

August 12, 2018

Bible Words: "God's way is perfect." 2 Samuel 22:31, NIV

Jonah • *Jonah 1:1–3:10*

Bottom Line: God's way is perfect.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

The extended toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the Bible Truth and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. The same Bible Truth will be told in four (or five) different ways throughout the month allowing for the repetition toddlers need and crave.

Bible Time

- Show It

Craft Time

- Jonah

Play Time

- Where's Jonah?

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Bible Time

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the Bible Truth. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That’s OK. They’re still listening and learning!

What You Need: Preschool Bible, “Bible Story Pictures”

LEADER: “Hello, friends! Come sit over here with me. It’s time to hear our TRUTH straight from the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) Today I want to tell you a Bible Truth about a man named Jonah. (*Show picture of Jonah.*)

“One day, God told Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh. But Jonah didn’t want to go to Nineveh because it was full of people who were not nice! God wanted Jonah to go to Nineveh and tell the people there to be nice and to go God’s way. But instead of going to Nineveh, Jonah hopped on a boat and went the other direction. (*Show picture of boat.*)

“Jonah didn’t listen to God, so God sent a BIG storm to get his attention while he was on the boat. Then Jonah jumped out of that boat to save the other people on board! Once he was in the water, God sent a BIG fish to swallow Jonah up. (*Show picture of big fish.*) Can you believe it? Jonah was inside a BIG FISH!! (*Show picture of Jonah in fish.*)

“Jonah was sorry that he didn’t go God’s way, and he prayed to God, asking for another chance to go God’s way. So God made the giant fish SPIT him out.

“As soon as Jonah was on dry land, he KNEW what he had to do. He had to go God’s way! So Jonah went to Nineveh. And do you know what happened? Jonah told them about God’s way and how perfect it is, and they decided to go God’s way too! Hooray!

“And we should go God’s way too. His way is PERFECT. **Whose way is perfect?**
[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect.”

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Craft Time

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That’s OK. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

What You Need: “Jonah” and “Fish” Activity Pages and glue sticks

What You Do:

During the Activity: Retell the Bible Truth as the children glue Jonah inside the fish.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Today we learned about a man named Jonah. One day, God told Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh. But Jonah didn’t want to go to Nineveh. Instead of going to Nineveh, Jonah got on a boat and went the other direction.

“God sent a BIG storm to get his attention while he was on the boat. Then Jonah jumped out of that boat to save the other people on board! Once he was in the water, God sent a BIG fish to swallow Jonah up. Can you believe it? Jonah was inside a BIG FISH!

“Jonah was sorry that he didn’t go God’s way, and he prayed to God, asking for another chance to go God’s way. So God made the giant fish SPIT him out.”

“As soon as Jonah was on dry land, he KNEW what he had to do. He had to go God’s way! So Jonah went to Nineveh. Jonah told everyone there about God’s way and how perfect it is, and they decided to go God’s way too! Hooray!

“Look at your paper. It’s the big fish! Who was inside the big fish? Right, Jonah was in the big fish. Let’s glue him in the fish.

“Jonah finally went God’s way, and we should go God’s way too. His way is PERFECT. **Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect.**”

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Playtime

Where’s Jonah?

What You Need: Plastic tub, blue craft fluffs, Little People man, plastic or foam fish

What You Do: Before introducing the tub to the children, place Little People man and fish in it. Then place a layer of blue craft fluffs on top. Encourage the children to remove the items from the tub and identify them. Continue as long as there is interest.

What You Say: “Hello, friends. Look in this tub. It’s full of blue like the ocean. I wonder what we can find in the ocean. It’s a man. Oh, and there are some fish. There is a Truth in the Bible where a man named Jonah got swallowed by a big fish. He learned that God’s way is perfect.”