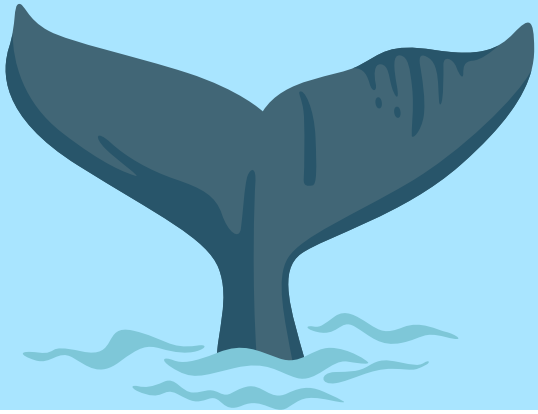


The Book Of Jonah

November 8
Toddlers

REMINDERS

- As kids arrive, be sure they are engaged in an activity. For any sad toddlers, try to engage them as quickly as possible.
- Limit TV to 1–2 songs over the course of the service. Sing along with them! Be careful not to rely on screens for the whole morning.
- Coloring sheets are always available. Please watch closely to make sure crayons don't go in mouths.
- Remove name tags when they leave.
- For the next 6 weeks we are going to be in the book of Jonah. We will read different story books to keep reinforcing the story.

STORY & SNACK TIME

- About halfway through the service, gather the kids to pray and eat snack together.
- Read *Jonah and the Very Big Fish.* If you need to skip some of the content of the earlier pages, that is fine. Focus on the ending of the book
- Finish up storytime with a song on Youtube. Jonah's Song by Saddleback Kids. Same as last week. This is optional.
- Not all kids will listen the whole time, and that's okay. Still take time to read the story while they eat.

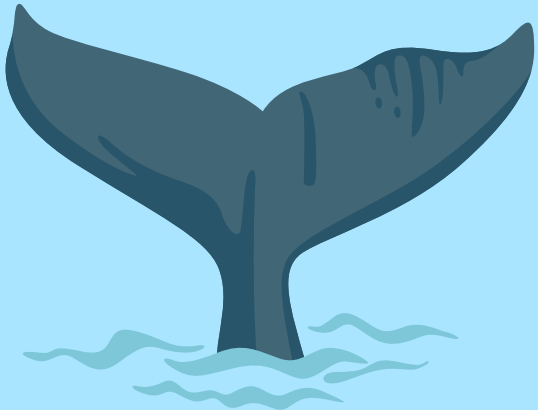
bible story

Jonah 4

big idea

God's love and compassion are bigger than our own.

Bayside | KIDS



The Book Of Jonah

November 8
3-5s

OPENING OPTIONS (first 25 minutes)

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Shady Vine: Kids can use tissue to make the paper leaves of the plan that shaded Jonah. Teaching Point: We are going to learn today that Jonah cared about the plant because it helped him, but God wanted Jonah to care about the people of Nineveh, too. God loves all people so very much!

CLEAN UP SONG and BIBLE BOX

- About 25 minutes into the service, play clean up song and gather kids on carpet.
- Use the Bible Box story to tell the story with Bible Box props
- Pray on the carpet and head into snack time.

SNACK

- Gather kids at tables to eat snack as soon as they return. Each child can have one gummy worm. Remind kids about the plant and the worm and the signifcance of that in the story as you pass out.
- Snack Discussion: God loves you so very much! How can you be kind and compassionate to others this week, like God has been for all of us?

CLOSING OPTIONS (as time allows after snack)

- Finish craft or coloring
- Free play

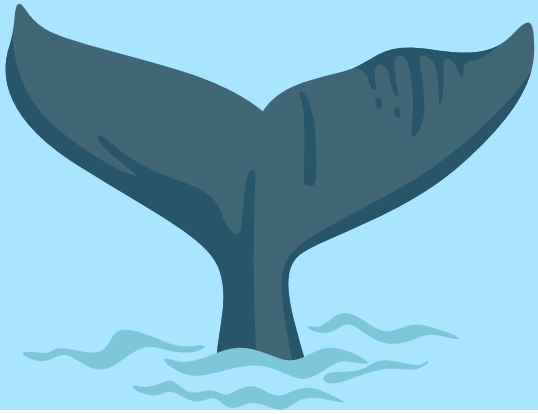
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Jonah 4

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Bayside | KIDS



The Book Of Jonah

November 8
Bible Box

Hey friends, I'm so glad you came to church today! Let's all stand in a circle to start. We are going to play Second Chance Catch!

