



Date: _____
Series: **Jonah**
Fall Year 2, Lesson 21

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

Take Home Point: *Tell others “God loves you.”

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. Leaders say the phrase and the children repeat it.

Bible Event: Jonah 1-3

We will help children know:

- Jonah listened to God and told others about God’s love.
- God wants us to tell others about him.




We will help children feel:

- Secure in knowing that God always loves them.
- Happy to tell others about God.

We will help children do:

- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat a snack that reminds us of God’s love.
- Make a craft that tells everyone that God loves them.
- Play a learning game called *Should You Tell?* and a movement game called *Beanbag Love*.
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce the learning of today’s Take Home Point: ***Tell others “God loves you.”**

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Warm-Up (5-10 minutes)	3	Transition Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> toys of your choice
Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes) 	3	Sing (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> songs of your choice Bubba puppet sample of today's craft <i>optional: video, The Beginners Bible: The Story of Jonah and the Whale; distributed by Sony Music Entertainment, Inc.—order from www.amazon.com</i> children's picture Bible
	3	Puppet Presentation (<i>Optional: video during puppet presentation</i>)	
	4	Bible Reading	
Small Group Application (10 minutes—each activity) 	6	Activity 1: Acting Out Bible Event	<i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> children's picture Bible
	9	Activity 2: Snack	<i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> napkins cups of water wafer cookies red or pink tube frosting
	10	Activity 3: Craft	<i>Activity 3: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> copies of Appendix A on regular paper construction paper foam shapes glue sticks crayons or markers
	11	Activity 4: Learning Game Movement Game	<i>Activity 4: Games</i> <i>Learning Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> none <i>Movement Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> beanbags hula hoop or bucket
Large Group Wrap-up (5-10 minutes) 	14	Review Lesson and Take Home Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> songs of your choice
	14	Pray	
	15	Sing (Optional)	

Warm-Up (Prior to class and first 10 minutes of the session.)

Young children this age need a time to get acquainted with the new surroundings as they enter the classroom. Provide a variety of calm activities and toys such as blocks, play centers and simple puzzles. These activities create an environment that helps young children let go of Mom and Dad. If necessary, Mom and Dad may play with them for a few minutes and then leave.

Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)



Purpose: You may use singing as a large group activity and to gather attention. The opening puppet presentation is a quick overview introducing the Bible Event and Take Home Point. Early childhood humor is also used. Bubba often says something silly about elephants. Judy says something silly about pink ponies. Let the children enjoy the “joke” but use it to call attention to the Bible Event.

Singing: Use music of your choice.

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: children’s picture Bible, sample of the craft

Bubba Shares with a Bully

Presenter: Boys and girls, let’s call Bubba.

Kids call for Bubba. **Bubba... Bubba... Bubba.** Bubba comes onstage with the craft to be made in Activity 2 in his hands.

Presenter: Hi, Bubba. What do you have in your hand?

Bubba: I’m so excited. This is the craft we are going to make today.

Presenter: That’s wonderful.

Bubba: Yeah, I found it on the craft table. I can’t wait to make one just like it.

Presenter: Who are you going to give it to? Your mom?

Bubba: No.

Presenter: Your dad?

Bubba: No.

Presenter: Your friend?

Bubba: No.

Presenter: Well, who then?

Bubba: I'm going to give it to Billy.

Presenter: Is he your friend?

Bubba: No.

Presenter: Who is he?

Bubba: He lives next door. But he is very mean to me. He's not my friend.

Presenter: But you are going to give him today's craft?

Bubba: Yes, because my mom says I should be nice to others.

Presenter: That's wonderful. Did you know that we are going to learn about that today? And we are going to learn what Billy needs most of all.

Bubba: What does he need most of all?

Presenter: He needs to know about Jesus. We can tell others God loves them. Today we will learn about Jonah. Remember last week, when Jonah did not obey, and he was swallowed by the fish? God rescued Jonah. Today we will see if Jonah ever did obey and if he told others that God loves them. Would you like to hear about it?

