

**Bible Story 195
Nineveh Repents
Jonah 3:1-10**

OPENING ACTIVITIES

- **Color**
 - Color the paper with the memory verse on it

WORSHIP

PRAYER

STORY

Jonah 3:1-10

- **Act**
 - With a teacher and a helper as Jonah and the king, have the children be the people of Nineveh

MEMORY VERSE

Jonah 3:9

" Who can tell if God will turn and relent... so that we may not perish?"

- Even this ungodly king had hope that God would have compassion on them and forgive them. Explain that relent means God would have mercy and choose not to destroy their city
- Practice the verse by doing actions
 - "Who can tell" – lift arms and shrug shoulders as if indicating "I don't know"
 - "if God" – point up
 - "will turn and relent" – turn around
 - "so that we" – point to your chest with both thumbs
 - "may not perish" – fall to the ground

ACTIVITIES

- **Role-play**
 - When the people of Nineveh were confronted with their sin and the impending judgment of God they turned from their sin and turned to God
 - Act out scenes where a child is doing something she shouldn't and stops doing wrong, asking for forgiveness, when she is confronted
 - Encourage the children to turn from wrong in their own lives
- **Application**
 - Have the children line up along one wall of the room (if you have a large multi-purpose room or a safe area outside you may want to use it)
 - Choose a child who can name a sin he is struggling with or sees others struggle with
 - Discuss how a child could repent from that sin
 - If a child is disobeying, he would repent by obeying
 - If a child is being unkind to her sister, she would repent by doing something nice for her sister
 - Have the children face the wall they are closest to and indicate that the wall closest to them is the sin that was just named
 - Indicate that the opposite wall is the action discussed that would evidence repentance
 - Call out, "repent," and have the children turn and run toward the wall farthest from them
- **Game**
 - Place objects of various textures in paper lunch sacks
 - Have the children reach in and guess what object is in the sack without looking
 - Reveal the hidden object
 - After playing with several objects, discuss textures and which would be comfortable for clothing and which would not; apply this to the use of sackcloth for the people of Nineveh when they were mourning

MATERIALS

- Coloring paper with memory verse on it (Print the coloring page from <http://www.calvaryknoxville.org/OTTableOfContents.pdf> and cut and paste the memory verse onto the bottom)
- Crayons
- Costumes and props for the story
- Props for role-playing
- Objects with various textures hidden in paper lunch sacks