Play catch around the circle with a beanbag. If you drop it, it's okay! You can have another chance to catch it! Play a few rounds until everyone has had a turn, then sit on your circles.

We have been talking a lot about our friend Jonah over the past weeks. Today is our last week in the book of Jonah! God gave Jonah another chance to tell the people of Nineveh about Him. Jonah told the people that God wanted them to stop making bad choices. The people listened to God's message and changed their ways. God saw that they were sorry, and He forgave them! Everyone was happy!
Everyone make a big smile!

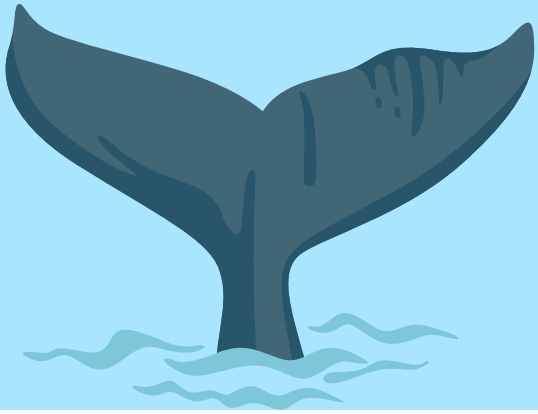
Everyone except Jonah! Jonah was upset that God forgave the people of Nineveh. Jonah wanted God to forgive him, but he didn't want God to forgive the people of Nineveh. That made Jonah very angry!
Everyone make a mad face!

Jonah went outside the city and sat in the hot sun. It was SO HOT! Everyone fan yourself.
God saw Jonah sitting there, and God made a big plant grow up next to him! The plant grew tall and had big leaves that gave Jonah shade from the hot sun. Jonah was happy to have the plant!
Everyone pretend to stretch up like a growing plant, then hold your arms over your heads like big leaves.
But the next day, God sent a worm that damaged the plant, and the plant withered away. Then the hot sun beat down on Jonah, and he became upset all over again!
Everyone pretend to be a droopy plant, then fan yourself and make a sad face.

God used the plant to teach Jonah an important lesson. Jonah cared a lot about the plant because it helped him feel comfortable. But God cared about the people of Nineveh! God wanted Jonah to understand that He loves people and wants to show them kindness and forgiveness.

God had been kind to Jonah, too! God gave Jonah second chances, even when Jonah made poor choices and didn't always obey Him.
And guess what, friends? God is kind to us, too! God loves us and forgives us when we make mistakes. And God wants us to show kindness and forgiveness to others!
Let's remember that God's love and compassion are bigger than our own. God loves people, and He wants us to love them, too!
Let's all say a big THANK YOU to GOD!
EVERYONE: THANK YOU, GOD!

Prayer: Thank You, God, for loving us, forgiving us, and giving us second chances. Help us to obey You and show kindness and forgiveness to others. Amen.



The Book Of Jonah

November 8 Kinder / 1st

OPENING OPTIONS

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Shady Vine: Kids can use tissue to make the paper leaves of the plan that shaded Jonah. Teaching Point: We are going to learn today that Jonah cared about the plant because it helped him, but God wanted Jonah to care about the people of Nineveh, too. God loves all people so very much!

