

## The People of Ninevah

*Make sure the children realize that this is a Bible story in which God tells us how to act.*

Once there was a big city called Ninevah. Many people there were mean and selfish. They stole and lied and cheated. But God loved the people of Ninevah. He wanted them to act with kindness. God wanted to forgive the people.

God knew the people should be sorry for the wrong they did. They would be happy together if they changed the way they lived.

So, God sent a man to Ninevah. His name was Jonah. God sent Jonah to warn the people of Ninevah. If they did not change, they might hurt themselves.

Jonah visited the people of Ninevah. He called out God's message, "Change and be sorry. If not, you might hurt yourselves."

The king of Nineveh listened to Jonah. He knew his great city had done wrong. So he ordered his people to change. The people decided to be sorry for the wrong they had done.

The people prayed to God. They asked God to help them to be sorry. They asked God to help them change their lives.

The people put away their nice clothes. They dressed in old clothes called sackcloth. They stopped eating the food they liked. They lived on bread and water.

God saw the people trying to change. God was happy they were trying. God loved them all.

God forgave the people of Ninevah. All the people promised to try to love one another.

Based on *Jonah 3:1-10*