Bubba: Yes, I would.

Presenter: See what I am holding? This is the Bible. It is God's word. Everything in the Bible is true. Now I am going to read about our lesson from the Bible. Let's put on our listening ears.

Read the Bible Event from a children's picture Bible. You may also use the video option.

Video Option:

Today instead of reading the Bible, we are going to watch it on video.

Video name: *The Beginners Bible: The Story of Jonah and the Whale* (Sony Music Entertainment, Inc.)

Start time after opening credits: 19:07

Spoken Cue: "After that, Jonah was no longer alone."

End time: 23:08

Spoken Cue: "Go home Jonah, it will be okay." (God speaking)

Total length of clip: 3 minutes, 59 seconds

Presenter: Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Tell others "God loves you." Tell others "God loves you."

Bubba, will you help us sing our song of the week?

Bubba: Sure, I love to sing.

Song: to the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.
Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.
HE WILL take CARE of YOU.
Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
Help us tell others Help us tell others
About your love. About your love.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Small Group Application (30-40 minutes)



Purpose: Young children learn best by repetition. Review the Bible Event and practice the Take Home Point as you rotate through the activities.

The shepherd to child ratio for three-year-olds should be one to six or fewer. Divide into groups of six with one shepherd or have a slightly larger group with two shepherds.

Groups rotate from activity to activity. Another option, especially for larger churches, is to provide a leader at each activity table with a shepherd leading a group of up to twelve. The ratio will be maintained at one to six.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

Activity 1: Acting Out the Bible Event

Supplies:

- Children's picture Bible

Jonah Goes to Nineveh

Jonah 1-3

Introduction

Hold up a children's picture Bible.

This is the Bible. It is God's word. Let's act out what it says in the Bible. When you see me do the actions, you do them too.

God gives Jonah a job.

- **God told Jonah to go to a city far away called Nineveh.** Walk in place.
- **Jonah did not want to go.** Shake head "no."
- **Nobody liked the people in Nineveh because they did mean things.** Cross your arms and turn your head away.
- **But God still loved the people of Nineveh. He wanted them to know who he was. He wanted them to stop doing mean things.** Make a fist and mean face.
- **God wanted Jonah to go to Nineveh, but Jonah did not obey.** Shake head "no."

Jonah runs away from God.

- **Jonah ran away and got on a boat that was going far away from Nineveh. While Jonah was sleeping** (rest head on hands, eyes closed), **a huge storm came.**
- **The ship was blown by big winds.** Put your arms in the air and sway back and forth.
- **The ship was tossing and spinning.** Spin around.
- **The rain was pouring down.** Put your arms in air, and bring them down quickly.
- **The captain of the ship woke up Jonah.** Pretend to tap on someone.
- **He said, “How can you sleep? Get up and pray to your God.”** Fold hands in prayer.
- **Jonah knew the storm was his fault, because he did not obey God.** Shake head “no.”
- **God wanted to stop Jonah from running away.** Hold hand out like a stop sign.
- **Jonah told the captain to throw him out of the boat.** Pretend to throw him out.
- **Jonah said then the storm would stop.** Hold hand out like a stop sign.
- **They threw Jonah out of the boat and into the water.** Pretend to throw him out.
- **Splash! The storm stopped.** Hold hand out like a stop sign.

God sends a big fish.

- **Jonah tried to swim, but the waves were too big.** Pretend to swim.
- **He started to sink down under the water.** Hands high in the air then slowly lower.
- **Jonah thought he was going to die. God sent a big fish.** Make a fish face—hah!
- **Did Jonah catch the fish? No!**
- **Did Jonah ride on top of the fish? No.**
- **Did Jonah hold onto the fish’s tail? No.**
- **So what happened? God told the fish to swallow Jonah, (open mouth wide and take big gulp) but not to chew him up.**
- **Jonah was inside the fish for three days and three nights. Let’s count to three. One...two...three.**

Jonah is sorry.