WORSHIP and STORTYTIME

- Leave one volunteer to clean up during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time. This volunteer should join the rest as soon as the room is ready for small group time.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)

- Have you ever been upset when someone else got something good after making a bad choice? How did you feel? (Answers will vary. They might say it felt unfair or made them angry. Help as many kids to share as possible)
- Who is someone who is easy for you to love? Who might be harder to love? (Answers will vary. It can be harder to love someone who is mean, annoying, or unkind to us)
- Why was Jonah angry with God? (Jonah was angry because God forgave the people of Nineveh instead of punishing them; Jonah didn't think that was fair)
- How did God show mercy to Jonah when Jonah disobeyed? (God rescued Jonah from the sea with a big fish and gave him a second chance, help them to recall past weeks)
- What happened to the plant God provided for Jonah? (A worm damaged it, and the plant withered. Jonah became upset because he lost his shade; help them to think about how crazy this sound!)
- Why did God use the plant to teach Jonah a lesson? (Jonah cared about the plant because it helped him, but God wanted Jonah to care about the people of Nineveh, too)
- What does it mean to show compassion to someone? (It means caring about others, being kind, and wanting to help them; share personal examples)
- What can you do if someone is mean to you at school? (We can respond kindly, forgive them, pray for them, or ask a trusted adult for help if needed)
- Why should we forgive others when they make mistakes? (Because God has forgiven us, and He wants us to show that same love and forgiveness to others)
- What is one way you can show God's love to someone this week? (have compassion, show kindness to others that aren't necessarily our close friends, forgive, etc.)
- How did Jesus show God's love and compassion for us? (Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose again so we can be forgiven and have a relationship with God)
- Pray together and thank God for His great love and compassion for us. Help us to show the same to others.

Memory Verse

Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

- Kids can work on their memory verse throughout the morning and get a prize during the last 10 minutes of class
- There will be signs up around the room with the verse.
- Help them to say the verse but also tell you what it means.

CLOSING OPTIONS

- Finish craft
- Work on memory verse

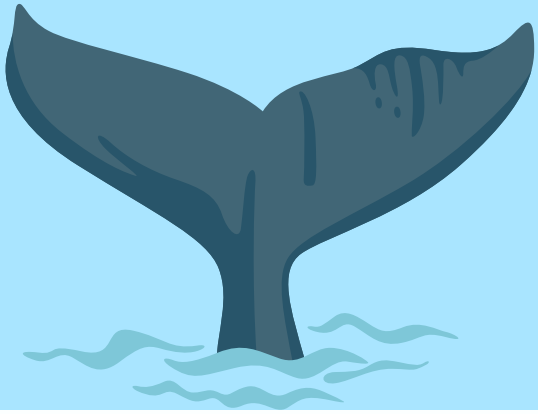
bible story

Jonah 4

big idea

God's love and compassion are bigger than our own.

Bayside | KIDS



The Book Of Jonah

November 8
2nd-3rd

OPENING OPTIONS

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Mini Pots: Decorate mini pots as they would like. Teaching Point: We are going to learn today that Jonah cared about the plant because it helped him, but God wanted Jonah to care about the people of Nineveh, too. God's love and compassion are bigger than our own! Let this pot remind. You that God's love and compassion grow in us when we show kindness to others.

WORSHIP and STORTYTIME

- Leave one volunteer to clean up the room during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)

- Have you ever been upset when someone else got something good after making a bad choice? How did you feel? (Answers will vary. They might say it felt unfair or made them angry. Help as many kids to share as possible)
- Who is someone who is easy for you to love? Who might be harder to love? (Answers will vary. It can be harder to love someone who is mean, annoying, or unkind to us)
- Why was Jonah angry with God? (Jonah was angry because God forgave the people of Nineveh instead of punishing them; Jonah didn't think that was fair)
- How did God show mercy to Jonah when Jonah disobeyed? (God rescued Jonah from the sea with a big fish and gave him a second chance, help them to recall past weeks)
- What happened to the plant God provided for Jonah? (A worm damaged it, and the plant withered. Jonah became upset because he lost his shade; help them to think about how crazy this sound!)
- Why did God use the plant to teach Jonah a lesson? (Jonah cared about the plant because it helped him, but God wanted Jonah to care about the people of Nineveh, too)
- What does it mean to show compassion to someone? (It means caring about others, being kind, and wanting to help them; share personal examples)
- What can you do if someone is mean to you at school? (We can respond kindly, forgive them, pray for them, or ask a trusted adult for help if needed)
- Why should we forgive others when they make mistakes? (Because God has forgiven us, and He wants us to show that same love and forgiveness to others)
- What is one way you can show God's love to someone this week? (have compassion, show kindness to others that aren't necessarily our close friends, forgive, etc.)
- How did Jesus show God's love and compassion for us? (Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose again so we can be forgiven and have a relationship with God)
- Pray together and thank God for His great love and compassion for us. Help us to show the same to others.

