

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What is mercy? How has God shown us mercy?
- What can you do when someone opposes you because of Jesus?
- Challenge each person to tell one person about Jesus this week. Discuss what you might say.

Jonah, Prophet to Nineveh

Jonah

STORY POINT: GOD LOVES ALL PEOPLE AND SHOWED MERCY TO THE NINEVITES.

God told Jonah, "Go to the great city of Nineveh. Tell them to stop doing evil things." Jonah did not want to go. He got on a boat heading the other way! God sent a terrible storm, and the sailors were afraid. The sailors asked Jonah, "Who are you? What are you doing here?"

Jonah replied, "I worship the one true God who made everything."

The sailors did not know what to do, so Jonah told them to throw him into the sea. When they did, the storm stopped. God sent a big fish to swallow Jonah. Jonah prayed and thanked God for sending the fish to save him. Then the fish vomited Jonah onto dry land.

God told Jonah, "Go to Nineveh and preach My message." So Jonah went. He shouted God's message: "In 40 days, Nineveh will be destroyed!"

The people turned from their evil ways. Even the king repented. God decided not to destroy Nineveh.

"I knew it!" Jonah said. "You are a gracious God. I knew You would decide to not destroy Nineveh. I am so mad!"

"Is it right for you to be angry?" God asked.

"Yes!" Jonah said.

God said, "Nineveh is a big city with thousands of people. I created them and care about them."

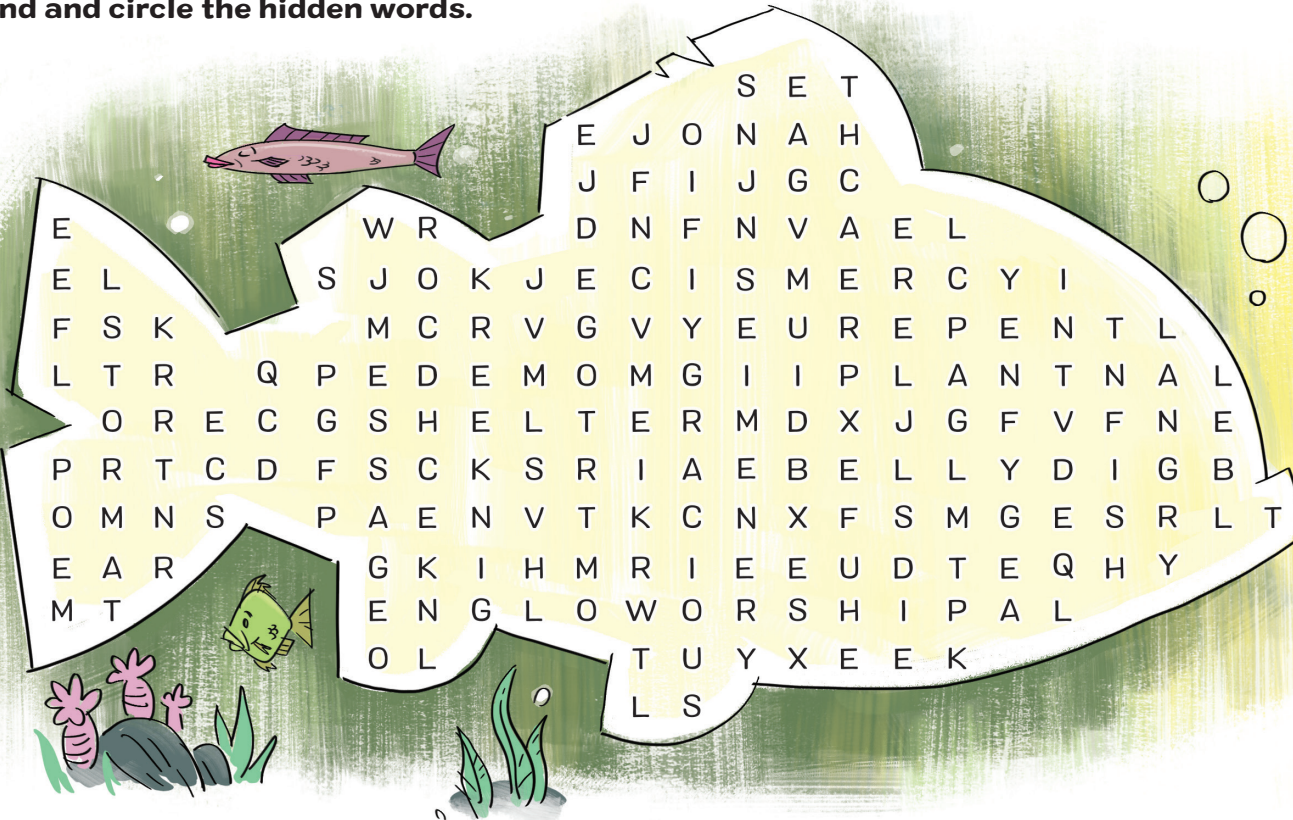
Christ Connection: God called Jonah to go to his enemies and call them to turn away from their sin, but Jonah refused. Instead, he ran away. Later, God sent Jesus to His enemies to call us to repentance. Jesus willingly obeyed. Jesus died on the cross to rescue us from sin.



FOLD

Underwater Word Search

Find and circle the hidden words.



