

CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER LESSONS

OBEDIENCE:

“JONAH LEARNS TO OBEY THE HARD WAY!”

Read Jonah 1-2.

Questions for discussion

1. What did God ask Jonah to do?
2. What did Jonah do instead?
3. What happened to Jonah when he tried to run away from God?
4. Do you feel like running away and hiding when Mom or Dad ask you to do something?
5. What would God want you to do?
6. Do you think God would send you into the belly of a whale for a time out?

Key concepts

God gave Jonah a job to do. He wanted Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh and warn them that God was planning to discipline all the people there because of their evil behaviour. But instead of doing what God asked, Jonah ran away. He joined some sailors on a boat headed for Tarshish.

God knew where Jonah was and chose to discipline him. When God sent a frightening storm, Jonah realized the storm was his fault. Jonah told the sailors to throw him overboard to save their own lives.

Instead of letting Jonah drown, God sent a big fish to swallow him. Jonah spent three days and nights the belly of the fish, which was like having a long “time out” in a very smelly place!

When Jonah was in the fish, he prayed and told God that he was sorry for not obeying. God let Jonah out of the fish, giving him another chance. This time Jonah was ready to obey God. He went and told the people of Nineveh that God wanted them to stop doing wrong.