- **Jonah had lots of time to think while he was in the big fish.** Point to head.
- **Jonah prayed.** Fold hands.
- **He said, “I’m sorry, God, for running away.” He said, “I’m sorry for not obeying.” He said, “Please forgive me and help me.” Do you think God heard his prayer and would help him?** Cup hand behind ear and nod your head “yes.”
- **Jonah wondered how he would get out of the fish. Then he felt the fish swim.** Hands make swimming fish motions.
- **Then he felt the fish stop. Then a rumble began in the fish’s stomach.** Pat your stomach.
- **The fish opened its mouth and spit Jonah on the sand.**

God said, “Go to Nineveh.”

- **Jonah was so happy to be out of the fish. Give me a big smile.**
- **He was so happy to be on dry land. He was so happy that God rescued him. But now God said, “Jonah, obey me and go to Nineveh and tell them about me.”** Point away from group.
- **Do you think Jonah went to Nineveh this time?** Nod head “yes.”

The people of Nineveh listen to God’s message.

- **Jonah told the people of Nineveh that God wanted them to stop doing bad things, to love God and to obey him. The people of Nineveh listened to Jonah.** Put your hand behind the ear.
- **They believed God’s message. They stopped doing mean things.** Hold hand up like a stop sign.
- **They were very sorry. God forgave them and loved them.**

We can tell others about God’s love.

- **God wanted the people to believe in him. Do you think they believed in him?** Nod your head “yes.”
- **They were thankful that Jonah told them that God loved them. We can do the same. *Tell others, “God loves you!”** Hug yourself.

Pray, Sing and Review the Take Home Point

Prayer:

Let’s fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

**Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.**

Help us tell others Help us tell others
About your love. About your love.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.
HE WILL take CARE of YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Tell others "God loves you." Tell others "God loves you."

Activity 2: Snack

Supplies:

- Napkins
- Cups and water
- Round wafer cookies
- Pink or red tube frosting

Be aware of any food allergies children may have.

Make a heart shape on the flat bottom of the cookie to show the children.

Today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of God's love.
Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and say a prayer.
Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
Help us tell others Help us tell others
About your love. About your love.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Today we have been learning how God wants us to tell others about his love. A heart reminds us of love. Today I am going to give you a few cookies.

Pass out napkins and two or three wafer cookies.

Don't eat them yet. I will come around and put a heart on them with this frosting just like I did on this one.

Show them the prepared cookie. Pass out cups of water.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Tell others "God loves you." Tell others "God loves you."

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.
HE WILL take CARE of YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.**

Activity 3: Craft

Children take pride in making something themselves. Resist trying to do too much for children so that they can say, "I did it myself."

Supplies:

- Copies of Appendix A on regular paper, one copy per two children
- Various colors of construction paper, one per child
- Foam shapes
- Glue sticks
- Crayons or markers



Before class, cut Appendix in half so you have two.

Boys and girls, today we are going to make a craft that will tell others about God's love. Can you think of ways we tell people things? Wait for answers from children.

We can also tell people things by writing a letter, talking to them, and by watching it on TV. Today we are going to make our own TV that will tell everyone "God loves you."

First, I am going to let you choose a color of construction paper that will be your TV. Now I want you to glue this program on your TV (*Appendix A*). Your program tells everyone that God loves them. Now you can color the program (*heart*) on your TV. When you are finished with that, take these foam shapes and glue them on your TV for all the buttons and knobs that a TV needs.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Tell others "God loves you." Tell others "God loves you."

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.
HE WILL take CARE of YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.
Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
Help us tell others Help us tell others
About your love. About your love.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Activity 4: Games

Choose one or both games to play. Children with lots of wiggles should play the Movement Game first.

Learning Game

Supplies:

- none

Today we have been learning that we should tell others that God loves you. We are going to play a game called *Should You Tell?* I will ask you the questions and you can answer the question and do the actions. The game will help you to know who to tell about God's love.