Memory Verse

Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

- Kids can work on their memory verse throughout the morning and get a prize during the last 10 minutes of class
- There will be signs up around the room with the verse.
- Help them to say the verse but also tell you what it means.

CLOSING OPTIONS

- Jonah Bingo
  - Can be played at the beginning or the end.
  - Mark off spaces using a marker or pen.
- Book of Jonah Left Right: Sit in a circle. One child starts with the squishy ball. Read the story of Jonah. Pass left when the word LEFT is read. Pass right when the word RIGHT is read. Child holding the ball at the end wins.

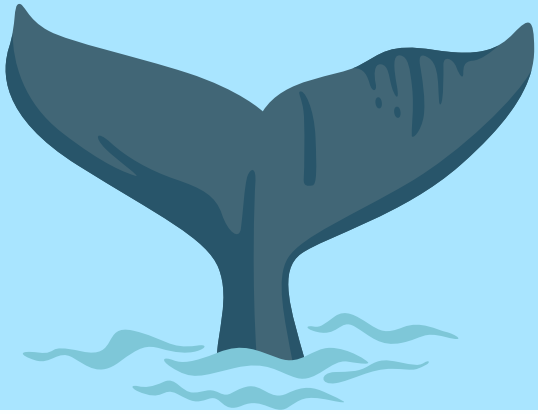
bible story

Jonah 4

big idea

God's love and compassion are bigger than our own.

Bayside | KIDS



The Book Of Jonah

November 8 3rd

OPENING OPTIONS

- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Mini Pots: Decorate mini pots as they would like. Teaching Point: We are going to learn today that Jonah cared about the plant because it helped him, but God wanted Jonah to care about the people of Nineveh, too. God's love and compassion are bigger than our own! Let this pot remind. You that God's love and compassion grow in us when we show kindness to others.

WORSHIP and STORYTIME

- Leave one volunteer to clean up the room during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)

- Have you ever thought someone deserved to get in trouble, but instead they were forgiven? How did you respond? (Maybe frustrated, angry, unfair; help them not to share specific names)
- Why do you think it is easier to want forgiveness for ourselves than to offer forgiveness to others?
- (We know our own reasons and feelings, we are self-focused)
- In Jonah 4:2, Jonah describes God as gracious, compassionate, slow to anger, and full of love. Why would Jonah be upset about these qualities? (Jonah knew God's character is forgiving and He might forgive Nineveh, and he did not want his enemies to receive mercy)
- How had Jonah experienced God's mercy himself? (God rescued him from the sea, listened to his prayer, and gave him another chance to obey)
- Why do you think Jonah cared more about the plant than the people of Nineveh?
- (The plant affected Jonah's own comfort, while he was focused on his anger toward the people of Nineveh)
- What was God trying to help Jonah understand through the plant? God wanted Jonah to recognize that people matter to Him and that His compassion extends to everyone, even those Jonah disliked)
- Why do you think the book of Jonah ends with a question from God instead of telling us how Jonah responded? (It makes us, the readers think about our own attitudes and whether they will share God's compassion with others)
- Is it possible to forgive someone and still recognize that what they did was wrong? Explain.
- (Yes. Forgiveness does not mean pretending the wrong choice was okay. We can forgive while still having boundaries and asking for help when needed; we aren't the judge however, God is)
- Who are some people our world might find difficult to love? Why can it be hard to show them compassion? (Be careful to not share names of kids that others will know. Encourage them to be a bit more general- people who may be different from us, disagree with us, treat us poorly, or have made serious mistakes)
- What is the difference between showing compassion and simply letting someone get away with something wrong? (Compassion means caring about someone and wanting what is good for them. It does not mean ignoring wrongdoing or removing appropriate consequences)
- How can you show compassion to someone who has hurt your feelings or treated you unfairly?
- (We can choose not to retaliate, speak respectfully, pray for them, forgive them, and seek help or healthy boundaries when necessary)
- Ephesians 4:32 tells us to forgive one another "just as in Christ God forgave you." Why does God's forgiveness change how we should treat others? (We have all sinned and need God's grace. Because Jesus has forgiven us, we should extend kindness, compassion, and forgiveness to others)
- How is Jesus different from Jonah when it comes to rescuing people who need God's mercy? (Jonah resisted God's mission and did not want Nineveh to receive mercy. Jesus willingly came to rescue sinners through His death and resurrection)
- Why is the Gospel about more than simply trying to be a good person? (We cannot save ourselves by being good enough. We need God's grace and forgiveness through Jesus, and His love changes how we live.)
- How does remembering what Jesus has done for you help you love someone who is difficult to love?
- (It reminds us that we also need forgiveness and that God's love is not based on whether we deserve it. We can ask God to help us show that same compassion
- Closing Challenge: Think of one person you find difficult to love. What is one specific way you can show them God's compassion this week? (Encourage practical ideas such as including someone, speaking kindly, forgiving an offense, praying for them, or helping them) Pray together that God would give the strength and obedience to follow through.

