

Ev Preschool Kids: Jonah Runs

(Jonah 1:1-16)

You can't run from God. God is everywhere.

13 September 2020



Kids Talk

A long time ago there lived a man named Jonah.
One day God said to Jonah, "Jonah! Go to Nineveh.
Tell the Assyrians to stop doing bad things. I am very angry with them."
Jonah listened to what God said.
But Jonah said, "No!"
Jonah turned and ran.
He ran and he ran and he ran, till he came to the sea.
But... you can't run away from God!
Jonah found some sailors and got onto their boat. The boat set off across the sea.
Jonah was very tired and fell asleep.
But God had not finished with Jonah.
You can't run away from God!
God sent a wind.
The wind blew black clouds across the sky.
The wind blew and blew and blew.
The wind made big waves.
Suddenly rain began to fall.
The sky was now black and the wind blew harder.
Thunder roared and lightning flashed.
But Jonah slept.
Big waves splashed onto the boat.
The sailors were scared.
The Captain threw boxes over the side of the boat.
But it didn't help.
The storm got worse and worse.
The sailors were really, really scared.
But Jonah slept.
The Captain woke Jonah up.
Jonah looked around.
The sailors were terrified.
Jonah told the Captain, "This storm is because of me.
I am running away from God. God who made the land and the sea."
But... you can't run away from God!
Jonah told the sailors to throw him into the sea. The sailors had no choice.
They threw Jonah overboard.
As soon as they did, the storm stopped! Everything was still.
Then the sailors looked at each other and said, "Jonah's God is God."

God of the land and the sea.”
All the sailors feared God.
They all made promises to God.

Conclusion:

Children, Jonah ran away from God. But... You can't run away from God!
Because God made the land and the sea. God is everywhere.

Bible Time

Encourage your child(ren) to retell the story.

Aim: as a group to retell the story using the following props:

- blocks to make a road
- blue material or cellophane for the sea
- boat
- Captain, Jonah
- fish

Seat children in a circle with the props to one side.

Encourage the child to retell the story and hand them the appropriate props to place in the centre as they do.

Ask the children to hold onto the sea and make the boat go up and down in the storm.

Use the following questions only if the children are finding it hard to retell the story.

- What had God told Jonah to do?
(go and tell the Assyrians in Nineveh to stop doing bad things)
- What did Jonah do?
(Jonah said 'No!', ran in the opposite direction, got on a boat)
- What did God do? (sent a big storm)
- Can you run away from God? (no, God is everywhere)

Conclusion:

- If you go to the top of a high mountain, God is there.
- If you swim down to the bottom of the deep sea, God is there.
- If you are snuggled in your bed in the dark, God is there.
- It doesn't matter where you are, or where you go, God is there.
- God is everywhere!

Pray together in response

Repeated Prayer

Dear God, – we know – that you are everywhere. – In our rooms, – at our pre-schools, – in our cars, – everywhere! – Please help us – to obey you. – Amen.

Individual Prayer

Encourage the children say sorry to God about times when they have disobeyed him.

Memory Verse

God commands all people everywhere to... repent. Acts 17:30

Song

1. Hello Song
2. Stick with Jesus
3. My God is a very, very big God

Click for the ([Ev Preschool Kids Playlist](#))