Jonah and the whale

STORY CARD · THE BOOK OF JONAH

The story

1. God told Jonah to go to the big city of Nineveh and warn the people about their evil. Jonah ran the other way and got on a ship headed for Tarshish.
2. God sent a huge storm. The sailors were terrified. Jonah told them it was his fault and said to throw him into the sea. They did, and the sea went calm.
3. The LORD sent a great fish to swallow Jonah. He was inside the fish three days and three nights, and he prayed. Then the fish spit Jonah out onto dry land.
4. God told Jonah again to go to Nineveh. This time he went. The people believed God, turned from their evil, and God did not destroy the city.
5. Jonah was angry that God showed mercy to Nineveh. God asked Jonah why he cared so much about one plant but didn't care about a whole city of people.

MEMORY VERSE

"The LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights."

Jonah 1:17 (CSB)

Ask

1. Why did Jonah run away?
2. What did Jonah do inside the fish?
3. Why was Jonah upset when God forgave Nineveh?
4. Who is someone you could pray for, even if they've been hard to like?

TRY IT THIS WEEK

When you know the right thing to do, do it the first time. Then think of one person you wish God wouldn't be kind to, and pray for them by name.

WHAT IT SHOWS US ABOUT GOD

God gave Jonah a second chance, and He gave the people of Nineveh one too, even though Jonah didn't want Him to. God's mercy is bigger than our running, and bigger than the people we'd leave out.