brite*
OLDER
SMALL GROUP

Elementary

NOVEMBER 8



JONAH

BIBLE PASSAGE: Jonah 1–4

FOCUS VERSES: Titus 2:11; Ephesians 2:8; 4:32; John 1:16

Summary: God called the prophet Jonah to warn Nineveh, but Jonah disobeyed and sailed in the opposite direction. A huge storm hit, and the sailors threw Jonah into the sea. God sent a big fish to swallow him. Inside the fish, Jonah prayed and admitted he was wrong. The fish spit him out, and this time Jonah went to Nineveh. He warned the people, and the people responded by believing in God. Jonah was upset that God showed grace, and God used a vine to remind him to have grace for others.

MONTHLY Memory Verse

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.

(PSALM 145:3)

BRITE Idea

God gives grace.

We will go deeper in God's truth by answering these questions:

HE

WHAT IS GOD'S GRACE?
God's grace is His free gift of forgiveness and salvation that we don't earn, but He gives because He loves us.

WE

SHOULD WE SHOW GRACE TO OTHERS?
Because we recognize the grace God has shown us, we can show kindness and forgiveness to others.

ME

HOW IS GOD INVITING ME TO RESPOND?
Kids will reflect and respond to the truth they learned about God.

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SPELL IT OUT

SUPPLIES:
Printable pages, scissors, paper bag

PREP:
Print the printable page and cut out (1 card per 4 kids). Place the cards in the bag.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Welcome each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*
2. **Discuss:** What was the best and worst part of your week?
3. **Discuss:** This month we are learning that God is greater than anything! How have you seen God's greatness this week?
4. **Say:** Let's play a guessing game!
5. **Say:** In groups, you will choose a card and try to get the rest of us to guess what it is. But you have to work together as a group and use your fingers, hands or entire bodies to form the letters to spell the word for us to guess. You also can't talk and tell us what you are trying to do!
6. *Divide kids into groups of four.*
7. *Allow groups to draw a card and begin practicing forming their words. After some practice time, allow groups to go one at a time for other groups to guess their word.*
8. *Give grace and allow groups the ability to change how they are forming their words as often as needed until the word is guessed.*
9. **Discuss:** What was the most challenging part of this game?

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

That game was tricky, especially without talking! You had to be patient, work together and keep trying when things didn't go perfectly. Today we are learning about Jonah, and we'll see how God was patient and full of grace—even when Jonah struggled.

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PAGE 1 OF 2 **PREP:** Print the printable pages and cut out (1 card per 4 kids).

LOVE	FISH
SHIP	SEA

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PREP: Print the printable pages and cut out (1 card per 4 kids).

