

# God Has Mercy on Anyone He Chooses

Jonah 3

## Discussion Questions

- 1) What is the message that God wants Jonah to give to Nineveh? Why might this be a message with a condition attached? Where else in the Bible do we see God proclaiming such a message?
- 2) What was the role of a prophet in the Old Testament?
- 3) How would you define mercy?
- 4) What are some of Jesus' parables that demonstrate God's mercy? (Hint: Matthew 20:1-16, Luke 15:11-32.)
- 5) Why might it be challenging for us to accept and rejoice when we see demonstrations of God's mercy in other people?
- 6) The Ninevites believed God's message. How did they visibly demonstrate this? What do the sackcloth and ashes symbolise? Can you think of other examples in the Bible of people putting on sackcloth and ashes? (Hint: 1 Kings 20:31-32, Genesis 37:34, Esther 4:1).
- 7) Read Exodus 33:18-19. God's mercy is an immutable part of who He is. How should this comfort us? How should this lead us to repentance (Romans 2:4)?
- 8) Why does God have such mercy on thieves, mass murderers, workaholics, and backsliders, people like you and me? (Hint: Romans 9:22-23)
- 9) Read James 2:13. How does this verse challenge you? Do you intentionally seek to show mercy, in the full knowledge of how much mercy God has given to you?