**August 19, 2018**

**Bible Words:** “God’s way is perfect.” 2 Samuel 22:31, NIrV

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

* Draw It

Craft Time

* Handprint Fish

Play Time

* Everywhere I Go

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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, butcher paper, markers

**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 truth about a man named Jonah. *(Draw Jonah.)*

“One day, God told Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh. *(Draw a quick set of buildings to one side of Jonah.)* 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. *(Draw arrow in opposite direction of the city.)*

“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. *(Draw a big fish around Jonah.)* 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. *(Draw arrow from Jonah 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:** “Handprint Fish” Activity Page, stamp pads and wet wipes

**What You Do:**

*During the Activity:* Retell the Bible truth as the children fill the fish with their handprint.

**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! Let’s use our handprint to fill the fish. *(Do the activity.)* Great job!

“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**

Everywhere I Go

**What You Need:** Push toys or riding toys

**What You Do:** Give each child in a small group a push or riding toy. Lead them on a journey around the room pretending to go to different places. Each time you get to a different place, say, “God’s way is perfect.” Continue as long as there is interest.

### What You Say: “Can you push/ride your toy over this way? Let’s pretend we’re going to the park. We’re at the park! Yay! God’s way is perfect at the park. Let’s push/ride our toys over here. We can pretend we’re at the store. God’s way is perfect at the store. We can always trust God and go His way because God’s way is perfect.”