

In God's Big Story

Jonah spends three days and nights in the belly of a great fish. God has compassion on Jonah, who shares God's message, and the people of Nineveh, who repent of their evil ways.

Wonder Truth: God Has Good News for the World

Scripture: Jonah 1–4; Matthew 12

WATCH GOD'S BIG STORY



JONAH

[ELEMENTARY VIDEO](#)

[EARLY CHILDHOOD VIDEO](#)

WORD OF WONDER

Work together this week on memorizing this verse!

ELEMENTARY:

He saved us. It wasn't because of the good things we had done. It was because of his mercy. He saved us by washing away our sins. We were born again. The Holy Spirit gave us new life. —Titus 3:5 (NIRV)

EARLY CHILDHOOD:

Jesus forgives our sins, saves us, and gives us new life. —from Titus 3:5

WONDER ABOUT IT!

- What is one thing you're curious about from this week's part of God's big story?
- How can you live differently or respond to God with what you're learning?

WORSHIP@HOME

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FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

Families, use this to prompt conversations at the table, in the car, and anywhere else your family experiences life together.

- What's the best news someone's ever told you that you just had to share?
- Who is God's good news for?
- Where do we find more about God's good news?
- What could happen by sharing God's good news?



WALK IT ACT IT MOVE IT

Retelling the Tale

Think of the most creative way to retell the story of Jonah using the prompts below. You may want to get props, just use actions, or you can draw the scenes. Give family members one prompt each or work through them together one at a time. Then discuss as a family: **What does this story show us about God?**

Prompt 1: God asked Jonah to be His prophet to the people of Nineveh. He wanted the people of Nineveh to stop doing wrong things. Instead, Jonah got on a boat and sailed away in the opposite direction.

Prompt 2: A storm pounded the boat. Jonah knew it was from God and told the sailors to toss him into the water. As soon as Jonah was overboard, the storm stopped! God sent a fish to swallow Jonah. He was in the belly of the fish for three days and nights.

Prompt 3: After three days and nights, the fish spit Jonah out on dry land. God told Jonah to go to Nineveh and tell the people to ask for forgiveness for all the wrong they had done or else they would be destroyed. And this time Jonah obeyed.

Prompt 4: The people of Nineveh listened to God's message. They believed Jonah's warning! God saw their hearts had changed and didn't destroy them.



LIFE CONNECTION

Would You Rather?

God told Jonah to go to Nineveh. Jonah decided he would rather ... not. Later, once he went, the people of Nineveh chose to change their ways. Play a game of Would You Rather? as a family to explore the idea of choices.

Read the choices and allow each person to give an answer. To make this game more active, find an open area and encourage everyone to give their answers by moving to one side or the other. (You'll want to designate which side corresponds to which answer if you play this way.)

Would You Rather ...

Be as tall as a giraffe or as small as a mouse?

Spend a day playing at the beach or a day playing in the snow?

Be able to see through walls or able to fly?

Only eat ice cream for a day or only eat cake?

Explore space or explore the ocean?

These choices were all fun and not very serious. We all face choices every day. The most important ones are whether or not we are going to follow God's ways. When we make wrong choices, we can always come to Him, ask for forgiveness, and make a different choice next time.

Wonder Ink®

RISEN LESSON 2