

# JONAH

## WONER AND REFLECT after the Bible Story Video

Reflect on the story together, pondering the following questions. Leave space for silent reflection, responses, and questions from everyone.

- I wonder why Jonah thought he could run away from God.
- Imagine how Jonah felt while he was in the belly of the fish.
- I wonder why Jonah did not want God to forgive the people of Nineveh.
- I wonder how I can show mercy and forgiveness to others.

## PEACE NOTES

Jonah expected that God would show love and forgiveness to the people of Nineveh. God wants us to show love and forgiveness to others. As a family, think of ways to show love and forgiveness in the following situations.

- Your sibling asks to play a game with you. You remember that the last time you played with them they cheated. What do you do?
- Your brother was disrupting you while you were painting. He spilled paint on your artwork and then laughed about it. Later, he made a mistake while playing a game and you wanted to laugh at him. What do you do?
- Maybe you have your own situation you want to put into here.

## BUILD COMMUNITY

Invite your family to learn more about each other. Collect as many craft sticks or straws as you have people in your family. Mark the end of one stick with a marker or coloured tape. Place the sticks in a container for everyone to choose one. The person who gets the marked stick gets to ask one question of everyone, including the person with the stick. Repeat as much as you like. Question ideas could include: What is your favourite \_\_\_\_\_? What do you like to do when you are at \_\_\_\_\_? If you were an animal/plant/superhero, what would you be?

## CREATE

Make a comfort vine with construction paper leaves. Provide a copy of a large leaf or let people design their own leaf. Cut out the leaves and ask everyone to write or draw on them things God has done for them or that gives them comfort. For example- family, a favorite meal, a loved place. Connect the leaves with string and tape.

## MOVE

Jonah did a lot of travelling. Make a path with tape on the floor, or crepe paper or ribbons/string. Invite everyone to travel along this path one at a time. Give everyone a stone to carry as they think about something they are sorry for or something they want to forgive. At the end of the path they can leave the stone behind.

## PLAY

Play hide and seek as a reminder of how Jonah ran away and tried to hide from God.

## PRAY

Gather together in a circle. Ask everyone to echo each phrase in the following prayer. Pause after each sentence and cue the echo.

**Dear God, you are good.**

**You listen to us.**

**You understand us.**

**You forgive us.**

**You love us.**

**Amen.**