



JUMP JUMP | WEEK 2 | MAY 8-9, 2021

## 4s-5s Lesson

# Jonah

**Bible Story:** *I should go God's way.* Jonah • *Jonah 1:1-3:10*

**Memory Verse:** "God's way is perfect." 2 Samuel 22:31, NIV

**Key Question:** Whose way is perfect?

**Bottom Line:** God's way is perfect.

**Basic Truth:** I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me.

**KID CONNECT:  
30 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:  
15 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:  
15 MINUTES**

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*Have you ever thought about how many decisions you make in a day? According to some reports, the average adult makes up to 35,000 choices per day. Wow! Some choices are easy—wearing the red shirt or eating the apple instead of the banana. Then, there are the not-so-easy decisions. What do we do when the decision is hard and we are struggling to know which way to go? We believe the first step to making wise choices is trusting that God's way is perfect. Our prayer is that we can help make many of the 35,000 choices a day our preschoolers will be making one day a whole lot easier. They will know to jump, jump and go God's way, because God's way is perfect!*

**Story Focus:** I should go God's way. Week two, we will hear the story of Jonah and some of the choices he made. Preschoolers will learn about what happened to Jonah when he decided to go his way instead of going God's way. They will hear how Jonah eventually decided, that God's way is perfect so that was the way he should go.

## KID CONNECT

### WELCOME TIME

**(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)**

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

### OPENING ACTIVITY

**(Floor Tape)**

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Tape a boat on the floor in the activity area.

*During the Activity:* Invite the children to stand in the boat and jump out. As the children jump out, ask them to say, "Go God's way."

*After the Activity:* Encourage the children to jump back into the boat and repeat several times.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Look, a boat!" (*Point.*)

*During the Activity:* "Let's all get into the boat then jump out! When we jump, we can tell everyone that we will go God's way! I'll go first! (*Get into boat and jump out.*) GO GOD'S WAY! Let's all jump and tell everyone to go God's way." (*Do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* "Great job! Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about a man named Jonah. Let's see if He goes God's way!"

*Transition to Large Group...*

## LARGE GROUP

### COUNTDOWN

**(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)**

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

### SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

**(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE; BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE; BIBLE)**

**LGL:** Hello my friends! How are you today? Come sit with me. I am so glad to see you here. I love being here with you!

Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (*kids respond*) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (List rules while counting on fingers)

1. **Be kind.** We can be kind by using our speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders' directions.
2. **Be safe.** We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

Can everybody follow those rules today? (*kids respond*) Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let's say them all together! Are you ready?

1. **I am made by God.** What is it? (*kids repeat*)
2. **I am loved by God no matter what.** What is it? (*kids repeat*)
3. **I am made for a purpose!** What is it? (*kids repeat*)

*LGL holds up Bible in front of him/her.*

**LGL:** Do you know what this is? *It's a Bible!* (hugging the Bible) Oh, I love the Bible! It's so special. The Bible is God's Big Story, and it tells us all about God! We are going to hear a true story from the Bible today.

## WORSHIP

**(VIDEO: PERFECT, HE IS AMAZING)**

Sing the worship songs together.

## INTRO SKETCH

**(Prepared Poster)**

*Create a posterboard with three rules. Write "RULES" across the top. Underneath, number each rule and draw a picture to represent it.*

- *A circle/slash over a picture of a snack (to represent "no snacks")*
- *A circle/slash over a picture of water drops (to represent "no water")*
- *A circle/slash over a picture of two children jumping on a trampoline (to represent only one child at a time)*

I have some exciting news! Our neighbors down the street moved away, and they're letting us have their trampoline. It is SO fun! The trampoline is so bouncy that I can jump way high, like a grasshopper. Have you ever jumped on a trampoline? (*Pause for responses.*)

"Awesome! Well, we're moving it over pretty soon. But before that happens, I needed to set a few rules for safety.

*Hold up the "RULES" poster for the children to see.*

“Now my [nieces/cousins/younger siblings, whatever makes sense for your age] are already talking about having their friends over to jump on the trampoline. But it’s not really safe for everyone to be on the trampoline at the same time.

“That’s why one of my rules (*Point to Rule #3 on the poster*) is that only one person jumps at a time. I know they might not like this rule at first, but it’s important to keep everyone safe. Following the rules can be hard, but obeying them can also be good for you!

“Today in our story, a man named Jonah had a hard time following what God told Him to do. He didn’t trust that God’s way was perfect. Let’s see what happened when Jonah went his own way.”

## WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

“Did God save Jonah? (*Yes*) When Jonah decided that [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect**, and went to Nineveh, the people there decided to go God’s way too. That’s because [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect**. Whose way is perfect? [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect**. We can go God’s way too!

## WRAP UP AND BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE, BOTTOM LINE)

Because we can trust that [*Bottom Line*] **God’s way is perfect**, we can believe our Basic Truth today too! Our Basic Truth to remember today is that [*Basic Truth*] **I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me**. Just like it was better for Jonah to follow God’s way, we should trust that God will lead us in the perfect way.

## PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

(CG: MEMORY VERSE)

Let’s say our memory verse together. I will say it first and then you will say it with me.

*‘God’s way (point up)  
is perfect,’ (two thumbs up)  
2 Samuel 22:31.” (Open hands like a book.)*

*Say it once while doing the motions and then invite the kids to do it with you.*

## PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

## SMALL GROUP

**Bible Story:** *I should go God's way. Jonah • Jonah 1:1-3:10*

**Memory Verse:** "God's way is perfect." 2 Samuel 22:31, NIV

**Key Question:** Whose way is perfect?

**Bottom Line:** God's way is perfect.

**Basic Truth:** I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me.

## LIFT IT UP

("Story Pages" Activity Pages, Construction Paper, Tape)

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy "Story Pages" on cardstock, one set per small group. Tape the pages to the wall at preschooler level in story order (or place on the floor). Tape a piece of construction paper over each story picture, with tape only at the top so they can be lifted from the bottom.

*During the Activity:* Gather the children around the story pictures and sit down. As you review the Bible story, invite children to lift each piece of construction paper from the bottom to reveal the story picture.

*After the Activity:* Talk about how Jonah did not go God's way at first, but after seeing that God's way is perfect, he decides to go God's way.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Hi, friends! We heard an amazing story about why it is so important to go God's way. Come sit with me, and let's talk about it!"

*During the Activity:* "There is something under these pages that will help us tell the Bible story we heard today. When I say your name, I want you to come lift the paper so we can see what's under it. Don't worry if you don't get a turn the first time we do it. We will do it again until everyone has had a turn.

"[Child's name], come lift this first paper, and let's see what's under it. *(Pause.)* Who was our story about today? *(Pause.)* Yes! Jonah. This is Jonah. God told Jonah to go to a city called Nineveh and tell them to JUMP, JUMP, and go God's way.

"[Child's name], come lift this next paper, and let's see what's under it. *(Pause.)* Oh, Jonah has a choice to make. Did Jonah go God's way to the city to tell the people to JUMP, JUMP, and go God's way, OR did he run away and get on a boat? *(Pause.)* We'll have to look at what's under the next paper to see if you're right.

"[Child's name], come lift this paper, and let's see what Jonah chose to do. *(Pause.)* Oh, no! Jonah is on a boat! God didn't tell Jonah to get on a boat. God told Jonah to go to the city and tell the people to JUMP, JUMP, and go God's way. What happened to Jonah when he was on that boat? *(Pause.)* Let's see if you're right, again.

“[Child’s name], come lift this paper so we can see what happened to Jonah. *(Pause.)* Oh yeah, a big storm came. Jonah told the other people to throw him in the water. Jonah knew he had not gone God’s way. God sent a BIG fish to help Jonah. The fish swallowed Jonah right up. While Jonah was inside the fish, he prayed to God and told Him he was sorry for not going His way. God made that fish spit Jonah right onto dry land.

“Okay, [child’s name], let’s see how this story ends. *(Pause.)* Look! What is Jonah doing? *(Pause.)* Yes! Jonah is doing what God told him to do. He went to the city and told the people to JUMP, JUMP, and go God’s way! Finally!” *(Repeat if time allows.)*

*After the Activity:* “When God tells us to do something, we should JUMP, JUMP, and go God’s way, because **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect. Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!**”

## GO, GO JONAH

**(“Jonah Line Tangle” Activity Page – 1 per kid, Crayons)**

**What You Do:** Copy “Jonah Line Tangle” on cardstock, one per child. Set the crayons on the table.

*During the Activity:* Give each child an Activity Page. Point out Jonah at the bottom of the page and the “Nineveh” sign at the top. Talk about how Jonah didn’t want to go God’s way at first but eventually he did! He chose to go to Nineveh! Encourage the children to trace the lines with their crayons from Jonah to the Nineveh sign at the top of the page.

*After the Activity:* Make sure each child’s name is on their page and set aside for pick up.

### What You Say:

*During the Activity:* “Do you see Jonah at the bottom of the page? When God first asked Jonah to go to Nineveh, did he go God’s way? *(Pause.)* NO! Jonah didn’t go God’s way. But after a trip in the opposite direction, and some time inside the belly of a fish, Jonah decided to go to Nineveh. Jonah learned that he should go God’s way. So, let’s use our crayons to trace the lines to get Jonah to the Nineveh sign right here at the top of the page.”

*After the Activity:* “Great job, friends! Let’s make sure your names are on your pages and we’ll set them right over here for you to take home. When you show these off at home, let’s tell everyone about how we should go God’s way. Why? Because **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect. Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!**”

## MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

**(Memory Verse Motions Poster – 1 per group)**

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for trying.

*‘God’s way (point up)  
is perfect,’ (two thumbs up)  
2 Samuel 22:31.” (Open hands like a book.)*

## PRAYER

Let's pray together. *(Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap")*

Dear God, thank You for teaching us that Your way is perfect. Help us to JUMP, JUMP, and go your way. Help us go and tell others to go your way, too, because **[Bottom Line] God's way is perfect!** We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

## CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

**(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)**

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.