1. You go to the grocery store with Mommy and see the person at the cash register. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend to press the keys on a cash register.

2. You are at the park and see some other children. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend we are climbing on the playground equipment.
3. You go to Grandpa and Grandma's house. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend to give them a kiss.
4. You go to the doctor and see other children waiting. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend to look into someone's ears.
5. You go to the movies and sit next to someone you do not know. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend that we see something funny at the movies.
6. You go to a birthday party with other people. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend to eat a piece of birthday cake.
7. You go to your friend's house to play. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend to stack some blocks and knock them over.
8. You go to your big brother's soccer game and sit by other people. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's pretend to kick a soccer ball and bounce it on our head.
9. You go to dance class with other children. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's be dancers.
10. You go to church and sit by someone you do not know. Should you tell them that God loves them? Yes! Let's fold our hands like we do when we pray.

Movement Game

Supplies:

- *Beanbags*
- *Hula-hoop or bucket*

We are going to play a game called *Beanbag Love* to remind us that God loves everyone. I will give you a beanbag and I want you to start here.

Indicate a place about five feet from the hula-hoop or bucket.

I want you to take the beanbag and run up and throw it in the hula-hoop and say the name of someone that God loves. I will show you how. Demonstrate.

Everyone will get a turn.

If you have time, you can play another round. If children are reluctant to name someone, ask them, "Does God love you?" Since the answer is "yes," run up and throw the beanbag in the hoop.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Tell others "God loves you." Tell others "God loves you."

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.
HE WILL take CARE of YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.

Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
Help us tell others Help us tell others
About your love. About your love.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)



Lesson Review:

Presenter reviews the lesson with questions or by supplying key parts of the lesson with some words left out. Children are to supply the answers as the presenter shares the Bible Event.

See if you know the words I'm thinking of when I tell the Bible Event. If you know it, you may say it out loud without raising your hand.

God wanted Jonah to go to Nineveh to ____ (*tell others about God*). Did Jonah do what God wanted him to do? (*No.*) Jonah went away on a ____ (*boat*). God sent a big storm. What did the sailors on the boat do with Jonah? (*Threw him overboard.*) What happened to Jonah? (*A big fish swallowed him.*) How many days was Jonah in the big fish? (*Three.*) How did Jonah get to Nineveh? (*The fish spit him on the sandy shore of Nineveh.*) Did Jonah tell the people in Nineveh about God's love? (*Yes.*) Did the people stop doing bad things? (*Yes.*)

Lesson Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
Help us tell others Help us tell others
About your love. About your love.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Lesson Song:

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

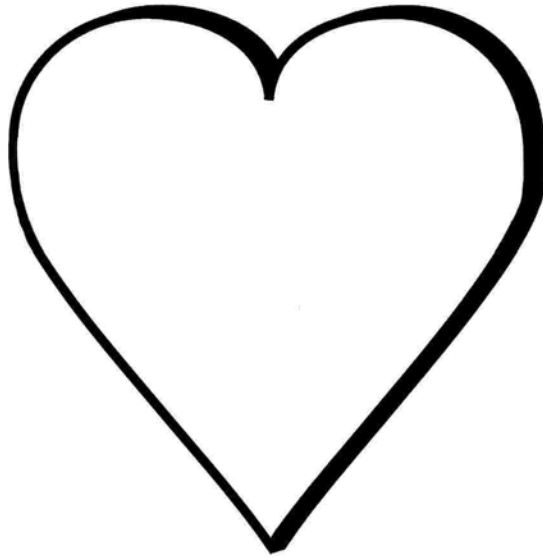
Tell OTH-hers GOD loves YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.
HE WILL take CARE of YOU.
Tell OTH-ers GOD loves YOU.

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Tell others "God loves you." Tell others "God loves you."

Lead the children in singing songs from a CD until parents begin arriving. Let parents know that they are welcome to join in. Dismiss by handing out God Talk at Home.

Tell others “God Loves You.”



Tell others “God Loves You.”

