

When a City Repents

May 3, 2026

Read & Reflect

READ: Jonah 3:1–10

God gives Jonah a second chance and sends him again to Nineveh. This time, Jonah obeys—but likely with the wrong heart. Still, God works powerfully. An entire city—from the king to the common people—repents and turns to God.

Understand the Moment

Jonah finally does what God asked—but not because his heart is fully aligned. Yet even through reluctant obedience, God moves.

This chapter isn't just about Jonah—it's about **God's mercy and mission**. God pursues both the rebellious prophet and the broken people of Nineveh.

And here's the tension:

Jonah delivers a message of judgment... but God brings transformation.

The power was never in Jonah—it was always in God.

This reminds us:

God can work through imperfect obedience to accomplish extraordinary things.

Process Together or Alone

- What stands out to you most about how Nineveh responds to Jonah's message?
- Why do you think Jonah still struggled even after receiving a second chance?
- Have you ever obeyed God outwardly but struggled inwardly?
- Why is repentance often harder than we expect?
- What does this story reveal about God's heart toward people far from Him?

Follow Jesus This Week

Listen

- Where might God be giving you another chance right now?
- What has He already asked you to do that you've been avoiding?

Obey

- What is one step you can take this week—even if your heart isn't fully there yet?
- What would it look like to trust God with the outcome?

Share

- Who in your life needs to hear truth—even if it feels uncomfortable to speak?
- How can you be faithful in what God is asking, even if results seem uncertain?

Care

- Who have you written off that God may still be pursuing?
- How can you begin to see people through the lens of God's mercy instead of judgment?



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Live It Out

Identify one area where God is giving you a **second chance**—something you've resisted, delayed, or avoided.

Take one step forward in obedience this week.
Not because you feel ready—but because God is faithful.

Remember: obedience is your role—**the outcome is God's**.

Pray

- Thank God for His patience and second chances
- Ask Him to soften your heart where it's resistant
- Ask for courage to obey, even when it's uncomfortable
- Ask God to work through you to impact others

God, thank You for not giving up on me. Help me respond to Your calling with obedience—even when it's hard. Use my life to reflect Your mercy to others. Amen.

Group Leader Optional Questions

Opening Question:

What's a time you got a second chance—and what did you do with it?

Closing Reflection:

Where is God asking you to take a step of obedience this week—and what's holding you back?