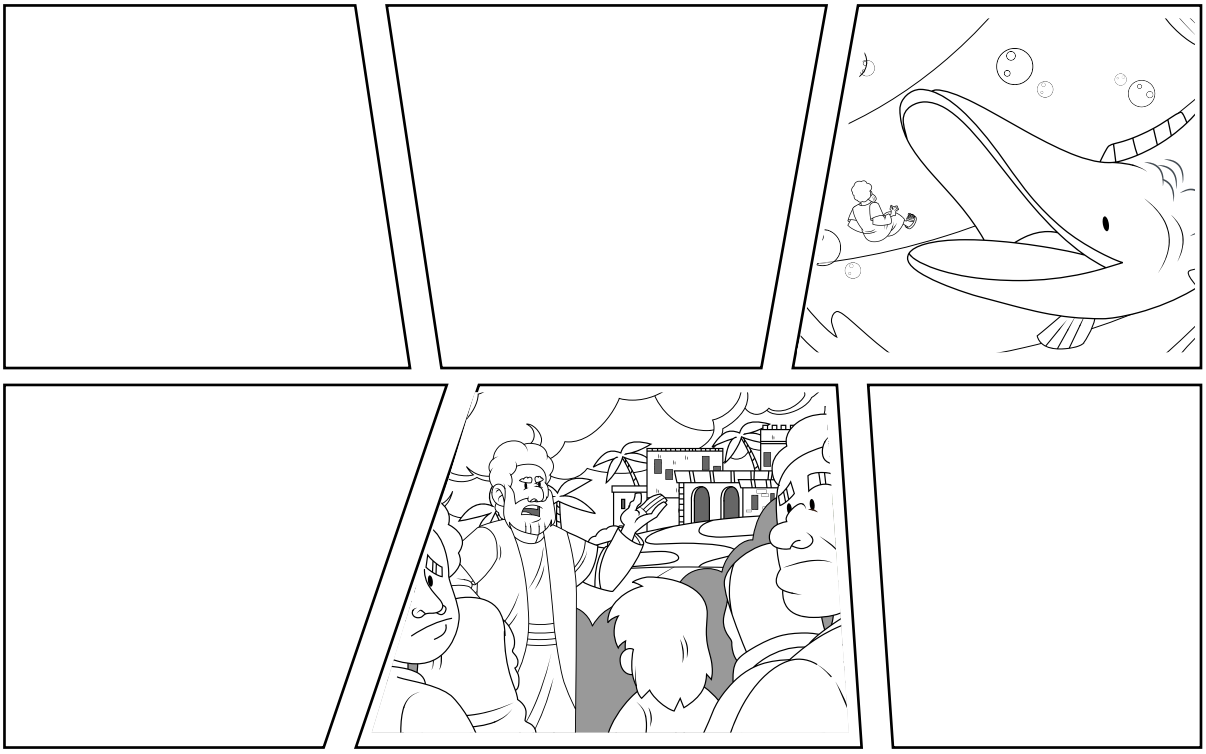
SWIM	FAST
PRAY	CITY

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TAKE-HOME ACTIVITIES

JONAH

COMPLETE THE COMIC



MAKE NEW WORDS

How many words can you make out of this phrase?

GOD GIVES GRACE.

STICK MAN

1. Think of a word from today's story. Draw a blank for each letter.
2. Find a partner to guess letters.
3. If they guess a letter from your word, write it in the blank.
4. If they guess a wrong letter, draw a piece of the stick man.
5. Can they guess your word before the stick man is complete?



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JONAH

BIBLE PASSAGE ***(JONAH 1–4)***

Summary: God called the prophet Jonah to warn Nineveh, but Jonah disobeyed and sailed in the opposite direction. A huge storm came, and the sailors threw Jonah into the sea. God sent a big fish to swallow him. Inside the fish, Jonah prayed and admitted he was wrong. The fish spit him out, and this time Jonah went to Nineveh. He warned the people, and they responded by believing in God. Jonah was upset that God showed grace, and God used a vine to remind him to show grace to others.

Today's Brite Idea is: God gives grace.

MONTHLY Memory Verse

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised.

(PSALM 145:3)

BIG QUESTION

Who is greater than everything? God!

HE — God is love.

WE — God shows us grace.

ME — God shows me grace.

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SEA SENSORY

SUPPLIES:
Bin, blue tissue paper, pipe cleaners (1 per kid), tongs

PREP:
Tear the tissue paper into smaller pieces and place into the bin. Fold the pipe cleaners in half and twist to make a fish shape. Place the fish pipe cleaners into the bin.

LEADER TIP: Provide other ocean animal shapes in the sensory bin.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome everyone! My name is _____. *Greet each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Today we will learn about a man named Jonah who ended up in the sea. Even though he did not follow what God said to do, God showed Jonah love and grace.
2. **Say:** Let's use the tongs to search through the tissue paper and try to find all the fish in the bin.
3. *Lead kids to search through the sensory bin and discover the different colored fish. As kids search, ask them to name other animals that live in the ocean.*
4. **Ask:** Why do you think Jonah ended up in the sea?

