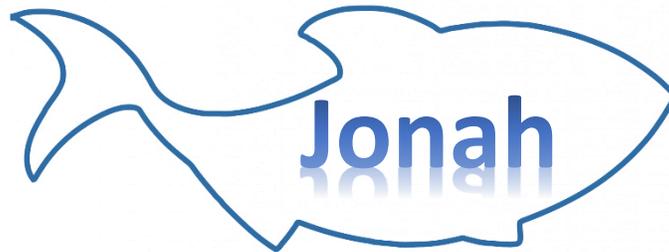


GOD GIVES US PURPOSE!



Consider this breakdown:

Day 1 – Jonah was Given a Message.

Day 2 – Jonah Runs from God and Lives in a Fish.

Day 3 – Jonah Goes to Nineveh.

OR combine into one lesson:

Look ahead and choose your favorite activities and read the scriptures all together.

**In a Hurry, consider the highlighted video from page 6 to summarize the story quickly.

Packet Breakdown:

Pages 2-3 – Daily Scripture readings & Discussions

Pages 4-5 – Daily activity ideas

Pages 6 – Additional Resources & Worship

Scripture Readings and Discussions

Day 1 – Jonah was Given a Message

Read: Jonah 1:1-3



Discuss:

- Where was Jonah supposed to go?
- What was he supposed to say?
- Why do you think he didn't want to go?
- Do you think it was right for Jonah to run away?
- What types of things does God ask of us that might make us want to "run away?"
- What do you think might happen?

Day 2 – Jonah Runs from God and Lives in a Fish

Read: Jonah 1:4-16

Discuss:

- Why did the Lord send a storm?
- Does God still work that way today? Are there punishments for our sins while we are on Earth? When have we experienced this?
- Why did the Lord send a fish?
- Does God still work that way today? Does He rescue us when we are in trouble?
- Did God save Jonah for more reasons than just to spare his life?
 - God saved Jonah because God still had a mission for him! God still wanted to use Jonah to share His message with Nineveh!
 - ** This is when you can really nail in God's purpose for Jonah! God was not willing to change His plans just because of Jonah's disobedience!
- Does God have a purpose for our lives? How have we seen evidence of this?

Day 3 – Jonah goes to Nineveh.

Read: Jonah 3:1-10

Discuss:

- God gave Jonah a second chance to obey!
 - What does this tell us about God?
- What did Jonah do?
- What message did he share?
- What did the Ninevites do?
- What did God do for the Ninevites?
 - What does this tell us about God?
- How does this challenge us?
 - The answer should not be “we can be like Jonah.” Instead, we should read the passage for what it says about God. “We can be like Jonah,” or “we can be used by God,” could be translated to, “just like God used Jonah, He is powerful to use us! God can do big things through us when we choose to obey (and even when we don’t)!”
 - Just like with Jonah, God created us with a purpose that glorifies Him.
 - Talk about gifts and talents of the people in your family. What do you dream of doing when you grow up? How can God use these things to glorify Himself.



Daily Activity Ideas

Day 1 – Jonah was Given a Message.

Cause & Effect Discuss how a person’s negative actions affect others.

i.e. lying causes others not to trust you. Saying mean things to someone hurts their feelings. Pushing someone might hurt them and others around. WHEN PEOPLE CHOOSE TO SIN THEIR SIN HURTS OTHERS.

Nineveh was filled with sinners. Everyone’s actions were hurting others and were not honoring to God. PLUS they were earning a punishment from God.

Matching Make cards with a sinful action paired with the righteous action. (Lying-Honesty, Unkind-kind, Lazy-Hard worker, bad language-wholesome speech, Boastful-humble, etc.) Play matching together!

Day 2 – Jonah Runs from God and Lives in a Fish.

Effects of Jonah’s Actions Let children line up dominoes so that, by pushing down the first one all the dominoes will be knocked down. The first domino that fell put into motion all the others to fall down. When we make sinful choices we cause others to fall or suffer as well.

- Jonah’s sinful actions had a direct impact on the Ninevites. They didn’t hear God’s message and they continued to sin! Later in the story, we will see how Jonah’s GOOD actions had a GOOD impact on the Ninevites!



Day 2 – Continued...

Buried with Him in Baptism: ([Romans 6:3-4](#)) Have children draw scenes from the story (Jonah in the belly of a fish. Jonah on the shore being spit up). Compare this to baptism and discuss the symbolism of going under the water/Jonah being eaten by a fish (dying to our old sin nature). On a sheet of paper have children list sins that believers need to 'die' to, including the sin of Jonah in running from Nineveh. Place that sheet of paper under the picture of Jonah in the fish. Next discuss the symbolism of rising up out of the water/Jonah on the shore after being thrown out by the fish (our new life in Jesus). On a piece of paper have children list characteristics of a new life in Christ. (Ephesians 4:20-32, Galatians 5:22-26) For Jonah, being eaten by the fish was a real turning point. It helped him change his heart and go to Nineveh as God had asked him!

**If your children have already made Jesus the Lord of their life, you may want to discuss baptism further. Baptism is a symbol of the change the Lord has made in our hearts and is a public declaration of our decision to follow Him as a believer and servant of Christ.

Day 3 – Jonah Goes to Nineveh. Nineveh Repents.

Gospel Tract Have children create their own Gospel tract to share with someone who is not a believer. Consider making a comic strip or a booklet. Challenge children to make it themselves but be ready to answer any questions they may have!

Additional Resources & Worship

Worship:

We are Your's – I am They

[https://cma1-](https://cma1-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/EWSNGhGgnVJJh0pC4E8wb-sB-GU0MAhAaJpZg-X2zp32gg?e=y0PwxE)

[my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/EWSNGhGgnVJJh0pC4E8wb-sB-GU0MAhAaJpZg-X2zp32gg?e=y0PwxE](https://cma1-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/EWSNGhGgnVJJh0pC4E8wb-sB-GU0MAhAaJpZg-X2zp32gg?e=y0PwxE)

Ready to Serve – Deuteronomy 13:4

[https://cma1-](https://cma1-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/ERwOQjU4a25DrRTblzLMql8BxlUK_5jBce2oaXZEirKn6w?e=J547wm)

[my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/ERwOQjU4a25DrRTblzLMql8BxlUK_5jBce2oaXZEirKn6w?e=J547wm](https://cma1-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/ERwOQjU4a25DrRTblzLMql8BxlUK_5jBce2oaXZEirKn6w?e=J547wm)

Everlasting God

[https://cma1-](https://cma1-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/EUAPQqajg5xHvBERThNavrABjQeATXYKJ3sv6q-JCHpKTg?e=bcsehD)

[my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/EUAPQqajg5xHvBERThNavrABjQeATXYKJ3sv6q-JCHpKTg?e=bcsehD](https://cma1-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/person/children_alliancechurch_com/EUAPQqajg5xHvBERThNavrABjQeATXYKJ3sv6q-JCHpKTg?e=bcsehD)

Videos:

Veggietales – Jonah Was a Prophet (Silly Song)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qLhAdA5ZXI>

LYRICS (Jonah Song) – Saddleback Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RlvuWMqAPTQ>

Jonah and the Whale | Bible Story | LifeKids

Summarize the story in less than 3 minutes!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BAaR6eKfzXY>

Memory Verse:

Philippians 1:6: “Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”