

Three easy steps for an at-home experience!



BIG IDEA: GOD CARES ABOUT EVERYONE

Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh. Worse than that, he didn't want the Ninevites to have the chance to change. He learned some things the hard way—the three-days-in-the-belly-of-a-fish hard way! Jonah had to learn that no one is too far away from God to be redeemed! He had to learn that God Cares about Everyone!



STEP ONE: READ THE BIBLE STORY

Book of Jonah from the NIV
Pages 244-249 in the [Read with Me Bible](#)

STEP TWO: WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO

Available at youtube.com/eastviewkids
Believe It - Week 4



STEP THREE: CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

FOR ALL KIDS: Act It Out!

Materials: None

This is a super fun story to act out! Choose characters: Voice of God, Jonah, sailors, Ninevites.

As you act out the story, use things around the house to help you out. A couch could be the boat that Jonah gets thrown from. You could use a sheet to be the big fish. Have family members hold the edges and make a bubble to be the fish that swallows up Jonah. A house plant could be the bush Jonah sits under, grumbling to God. Get creative and have fun!

FOR OLDER KIDS: Boiling Over

Materials: Vinegar, baking soda, small glass, tray or bowl to put glass in

The Big Idea today is God Cares About Everyone. But Jonah forgot that—he really did not care about the people in Nineveh. He did not care that they were far from God and on a path to destruction. How about us? Do we really care that people in our lives do not know about the love and grace of God? Do we really care about our neighbors and family and friends? Even more, do we really care about people that look and live differently than we do? Or, like Jonah, are we ok that they are on a path to destruction?

We want to have hearts that are like God's heart. And his heart breaks for all people that have turned away from him. We need to have hearts that care like God's heart cares.

Take out the vinegar and fill a small glass about half-way. Let everyone take a sniff. Stinky! This vinegar represents our hearts when we choose to be uncaring and unloving. It really is not doing much—just sitting there in the glass being stinky. And no one can tell that we love and follow God.

But when we choose to let God work in our hearts, to help us see others the way he sees them, something amazing happens!

Take out the baking soda and pour about a tablespoon into the vinegar. It will bubble up and over the glass!

You see, God puts love in our hearts so it can explode out and touch the lives of others! He wants us to care about everyone, because he cares about everyone!



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