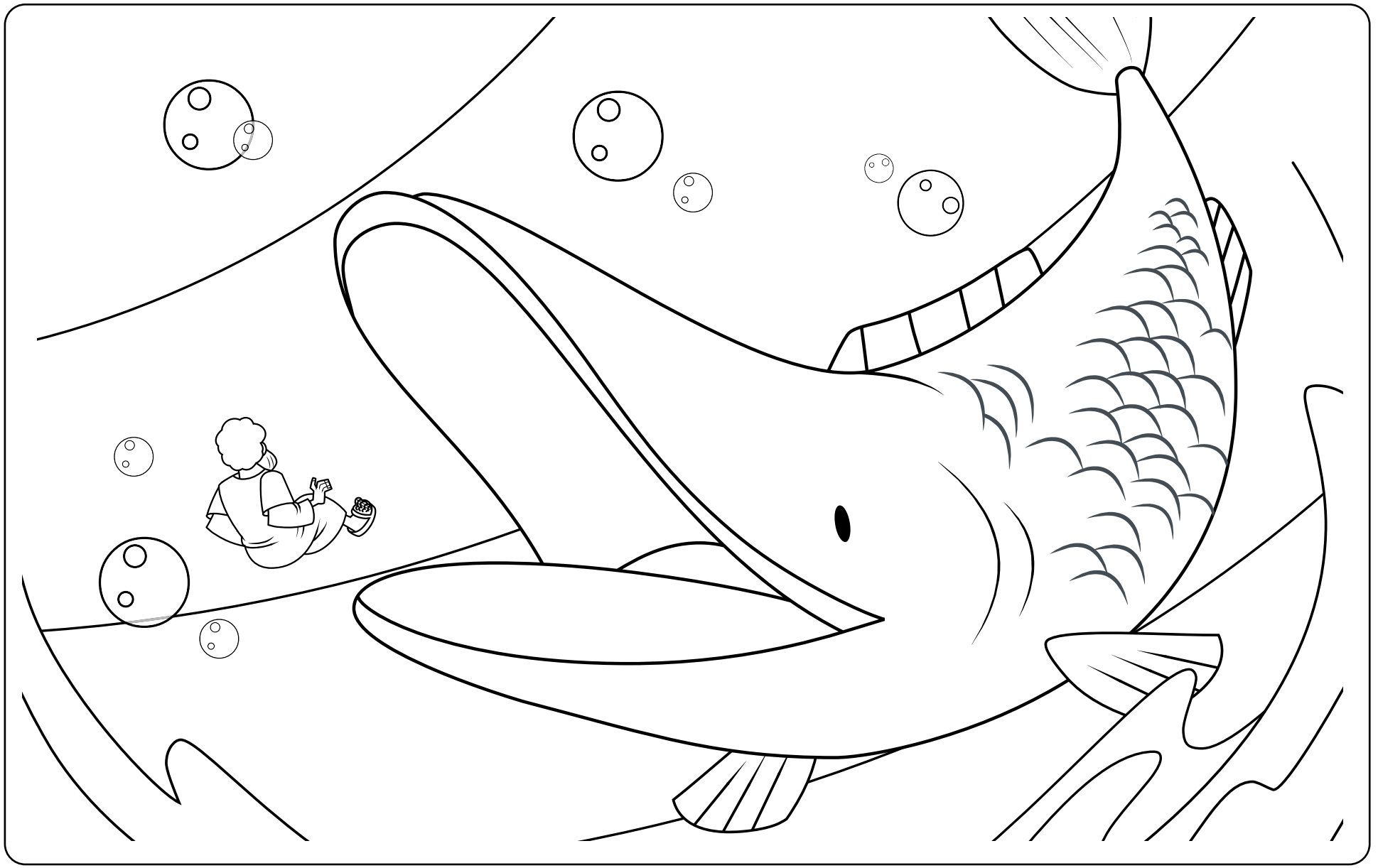
ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

God called Jonah to do something, but Jonah didn't obey. Let's find out how God still showed him grace and if Jonah ended up doing what God said to do.

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JONAH

Jonah 1-4



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Coloring Page

JONAH

Jonah 1-4

BIG QUESTION

Who is greater than everything? God!

BRITE Idea

God gives grace.

MONTHLY Memory Verse

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised. (Psalm 145:3)

SCAN ME!
FOR AT-HOME DISCIPLESHIP DISCUSSION



COLOR THE PICTURE

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