Memory Verse

Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

- Kids can work on their memory verse throughout the morning and get a prize during the last 10 minutes of class
- There will be signs up around the room with the verse.
- Help them to say the verse but also tell you what it means.

CLOSING OPTIONS

- Jonah Bingo
  - Can be played at the beginning or the end.
  - Mark off spaces using a marker or pen.
- Pass the Compassion: Have kids sit in a circle. Have kids pass a squishy ball around a circle while music plays. When the music stops, the child holding the ball names one way to show kindness, compassion, or forgiveness with an example. Continue until everyone has had a turn. Feel free to give a piece of candy for correct answers.
- Book of Jonah Left Right: Sit in a circle. One child starts with the squishy ball. Read the story of Jonah. Pass left when the word LEFT is read. Pass right when the word RIGHT is read. Child holding the ball at the end wins.

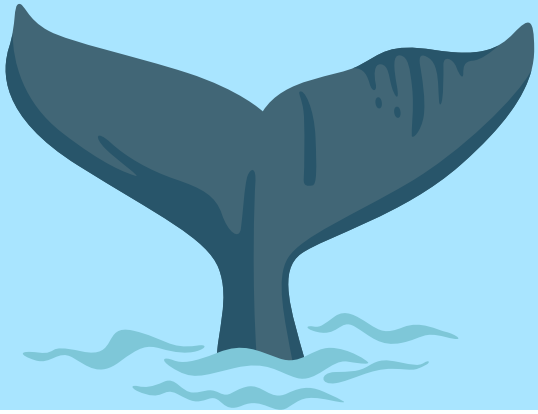
bible story

Jonah 4

big idea

God's love and compassion are bigger than our own.

Bayside | KIDS



The Book Of Jonah

November 3rd and 5th

OPENING OPTIONS
- Coloring Sheet and Table Games
- Mini Pots: Decorate mini pots as they would like. Teaching Point: We are going to learn today that Jonah cared about the plant because it helped him, but God wanted Jonah to care about the people of Nineveh, too. God's love and compassion are bigger than our own! Let this pot remind. You that God's love and compassion grow in us when we show kindness to others.
- Feel free to also play any of the closing games at the beginning

WORSHIP and STORTYTIME
- Leave one volunteer to clean up the room during storytime so you are ready to go right into small group time.

SMALL GROUP TIME (upon returning to your classroom, gather immediately on the carpet for small group time; you may not use all the questions, go through what you are able to)
- Have you ever thought someone deserved to get in trouble, but instead they were forgiven? How did you respond? (Maybe frustrated, angry, unfair; help them not to share specific names)
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- Help them to say the verse but also tell you what it means.

CLOSING OPTIONS
- Jonah Bingo
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  - Mark off spaces using a marker or pen.
- Pass the Compassion: Have kids sit in a circle. Have kids pass a squishy ball around a circle while music plays. When the music stops, the child holding the ball names one way to show kindness, compassion, or forgiveness with an example. Continue until everyone has had a turn. Feel free to give a piece of candy for correct answers.
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bible story

Jonah 4

big idea

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Bayside | KIDS