

Sunday, September 20, 2020

Bible Story: Jonah 3:1 – 4:11

Bible Verse: When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.
Jonah 3:10

Lesson:

1. Is today's Bible story from the Old or New Testament? The book of Jonah is in the section of the Bible with other books about the prophets. Can you name any of the other Old Testament prophets?
2. Have you ever heard of Jonah before? Hint: Read the first two chapters of the book of Jonah. Do you know the story of Jonah going to Nineveh? When Jonah gets swallowed by the whale, it is because he does not want to go to Nineveh because the people there are wicked. But God wants Jonah to go to Nineveh. Jonah is a prophet and God wants him to remind the people about God.
3. What does Jonah do when he gets to Nineveh? What do the people of Nineveh do when Jonah proclaimed the word of the God? Why does Jonah get angry with God? Have you ever tried to do something good and not felt appreciated for it?
4. What does God do for Jonah to make him feel appreciated? Why does God take away the gift of the vine? Do you think this helps Jonah understand about why God did not make the people of Nineveh suffer when they repented. We have to remember that God is concerned about us and provides for us when we follow God's ways.

Activity:

1. Make a picture to remind us of Jonah under the vine.
2. Fold a piece of construction paper into three pieces. In the middle section, draw a picture of Jonah sitting, with Nineveh in the background.
3. Fold in the right-hand panel. Draw a picture of the shriveled vine. Just do the drawing along the right edge and top of the paper to be able to cut an opening so that you can see Jonah sitting under the vine.
4. Now fold in the left-hand panel and draw a picture of the vine with leaves. Do the drawing along the left edge and top of the paper to be able to cut an opening on this panel to be able to see Jonah.
5. If you want, add the Bible verses. Open up both panels.
On the blank left panel, write "Then the Lord God provided a vine and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade . . . " Jonah 4:6
On the blank right pane, write, "But at dawn the next day, God provided a worm which chewed the vine so that it withered." Jonah 4:7
6. Now when you fold in the panels, you will see the verse to go with the drawing.

Here are some sample patterns for Jonah, Nineveh, and the vine.



