

Family Worship Guide: Lesson 22

Jonah

Main Idea

From the beginning of time, it has been the mission of God to make His kingdom known throughout the earth and throughout the ages. Before Jesus came to earth, this mission was carried out by the patriarchs, judges, kings, and prophets. Jonah was one of the prophets the Lord used to make His kingdom known.

Scripture Readings

- ✠ **Jonah 1:1–3** – The Lord calls Jonah to go to Nineveh, but Jonah runs away.
- ✠ **Jonah 1:15–17** – The Lord rescues Jonah by appointing a great fish.
- ✠ **Jonah 3:1–5, 10** – Jonah obeys, Nineveh repents, and God shows mercy.
- ✠ **Jonah 4:1–4, 10–11** – Jonah is angry, but God teaches him about mercy and compassion.

Lesson Review

Q What did the Lord command Jonah to do?

A *The Lord commanded Jonah to go to Nineveh and proclaim God's message to the people there. (Jonah 1:1–2)*

Q How did Jonah respond to God's command at first?

A *Jonah disobeyed the Lord and tried to flee in the opposite direction. (Jonah 1:3)*

Q How did God rescue Jonah when he was thrown into the sea?

A *God appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah and keep him alive. (Jonah 1:17)*



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Q What happened when Jonah finally preached to the people of Nineveh?

A *The people repented of their sins, and God showed them mercy. (Jonah 3:5, 10)*

Q How does Jonah's story point us forward to Christ?

A *Jonah was sent to call sinners to repentance, but Jesus is the greater prophet who willingly came to rescue sinners through His death and resurrection. (cf. Jonah 3; Matthew 12:40)*

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Q But what shall be done to the wicked at their death?

A *The souls of the wicked shall, at their death, be cast into the torments of hell, and their bodies lie in their graves till the resurrection and judgment of the great day (Luk 16:23-24; Act 2:24; Jude 1:5, 7; 1Pe 3:19; Psa 49:14).*

Q What shall be done to the wicked at the Day of Judgment?

A *At the Day of Judgment, the bodies of the wicked, being raised out of their graves, shall be sentenced, together with their souls, to unspeakable torments with the devil and his angels forever (Joh 5:28-29; Mat 25:41, 46; 2Th 1:8-9).*

Family Devotion Questions

Q Why didn't Jonah want to obey the Lord?

A *Because Jonah did not love the people of Nineveh and did not want God to forgive them.*

Q Why is it important for people to hear about God?



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A *Because people need to repent of their sins and know God's mercy for them in Jesus Christ.*

Q What makes it hard to talk to others about Jesus?

A *We can be afraid, uncomfortable, or not loving others as we should.*

Q How can you help others know God?

A *By obeying God and telling others about Jesus with love.*

Q How can *you* know God and receive His mercy?

A *By turning away from sin and trusting in Jesus Christ, who died and rose again to save sinners.*

Prayer

Lord God, You are a God of great mercy. You showed compassion to Jonah, to the people of Nineveh, and to us through Jesus Christ. Help us to obey You, to love our neighbors, and to gladly share the good news of salvation. Teach us to rejoice in Your mercy and trust You with our lives. Amen.