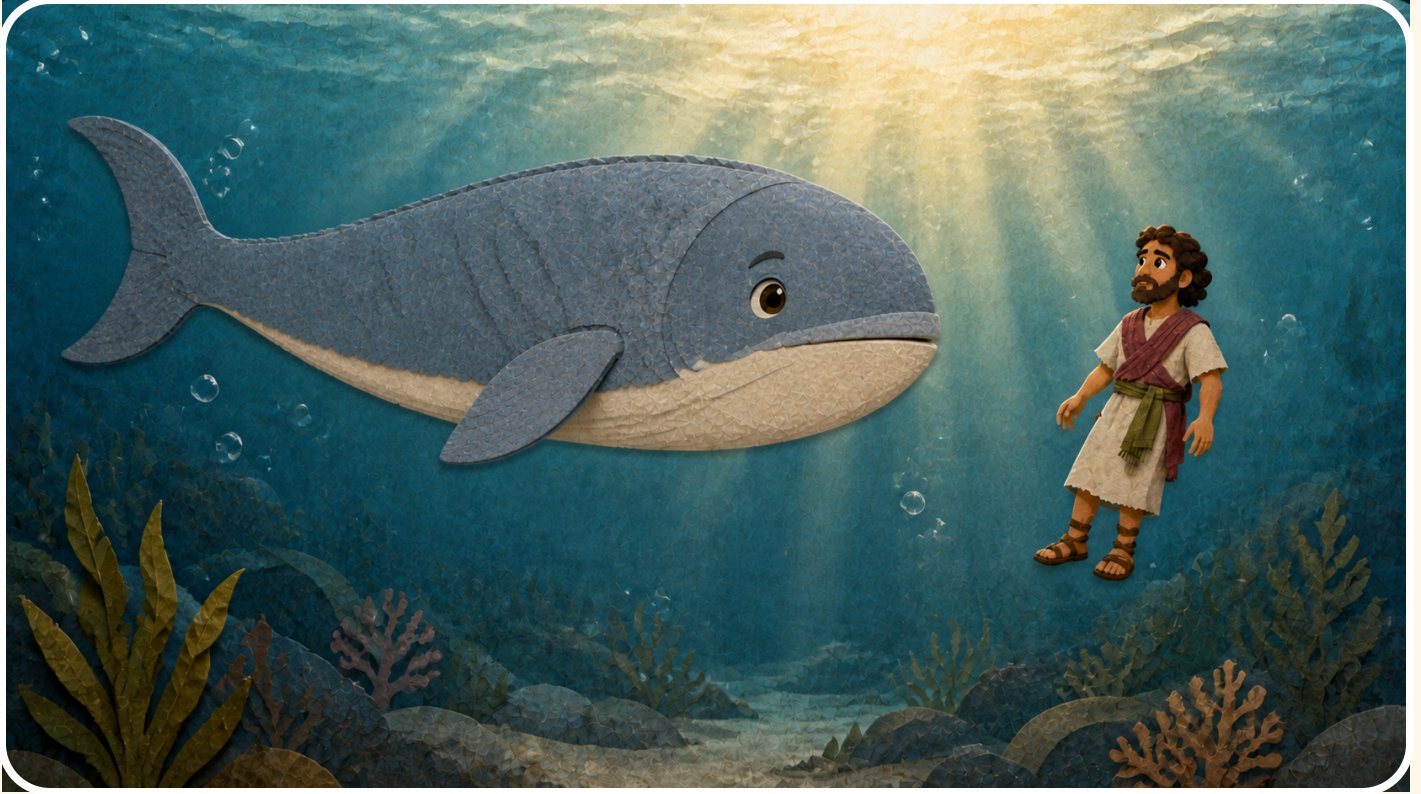


Jonah and the Great Fish

Sunday School Leader Guide



THE BIG IDEA

God patiently calls us to obey, hears us when we pray, and cares for every person with mercy.

AGES

5-9

PASSAGE

Jonah 1-4

LENGTH

30-45 min

PREP

Low

A complete 45-minute lesson

Use the full plan or shorten the Create section for a 30-minute session.

5 min

Welcome

Ask: Have you ever wanted to avoid something you knew was right? Children may answer, draw, or pass.

5 min

Watch

Play the film with captions. Ask the class to notice each new opportunity Jonah receives.

7 min

Talk

Use the four discussion questions. Reveal teacher hints only when helpful.

7 min

Play

Complete the story-order activity and practise the memory verse.

12 min

Create

Use the digital canvas or activity book, then make a Prayer-in-the-Fish Pocket.

5 min

Respond

Choose one prayer prompt and ask God for help with one next right step.

4 min

Close

Repeat the big idea and send home the five-day Mercy Steps challenge.

Questions, craft, and game

TALK ABOUT IT

- What did God ask Jonah to do?
- What happened after Jonah sailed the opposite way?
- How did Jonah respond when God gave him another chance?
- What did the plant teach Jonah about God's mercy?

MEMORY VERSE

- Jonah 2:9 - 'Salvation comes from the Lord.'
- Say it normally, cup your hands like a fish, place one hand over your heart, point upward, and say it again.

SUPPLIES

Cardstock or paper plates, crayons, child-safe scissors, glue, and one small paper prayer slip per child.

SAFE CRAFT

Fold and decorate a wide paper fish. Place a Jonah-shaped prayer slip inside with one next right step and one person to treat with mercy.

GAME + SAFETY

Mark Nineveh and Joppa on opposite sides. Children walk - never run - toward each story clue, freeze for the storm, and finish together at Nineveh.