

Merciful God

Jonah 3:1-10





1. Don't run from God

The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: 'Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.' But Jonah ran away from the Lord.



**Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your
presence? If I go up to the
heavens, you are there; if I make
my bed in the depths, you are
there. If I rise on the wings of the
dawn, if I settle on the far side of
the sea, even there your hand will
guide me, your right hand will
hold me fast. (Psalm 139:7-10)**



Don't run from God!



2. When life gets you down, look up

From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God. He said: 'In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry.



“The Christian life is not a constant high. I have my moments of deep discouragement. I have to go to God in prayer with tears in my eyes, and say, ‘O God, forgive me,’ or ‘Help me.’”



Look up and pray!



3. Respond to God's second chance

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: 'Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.' Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh.



**Forty more days and
Nineveh will be
overthrown.**













**Jesus died for my sin,
and since I've accepted
him as Lord, I know he
has forgiven me."**

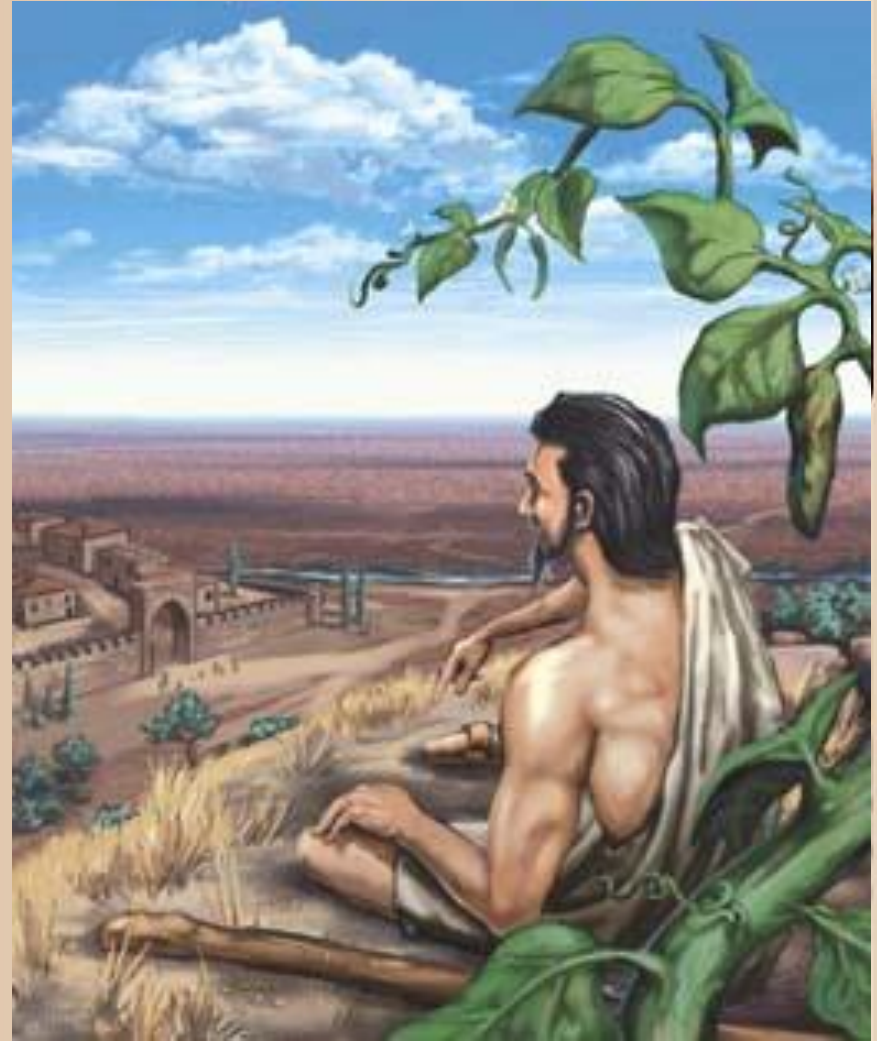


4. Have the heart of God for the people

I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.



**God wants all
people to be
saved and to
come to a
knowledge of the
truth.
(1 Timothy 2:4)**



**Our God is a
Merciful God!**

