



Leg



Jonah

Jonah 1:1 – 3:10

Prayer

Thank You, Heavenly Father, for Your patience and kindness to us. We confess that we are by nature sinful and daily sin against You by our thoughts, words, and deeds. Forgive us for our unfaithfulness and sin. Thank You for the grace and mercy You give, even though we do not deserve such gifts. Help us to love people who seem unlovable. Help us to share the good news of Your love, that others might also know Jesus as their Savior. Amen.

Family devotions

SUNDAY

1 Peter 1:3-5

MONDAY

Isaiah 55:6-9

TUESDAY

Romans 6:1-4

WEDNESDAY

Jonah 1:1-4, 10-17
2:1, 10

THURSDAY

Jeremiah 9:23-24

FRIDAY

Daniel 3:15-18, 23-26

SATURDAY

Daniel 3:26-30

Did you know?

- * The ancient ruins of Nineveh are in northern Iraq. The palace of a Ninevite king has been restored and can be visited there.
- * It was not necessarily a whale that swallowed Jonah. The Hebrew word used can be translated "great fish" or "sea monster."

Family activity

- * Visit a pet store that has fish, or a sea aquarium or zoo that has larger sea creatures. Talk about the size of the various fish and what it might have been like to be in the belly of a fish for three days. Talk about why Jonah was inside the fish and how God was gracious to him and gave him another chance to go to Nineveh.
- * Make a list of friends or family who need to hear about God's love and forgiveness. Make special cards for them, and write an encouraging note and Bible verse. Mail the cards or deliver them in person.

What's it all about?

Jonah had no desire to go to Nineveh and tell the people about a forgiving and loving God. The Ninevites were enemies of Israel and were an extremely cruel and bloodthirsty nation. In Jonah's eyes, they didn't deserve God's grace. But God showed compassion to them, and they repented. Jonah was not happy. That's how the story ends, with an unhappy prophet who was actually upset because his message from God was heeded!

We all know people who don't deserve God's love. They rub us the wrong way, irritate us, or say hurtful words. We can pray for these people. Pray that God will soften their hearts and show love, forgiveness, and kindness to them. You will be amazed to discover that it's hard to have an enemy when you pray for him. And remember that none of us deserve God's love either, but He loves us anyway! Ask God to help you show the love of Christ to someone today.

Songs to sing

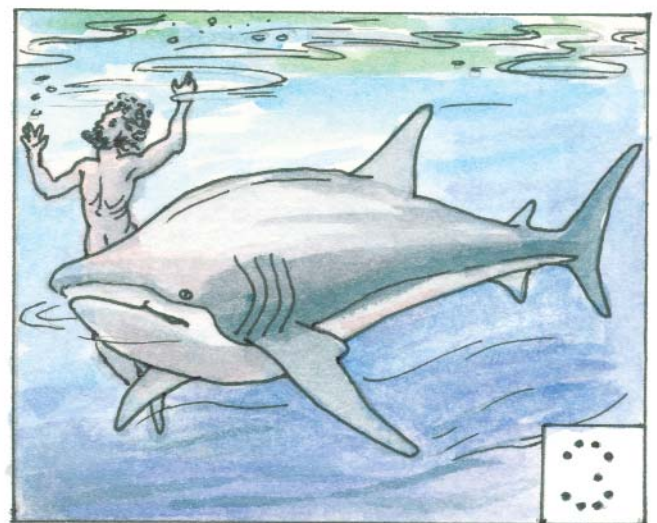
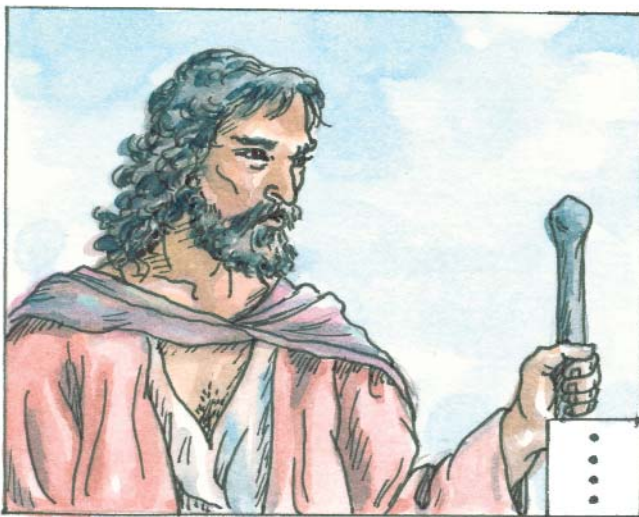
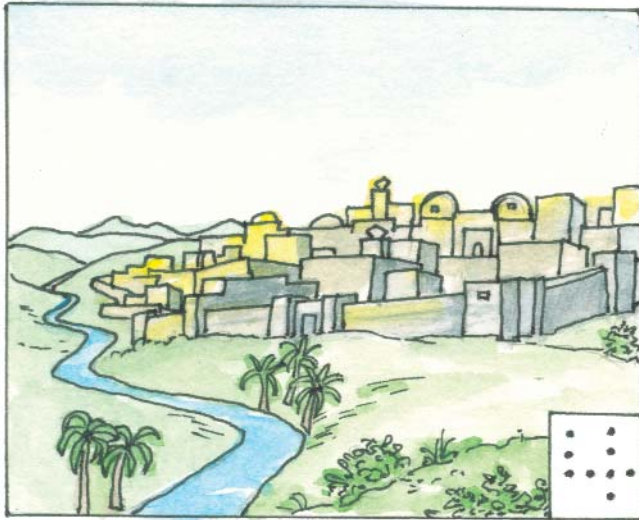
"Jesus Loves Me"
"Jesus Listens When I Pray"
"Savior, Teach Me, Day by Day"

Memory verse

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread? *Psalms 27:1*

What happened to Jonah?

Number the pictures in the correct order



Jonah and the big fish

Jonah 1:1 – 3:10

One day God talked to a man named Jonah. God said, “Go to Nineveh and warn the people because of their sin.” Jonah didn’t want to go to Nineveh because the people of Nineveh were enemies of the people of God. So Jonah got on a big boat to go in the opposite direction. He tried to run away from God. But God knew where Jonah was.

While Jonah was on the boat, God sent a terrible storm. The sailors on the boat were afraid. They thought their boat would sink. They did not know God sent the storm because Jonah had disobeyed God.

“The storm is because of me,” Jonah said.

“Throw me into the water, and the storm will stop.” The sailors threw Jonah into the water, and the storm stopped.

Jonah called out to the Lord from the waters of the sea. The Lord heard Jonah’s prayer. God saved Jonah by sending a big fish to swallow him.

Jonah was in the stomach of the big fish for three days and three nights! While he was in the fish’s stomach, Jonah thanked God for saving him. Jonah was sorry he had disobeyed God.

After three days and three nights, God made the fish vomit Jonah up onto the dry land. God told Jonah, “Go to Nineveh and preach to the people.”

This time Jonah obeyed God and went to Nineveh! Jonah told the people God would destroy the city of Nineveh because of their sin. The people listened to Jonah. They repented of their sin and believed in the one true God.

Memory verse

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and my salvation;
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The LORD is the
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Psalms 27:1