

Jonah

Trigger

The Smell Of Fish And The Road Of Jonah



Material

- Containers
- Smelly objects (tuna, sardines, perfume, dark chocolate, etc.)

Or

- Labyrinth of Jonah (attachment Jonah maze)
- Mirror

Steps

I feel

Before class, prepare several closed containers with, some with "smelly" items. You could try things like perfume, chocolate, oranges, etc. Make sure a container contains fish (tuna or sardines).

Do not allow children to see what is inside the container.

Cover the children's eyes and let them try to guess what's in each container by feeling them. Tell them that today's story has something to do with one of these smells. Let the children try to guess what the smell is.

Maze

Show the children the maze that has been printed beforehand. Ask one of the children to look at the maze in a mirror and trace the path from the Departure (Départ) to Nineveh (Ninive). Allow him to back off and go in a different direction if he is wrong, but insist that the child look at the maze in the mirror. (If you don't have a mirror, you can just use the maze.)

Tell the children: "If during a trip you were wrong and take the wrong road, what would you do? (U-turn to get on the right track.) Sometimes we take the wrong road, or make bad choices, in life."

Ask the children to come up with a word that means stopping to do wrong to do the right thing. Give them time to make suggestions; then write Repent on the board. Tell them that repenting is about changing direction.

Key Verse

Psalm 139:1-2

Multimedia & Clips

Images

freebibleimages.org

Clip-YouTube

1. Jonah
2. Jonah and the Fish
3. God's Story: Jonah

Object Lesson

Inseparable!

Material

- Caramel Chocolate Tablet (Caramilk)

Steps

1. Show the children a caramel chocolate bar and ask them if they can separate the chocolate from the caramel. Suggestion: You could give each child a tablet and let them try to separate. They will tell you that it is impossible!
2. Tell the children the following lesson. It is the same with God, it is impossible that something can prevent his love from pursuing us. Even if you take a boat to go in the opposite direction, even if you are angry with God and want to flee from him. His love for us is great and he is chasing us!



Songs

www.youtube.com

- I Have Decided
- It Is Good

The Heart Of The Father

& Prayer

Imagine for a moment being swallowed by a fish, it must have been terrifying for Jonah. God had given Jonah a mission and he did not want to do it, he instead decided to flee away from God by taking a boat in the opposite direction where God asked him to go.

Oh, that it looks like us sometimes, doesn't it? We have all experienced a situation where we have faced two choices: obey or disobey. And we've all experienced the consequences of disobeying. When you choose disobedience, you always suffer the consequences. For Jonah, it was to be swallowed by a fish. Jonah wanted to flee away from God, but he could not simply because God is everywhere and the Love the Father has for us is greater than our disobedience. Even in the belly of the fish where it smelled bad, the Father was there with Jonah, he was there to love him, to reassure him and to help him choose to do good. When Jonah decided to do good, the fish laid him on dry land and Jonah went to proclaim the gospel to Nineveh just as God had asked him to.

Jonah was terrified of the mission God had given him. He had forgotten who he was, he had forgotten that he was a son and that his Father was with him at all times, that his Father would never ask him for something he could not do. The Father is with us at all times and with him we are able to accomplish great things. Why run away from him? The Father loves you and loves you too much to let you run away from him. He pursues you and he wants you to live a life of intimacy with him and this life of intimacy will come out great things. Don't be afraid to pursue him too, to go in search of his heart. Let yourself be found by him and find him!

Prayer

"Father, if I have fled away from you, I ask for your forgiveness. If I have chosen to disobey you in a certain area of my life, I ask for your forgiveness. Help me never forget that you are there with me at all times, even in the most difficult times of my life. Help me remember that I can always count on you at all times. Help me live in your love and experience it every day. I love you. Amen."

