

## The Prophets - Jonah.

### Aim

God forgives.

Bible Passage

Book of Jonah.

This week we find out about the prophet Jonah who didn't want to share the message God had given him and ran away! God gave him a second chance.

### Introduction

Prophets were special people, chosen by God to share his messages. Over the next few weeks we shall learn about a few different prophets in the Old Testament and the messages from God that they shared. Today we are looking at the prophet Jonah.

### Game Time

Have you ever played "Hide and Seek"? It's a fun game isn't it? Why not play this with your family? Did they find it easy to find you? It's fun to try and find a really good hiding place and see how long it takes someone to find where you are hiding. It wouldn't be very fun, though, if every time you hid somewhere, the person looking for you knew exactly where you were!

Our story today is about a man who tried to play hide from God, only he wasn't having any fun.!

### Bible Time

How many of you have not listened to your parents? They told you to pick up your toys or put your clothes away and instead you disobey and do something else! Then you get told off and it would have just been easier to do what they asked in the first place! Has God ever asked you to do something that you just didn't want to do? Jonah had that happen to him. God asked him to give a message but he went the wrong way and tried to hide! You can read the story of Jonah in the old testament in the book of Jonah or you can listen to Deborah tell the story on the TMC Facebook page.

Can you answer a few questions about the story you have heard?

What did God want Jonah to do?

Why didn't Jonah want to go to Nineveh?

What happened when Jonah was on the ship?

What did the sailors do when the storm came up?

What happened when Jonah was thrown over board?

How many days was Jonah inside the fish?

What did Jonah do after the fish spit him out?

Did the people of Nineveh listen to Jonah?

Was Jonah happy about that?

What does God want us to do when we do something wrong?

What does God do when we are sorry and ask for forgiveness?

Jonah was an ordinary person until God chose him to deliver a message to the city of Nineveh. Jonah decided to run from God, far from Nineveh. After Jonah was swallowed by a great fish, he realized his mistakes and said he was sorry. He disobeyed God when it would have been easier to do as he was asked! You can't run or hide from God. When we do something wrong, instead of trying to forget about it, or hiding from it, God wants us to tell him about it, and to ask him for forgiveness and he will give you a second chance.

### Worship Time

Here is a link to a Jonah song that tells the story -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIvuWMqAPTQ>

### Prayer Time

Are there some things that you are sorry you have done? Thank about these as we say a prayer today.

O Lord my God, thank you for loving me.

I am sorry for all the things I have done wrong, for not loving others and not loving you.

(remember the things you are sorry for, you may like to ask forgiveness out loud or silently)

Help me to live like Jesus and be the best I can be.

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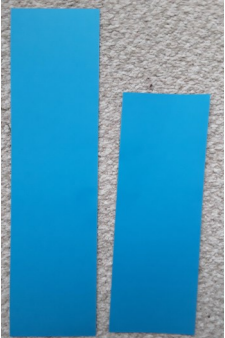
### Aim

God Forgives  
Bible Passage  
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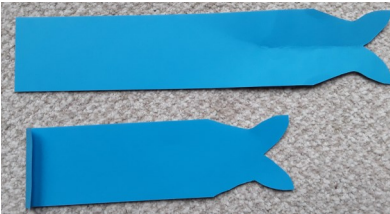
### Craft Time

#### Jonah and the Whale

You will need; A4 blue card, white paper, glue, scissors, a ruler and a black pen.



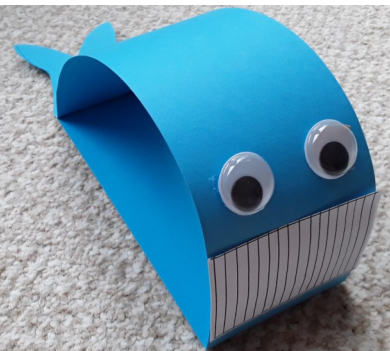
1. Cut two strips of blue card or thick paper; one should be shorter than the other.



2. Cut two fish shaped tails at the end of the card.  
Make a flap at the other end of the shorter strip.



3. Place the two strips of card over the each other so that the ends touch. The longer length goes on the top and forms an arch for the body of the fish. Add glue in on the up turned flap and the tail and Glue the two pieces together.



4. Using white paper, cut out a mouth and eyes.  
Use a black pen to add teeth and outline the tail.



5. Roll a small rectangle of card and cut . This will form the water from the blow hole. Make a hole in the top of the whale and push the paper through. Why not finish my drawing Jonah in the tummy of the whale!

For more information on this craft go to the TMC Facebook page.