for thinking this.

Start Thinking.

- Read Jonah 3. Do you think Jonah heard God speak audibly or in his thoughts? What was Jonah's response to God's word? How do you know when God is speaking to you?
- Why do you think Jonah was quick to obey the second time God spoke? Has God ever given you a second chance? Discuss.
- What kind of physical scars do you think Jonah had from being inside the fish for three days? When people asked him what happened, what do you think he told them?
- What message did God tell Jonah to preach? (v 4) How did the Ninevites respond to Jonah's message? (v 5) Why do you think they responded like this?
- Repentance is changing our mind and actions to agree with God. From what did the Ninevites repent? (v 8) What was the king's main concern? (v 9) What was God's response?

Start Sharing.

- This story shows us the importance of being obedient. What has God shown you that you need to do, but you have not yet done? Be sensitive and allow time for the Holy Spirit to speak and move people in your LifeGroup.
- In what ways are the people you interact with on a daily basis like the Ninevites. Read Matthew 28:19. What are we supposed to be doing as Christ followers? What's the message to share? Are you doing this? Why or why not?

Start Doing.

• What will you do to obey God's call this week to take His message to the lost? Who will you begin praying for? Ask God to reveal to you the message you are to share (be sure it includes His grace and mercy). Deal with any personal doubts or unbelief that would prevent you from doing your part or trusting God to do His part.