Craft

Jonah's Sun Catcher

Material

- Cards
- Colouring crayons
- Scissors
- Template (see website)
- Sticky plastic film to cover books



- Silk paper
- Double-sided adhesive tape

Steps

1. Print the template on cardboard for each child.
2. Ask the children to glue the template on a sheet of black construction paper.
3. Now tell them to cut out all the white of the template. All that will remain is the outline of the fish. However, tell them to keep Jonah's eyes and figure.
4. Distribute a piece of sticky plastic film the size of the fish to all the children.
5. Ask them to place their fish on this film taking care to put the construction paper down.
6. Then ask them to place the eye and silhouette in the body of the fish.
7. Ask them to fill the inside of the fish with tissue paper.
8. Now distribute a second piece of sticky plastic film the size of the fish and ask them to use it to cover the other side of their fish.
9. Ask them to cut the edges of their fish so that the plastic film does not protrude too much.
10. Finally, encourage children to tape their fish in their window with double-sided tape.

Activity

Jonah Quiz

Material

- Quiz sheet
- Markers



Steps

1. Before de classe, prepare a quiz sheet with multiple answers (see below) and print one for each child.
2. Distribute the quiz to the children.
3. Ask them to read the questions and highlight the right answer.
4. Allow them to search in their Bible.

God asks Jonah to go:

- to Jerusalem
- Baghdad
- Nineveh
- London

At the beginning of the story, Jonah hears God and:

- He stays seated.
- He gets up and goes to the city God tells him.
- He gets up and runs away from God.
- He falls asleep under a tree.



Then Jonah embarks on a ship and:

- a storm breaks out
- the sun rises
- the rain falls
- a storm breaks.

Sailors with Jonah:

- are happy
- get scared
- run away in small boats
- throw themselves into the water

Jonah:

- is on deck
- helps the sailors in their maneuvers
- sleeps at the bottom of the boat
- prays to God.

The captain asks Jonah:

- to make food
- to help them put the boats in the water
- to pray to His God
- to lower the sails

The crew is drawing lots. The spell designates:

- the captain
- a sailor
- God
- Jonah

After crying out to the God of Jonah, the crew:

- kills Jonah
- throws him into the water
- ties him to the mat
- locks him in the hold

Jonah is swallowed by:

- a shark
- a dolphin
- a big fish
- a jellyfish



In the belly of the animal, Jonah:

- weeps
- sleeps
- cries
- prays

Jonas promises:

- to no longer fall asleep
- to help the sailors in their maneuvers
- to fulfill his mission
- never to go to Nineveh

In Nineveh, Jonah:

- falls asleep
- preaches the Word
- builds a house
- goes to the synagogue

It announces that Nineveh will be destroyed in:

- 3 days
- 7 days
- 40 days
- 1 year

The people of Nineveh:

- turn away from God
- change their lives
- lock up Jonah
- are indifferent

Jonas reacts by:

- getting angry
- having a big party
- smiling
- praying

Jonah wants:

- to die
- to grow up
- to live
- to eat with the ninivites

Jonas comes out of Nineveh and sits down:

- to the north
- south
- west
- east



He wants shade. God grows:

- an olive tree
- leafy plant
- a palm tree
- a sycamore tree

When the plant dies, Jonah:

- wants to die
- wants another tree
- builds a hut
- returns to Nineveh

God explains to Jonah that:

- humans matter more to him than plants
- humans are to be forgotten
- humans matter less than trees

Physical Activity

Tag You're It (Jonah)

Material

- None



Steps

1. Choose a child who will be "the big fish" and who will be in the center of the playground.
2. Line up all the other children on one side of the room. They'll be "Jonas." Yes, they'll all be Jonas.
3. When you shout "storm", the children try to run from one side of the room to the other without being touched by the big fish.
4. Whoever gets touched will stay in the center and become an extra big fish.
5. The game will continue until there is only one "Jonas" left and all the other players have become big fishes.

Snack

Sushi In Candy

Material

- Puffed rice squares (you can make the homemade recipe or buy the squares at the grocery store)
- All kinds of gelatin candies (some fish-shaped)
- Fruit Roll Ups
- Knives
- Paper plates



Steps

1. Cut the puffed rice squares into small slices. Prepare several.
2. Put the items on the table.
3. Distribute several Rice squares to each child on a plate.
4. Ask the children to wrap the squares in the Fruit Roll Ups. It's sushi.
5. Then ask them to decorate their sushi with candy.
6. Make the connection with the story of the day. Jonah was in the belly of a fish.