WORD LIST

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| ANGRY | MERCY |
| BELLY | MESSAGE |
| DESTROY | NINEVEH |
| ENEMIES | PLANT |
| FISH | PREACH |
| GRACIOUS | REPENT |
| HOT | SHELTER |
| JONAH | STORM |
| LOTS | WORM |
| LOVING | WORSHIP |



THE STORY OF JONAH

Correct each sentence by choosing a word from the word list to replace the underlined word.

God told the prophet Jonah, "Go to the great city of Jerusalem. Tell them to stop doing evil things." _____

Instead, Jonah got in a boat going the other way. God sent a rainbow, and the sailors were afraid. _____

Jonah told the sailors to throw him into the sea. God sent a big octopus to swallow Jonah. _____

Jonah was in the tail of the fish three days and three nights. _____

The fish vomited Jonah onto dry land. God told Jonah, "Go to Nineveh and preach My dreams." _____

So Jonah went. The people turned from their evil ways and God decided not to invade Nineveh. _____

Jonah was so happy. He sat outside the city to see what God would do. _____

God provided a plant for Jonah, but the next day God sent a snake that attacked the plant. _____

God said, "Aren't the people and animals in Nineveh more important than a party?" _____

Many years later, God sent Jesus to His friends to call us to repentance. _____

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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How do you know someone loves you?
- How did God show His love for us?
- Share about a time you felt hurt. Were you able to forgive? Why?

Hosea, Prophet to Israel

Hosea

STORY POINT: GOD IS FAITHFUL TO HIS PEOPLE EVEN WHEN THEY DO NOT LOVE HIM.

God wanted to send a message to His people. So God gave instructions to the prophet Hosea. "Marry a woman who will not be faithful to you," God said. "Be a father to her children." God was going to use Hosea's life to show His people in Israel what God's love for them was like. Hosea's wife would love other men instead of Hosea, just like the people of Israel loved and worshiped other gods instead of the one true God.

Hosea obeyed God. He married a woman named Gomer. Gomer was not faithful to Hosea. She often ran away. In the same way, God's people turned away from Him. They worshiped false gods. God told Hosea to go after his wife. So Hosea found Gomer and paid to get her back.

Gomer had not loved her husband like a wife should, but Hosea loved her anyway. God gave Hosea a love that would never give up. God wanted the people of Israel to understand that they were like Gomer. The Israelites did not love God like they should, but God loved Israel anyway.

Just like Hosea paid a high price to get back his wife who did not love him, God had a plan to get His people back no matter the cost.

Christ Connection: God used Hosea's unfaithful wife to show the people of Israel that they were unfaithful to Him. God gave Hosea a deep love; Hosea was willing to buy back Gomer even after all she had done. God's love is deep, and it never gives up. He goes after His people and paid a great price to get us back.



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All Mixed Up

Unscramble the words of the big picture answer and write them below.

Why should we obey God?

_____ , _____ , _____

_____ .

EW SLUOHD OEBY GDO BAUCESE EH MDAE SU, EH LVOES SU, DNA ISH PNALS ERA OODG.

Hosea 4:1

Hosea 14:1-2

Wrong and Right

Look up each Scripture reference and write the messages in your own words.



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Discuss consequences your family has established for certain behaviors.
- Talk about how you feel when you do something wrong.
- Does God punish us as we deserve? Why or why not?

Israel Taken Captive

2 Kings 17

STORY POINT: ISRAEL IGNORED GOD'S PROPHETS AND WAS CAPTURED.

God had done so many good things for the Israelites. Even though God loved them like a father, the Israelites forgot about God. They worshiped things that were not God, and they did exactly what God told them not to do.

So God sent prophets to warn the people to stop doing evil things. The prophets said bad things would happen if they did not obey God. Did Israel obey? No. In fact, they sinned even more!

God finally had enough. He loved His people too much to let them continue in their sin and rebellion. So God punished the people of Israel by letting their enemies take over.

One day, the king of Assyria and his army attacked Israel. King Hoshea was thrown into prison. The Assyrian army surrounded the capital of Israel.

Finally, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and forced the people to leave their homes. He made them walk hundreds of miles to Assyria. The Northern Kingdom of Israel was destroyed.

Christ Connection: When the Israelites disobeyed God again and again, God punished them by removing them from His presence. We disobey God, but Jesus took the punishment for our sin upon Himself. Jesus brings us into God's presence and keeps us there.



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Tribes of Israel

Fill in the missing vowels in the names of the tribes that made up the Northern Kingdom of Israel.



R _ _ B _ N

M _ N _ S S _ H

G _ D

S _ M _ _ N

_ S H _ R

_ P H R _ _ M

N _ P H T _ L _

_ S S _ C H _ R

D _ N

Z _ B _ L _ N

CAPTIVITY QUIZ

Check the box to answer each question or statement.

1. God loved the Israelites, and they never disobeyed Him. (2 Kings 17:16)

True False

2. Whom did God send to warn the people to stop doing evil things? (2 Kings 17:13)

soldiers prophets

3. The Israelites listened to the prophets. (2 Kings 17:14)

True False

4. Who was the last king of Israel? (2 Kings 17:1)

David Hoshea

5. God loved His people too much to let them continue in their sin.

True False

6. Who attacked and captured Israel? (2 Kings 17:5)

Assyria Babylon

7. What is the punishment of sin? (Romans 6:23)

prison death

8. Jesus took the punishment for our sin upon Himself.

True False