

Jonah the Prophet

Multiple Choice: Circle ALL the Correct Answers!

1. **Jonah:**
 - a) was a prophet
 - b) tried to run away from God
 - c) took a boat to Nineveh
 - d) was angry that God spared Nineveh

2. **Nineveh was:**
 - a) the capital of Assyria
 - b) a small city
 - c) told if they didn't repent they would be destroyed
 - d) a city in Judah

3. **God:**
 - a) is merciful
 - b) will save both Jew and Gentile
 - c) will destroy those who refuse to listen to him
 - d) will accomplish his will

4. **Repent:**
 - a) means to be sorry for our past sins
 - b) means we will change our ways
 - c) was the message of Peter on Pentecost
 - d) is what Nineveh did

5. **The plant:**
 - a) was God's attempt to explain to Jonah his mercy
 - b) was destroyed by a lizard
 - c) gave Jonah shade from the hot sun
 - d) was eaten by Jonah

Short Answer

6. What message did God tell Jonah to give to Nineveh? _____

7. Why didn't Jonah want to give this message to Nineveh? _____

8. What happened to Jonah when he tried to run from God to Tarshish? _____

9. What did the people of Nineveh do after they heard Jonah's message? _____

10. How did Jonah's experience in the belly of the fish point forward to the death and resurrection of Jesus?



True or False

- _____ 11. Jonah knew it was wrong to disobey God but he was prepared to give his life to spare his people.
- _____ 12. Jonah was swallowed by a giant squid.
- _____ 13. Nineveh refused to repent.
- _____ 14. Repent means to repeat your mistakes.
- _____ 15. Jonah thought God should only save the Jews.



The Rest of the Story

Did you know that the Bible tells us more about the story of Jonah after the people of Nineveh repented? Read the rest of the story below to find out how Jonah reacted when the people of Nineveh said they were sorry!

God's Mercy Makes Jonah Angry

The people of Nineveh listened to the prophet Jonah. They were sorry for their mistakes and they stopped doing evil things. But Jonah was very unhappy and angry that God did not destroy the city of Nineveh.

He complained to the Lord and said, "I knew this would happen. I knew it when I was still in my own country. That is why I quickly ran away to Tarshish. I knew that you are a God who is kind and shows mercy. You don't become angry quickly. You have great love. I knew you would rather forgive than punish them. So now I ask you, Lord, please kill me. It is better for me to die than to live."

God Explains His Mercy

Then the Lord said, "Do you think it is right for you to be angry?" Jonah went out and sat down east of the city. There he made a shelter for himself. And he sat there in the shade. He was waiting to see what would happen to the city.

The Lord made a plant grow quickly up over Jonah. This made a cool place for him to sit. And it helped him to be more comfortable. Jonah was very pleased to have the plant for shade. The next day the sun came up and it was very hot. God sent a worm to attack the plant. Then the plant died.

When the sun was high in the sky, God sent a hot east wind to blow. The sun became very hot on Jonah's head. He became very weak. Jonah wished he was dead. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said this to Jonah: "Do you think it is right for you to be angry because of the plant?" Jonah answered, "It is right for me to be angry! I will stay angry until I die!"

The Lord then said, "You cared about that plant! But you did not plant it or make it grow. It appeared in the night, and the next day it died. Then surely I can care about the people in the city of Nineveh. There are also many animals in this city. There are more than 120,000 people living in Nineveh. Those people simply do not know right from wrong."

Thought Question

16. What lesson do you think Jonah learned from the plant? _____
