

Large Group Leader:

Time	What to Do	Materials
10 minutes	Set up Computer with songs on Youtube, google slides powerpoint for today	
3 minutes	Start timer. Invite classes to join	Timer video
2 minutes	Welcome kids Collect the offering: For wells in Africa	Offering bag
	Birthdays: No birthdays this week	
2 minutes	Leader: God told Jonah, "Go!" Kids: But Jonah ran away! Leader: Can we ever hide from God? Kids: No! God is always with us! Leader: Did God give up on Jonah? Kids: No! God showed Jonah mercy! Leader: Did God show mercy to Nineveh? Kids: Yes! God loves to forgive! Leader: Who should we listen to and obey? Kids: God! Leader: Who is loving, patient, and merciful? Kids: God! Leader: So let's worship our great God today! Kids: We will worship Him with joy!	Bible
10 minutes singing	Trust You - LifeTree Kids	Video
	Good Good Father - Lifetree Kids	Video
	Tell the story – Page 61	

3 minutes	Watch the video of the story	powerpoint
	Questions pg. 62 1. What did God call Jonah to do? 2. How did God show compassion and mercy to Jonah? 3. What did the people of Nineveh do when they heard the message from Jonah? 4. How did Jonah feel about that?	
	Questions from kids video: 1. How do you repent? 2. Why do Christians continue to repent of sin?	Video
2 minutes	Lord, thank You for loving us even though we are sinners. Help us trust You and follow You in everything we say and do. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, so we can be saved from sin. In Jesus' name, amen.	
1 minute	Do the blessing with them: May the Lord Bless You and Keep you. May he make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favour and give you peace."	



LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Jonah. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Jonah, Prophet to Nineveh.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

JONAH, PROPHET TO NINEVEH

“ God told Jonah to preach to the great city of Nineveh, because their sin against God was great. Jonah immediately got up to try to flee from the Lord’s presence. He did not want to go to Nineveh, so he boarded a boat to Tarshish.

The Lord sent a great storm on the sea. Jonah knew the storm was because of him and that if his shipmates would throw him overboard, the sea would calm down and they would live. The sailors picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the waves stilled, and the wind stopped.

The Lord sent a large fish to swallow Jonah. Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Jonah prayed and thanked God for sending the fish to save him. Then the Lord commanded the fish to spit Jonah up on dry land. God said again to Jonah, “Get up! Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach the message that I tell you.” This time, Jonah obeyed.

When Jonah got to Nineveh, he walked around the city and shouted, “In forty days, Nineveh will be destroyed!” The people of Nineveh believed what God said through Jonah. They fasted and dressed in sackcloth, from the rich to the poor. Even the king fasted and put on sackcloth, saying, “Each of us must turn from our evil ways. Who knows? Maybe God will turn from his anger, and we will not die.” God saw the actions of the Ninevites and did not destroy them.

This made Jonah very angry. He prayed to God and said, “God, this is why I ran away from Nineveh! I knew that you are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.”

Jonah traveled outside the city and sat down to see if God would change his mind and destroy the city after all. God caused a large plant to grow up to give him shade. Then God caused the plant to die, so that the sun beat down on Jonah’s head. Jonah was angry.

God said, “You cared about the plant, which you did not plant or grow. Can’t I care about a city full of people who don’t know right from wrong?”

Christ Connection: Jonah spent three days in a fish so that the people of Nineveh could hear God’s message, turn from sin, and be saved. Jesus was in the tomb for three days so that we could hear and trust the gospel, turn from sin, and be saved. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Use props: Display a plastic fish or a picture of a boat to help keep kids’ attention as you tell the story.

Use sound effects: While teaching the first part of the story, play sound effects of waves, rain, or a storm.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY 🗣️ Jonah was disobedient and tried to run away from what God wanted him to do. What did God call Jonah to do? [Allow responses.] **GOD SENT JONAH TO NINEVEH TO TELL THE PEOPLE TO TURN FROM THEIR SINFUL WAYS.** Even though Jonah tried to run away, God's plans cannot be stopped. While Jonah was on the ship, God sent a storm.

To stop the storm, the men on the ship threw Jonah overboard. How did God show compassion and mercy for Jonah? [Allow responses.] God sent a great fish to swallow Jonah. God saved Jonah's life. While Jonah was in the belly of the fish, he prayed to God, thanking Him for showing him mercy and grace. Jonah did not deserve God's mercy. In fact, no one deserves the mercy of God because we are all sinners.

Jonah eventually obeyed God and went to Nineveh. Jonah warned the people that God was going to destroy them because of their sin. What did the people of Nineveh do when they heard Jonah's message? [Allow responses.] The Ninevites repented of their sin. They turned to God and called out to Him, hoping He would be merciful. God saw they turned from their evil ways, and He showed mercy.

But Jonah became angry that God did not destroy Nineveh. The Ninevites were Israel's enemy, and Jonah wanted God to punish them. God tried to help Jonah understand His grace and compassion through the plant, which at first provided shade and then died. Jonah was concerned for the plant, even though he didn't plant it. But Jonah didn't care for the people in Nineveh whom God made in His image. God cared for them, and in love, showed them mercy when they repented, just like He showed Jonah mercy in the storm. 🗣️

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY 🗣️ Jonah spent three days in a fish so that the people of Nineveh could hear God's message, turn from sin, and be saved. Jesus was in the tomb for three days so that we could hear and trust the gospel, turn from sin, and be saved. Have you repented of your sin? 🗣️

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the "Unit 14, Session 2" Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. How do you repent?
2. Why do Christians continue to repent of sin?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Point to Iran on a world map. Display the "George and Joan Braswell Photo" as you tell the kids about the missionaries and about life in Iran.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

SAY “ Dr. George and his wife, Joan, were missionaries in Iran from 1968 to 1974. At the time the Braswells lived in Iran, people mostly traveled on camels, motorcycles, and motorbikes. Now Iran has many options for transportation, including: buses, trains, taxis, and subways. Common foods in Iran include: lamb, rice, yogurt, bread, and fruit. Also, tea is an important part of the Iranian culture. Iranians drink tea after each meal and in between meals. They put sugar cubes in their mouths and sip the tea through the cube. ”

Discuss how missionaries have to learn about the people and the culture when they travel to a new country. Share how learning about the culture is one way missionaries can form relationships with people and find common interests. Pray for missionaries in Iran, asking God to help them form relationships and share the gospel with those they meet.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Deuteronomy 13:4 together.

SAY “ Our key passage reminds us that we should follow God, listen to God, and worship God always. God’s way is always the best way, and we can trust Him no matter what. ”

Form kids into two teams. Write the key passage on a dry erase board, leaving out three to five words. Place blank spaces for the letters of each missing word. Challenge teams to fill in the letters of the missing words before you draw a complete stick figure on the dry erase board. For each incorrect letter, draw a part of a stick figure. Invite each team to take turns guessing letters.

Lead kids to sing “Faithful to Him (Deuteronomy 13:4).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “ Lord, thank You for loving us even though we are sinners. Help us trust You and follow You in everything we say and do. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, so we can be saved from sin. In Jesus’ name, amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**



