



REVIEW: Jonah

Briefly go through the story of Jonah via pop quiz or pictures.

Summarise the main Christ-focus lesson from each chapter:

1. **Jonah didn't want to go to a wicked city; Jesus came willingly to save wicked people.**

- Jonah didn't want to go to the big, wicked city of Nineveh. The people there were bad and mean, and they were all gentiles (non-Jews). He didn't want to tell them about how good God was. So he ran in the opposite direction.
- Like Jonah, Jesus was sent to save a sinful people (all of us!). But while Jonah was reluctant and didn't want to go, Jesus came willingly — He left heaven for earth and gave His own life to save us out of love for you and me.
- **Romans 5:8** *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

2. **Jonah offered his life to pay for his disobedience and save the lives of all the other sailors; Jesus gave His life to pay for our sin and save our lives.**

- "What can we do to save ourselves?" the sailors asked. But no matter how hard the sailors tried, they could not save themselves. Jonah knew he was the cause of the storm; he knew he had to be thrown overboard so that all the others could live.
- The truth is, no matter how hard we all try, we cannot save ourselves and earn eternal life. Jesus had to take OUR punishment by giving His life so that all of us could live with Him forever.

3. **Jonah was in the fish's belly for 3 days. Jesus died and rose from the dead after 3 days.**

- Jesus said in **Matthew 12:40**, *"For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth".*
When Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, he saved us from the death. Jesus said, *"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies and whoever who believes in me will never die".* (John 11:25-26)



4. We are forgiven because of Jesus' finished work on the cross.

- The King of Nineveh begged God for forgiveness, in hopes that “maybe” God will have mercy and forgive them.
- Because of Jesus' finished work on the cross, we can now enjoy God's unconditional love and complete forgiveness.

5. Jonah wanted justice. God gave grace.

- Jonah was angry that the wicked Ninevites didn't get the punishment they deserved. Jonah forgot that God also gave him grace — he was disobedient to God.
- ALL of us have sinned; all of us deserved punishment. But God, in His grace, did not give us what we deserved. Instead, through Jesus, He made us right and made us family.
- We have a gracious God!

I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. (Jonah 4:2)



ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

BOOKLET:

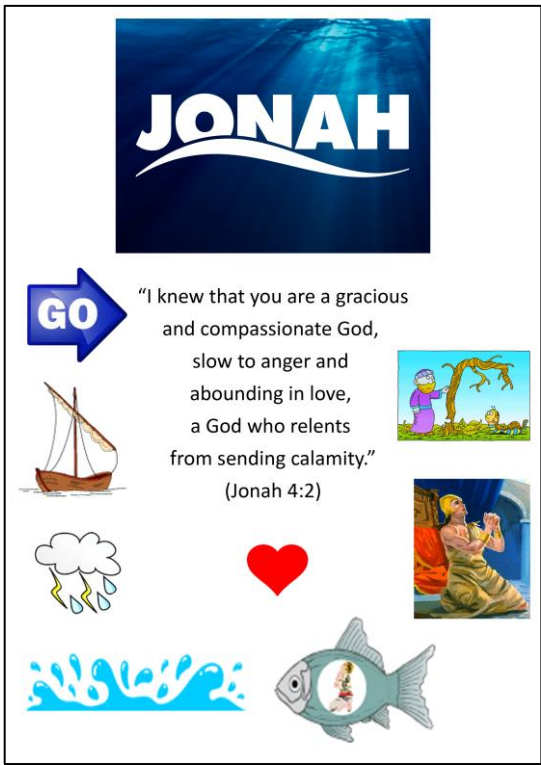
For older kids:
Get them to fill in the blanks on the cards, cut out the cards and attach them in sequence to the Fish card — and you have your own story book to remember the story and main lessons of Jonah.

For younger kids:
Prepare stickers of the pictures on each page and get the kids to stick them on the relevant pages.

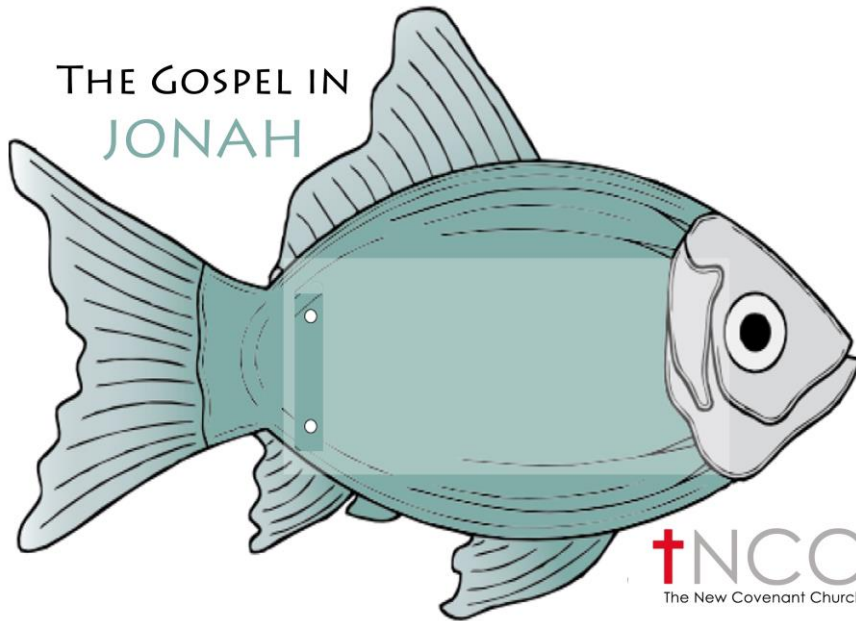


POSTER:







You may choose to do a montage instead on a single poster with the verse Jonah 4:2 in the center.









THE GOSPEL IN JONAH



TNCC
The New Covenant Church

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|---|--|
| <p>God told _____ to _____ to _____</p>  <p>1</p> |  <p>Jonah said _____, went on a boat headed to _____ to run away from _____.</p> <p>2</p> |
|  <p>God sent a great _____. and everyone was very afraid.</p> <p>3</p> |  <p>Jonah knew it was his fault and told the sailors to _____ him into the sea!</p> <p>4</p> |
| <p>But Jonah didn't die. Instead, God sent a _____ to swallow Jonah.</p>  <p>5</p> | <p>Jonah was in the belly of the fish for _____ days & nights.</p>  <p>6</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>7 Jonah _____ to God while he was in the belly of the fish. God spoke to the fish and it _____ Jonah out onto dry land.</p>  | <p>8 God told Jonah to go to Nineveh again, and this time he went and _____ to the people there.</p>  |
| <p>9 The Ninevites begged God for _____ and promised not to be wicked, and God didn't destroy the city.</p>  | <p>10 Jonah was angry that God forgave the Ninevites. God used a _____ to remind Jonah that He cares for them too.</p>  |
| <p>11 Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh because it was a _____ city. Jesus _____ came to give His life for wicked sinners (you and me)!</p>  | <p>12 "I knew that you are a _____ and _____ God, slow to anger and abounding in _____, a God who relents from sending calamity." (Jonah 4:2)</p>  |