

Jonah 3 - 5

The LORD ... is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

Read what happened to Jonah in chapters 3 and 4, and use the word searches to find summaries of what happened at each stage. As you read, think about the lessons Jonah learned.



What did the people do when they heard the message?

The message Jonah took to Nineveh

W	H	I	D	A	B	E	O
N	I	N	E	V	E	H	V
D	A	Y	S	D	T	W	E
N	O	T	T	R	E	I	R
I	F	O	R	T	Y	L	T
H	E	M	O	R	E	L	H
I	A	L	Y	A	T	I	R
J	O	N	E	H	L	D	O
Y	C	H	D	O	R	M	W
O	R	S	H	A	L	L	N

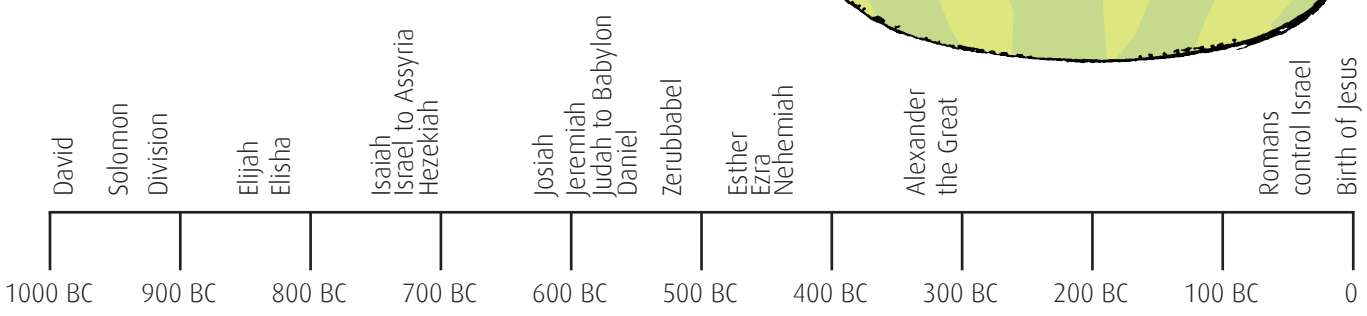
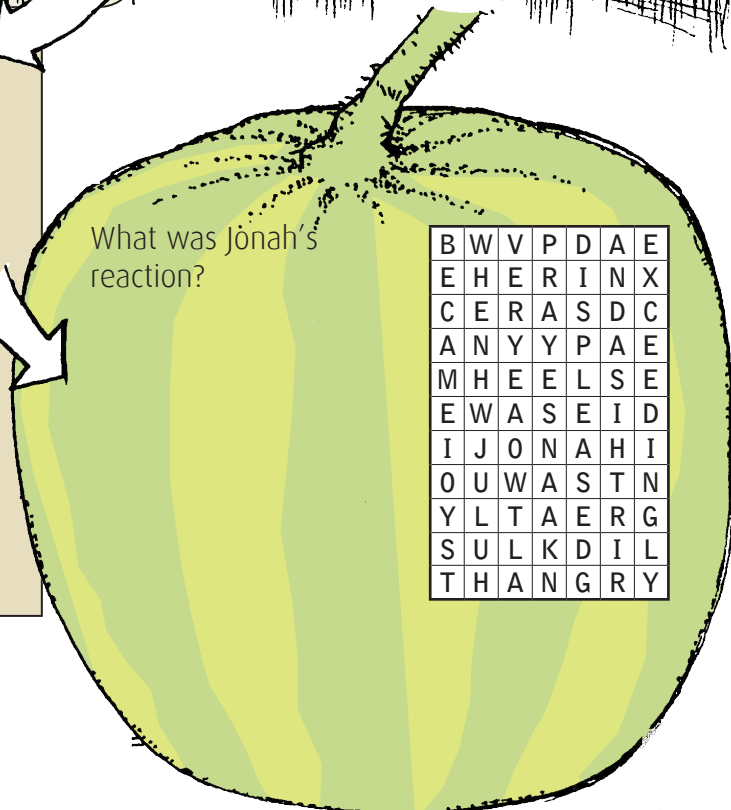
G	A	S	B	T	S	A	F
O	R	A	E	C	H	R	A
D	E	C	L	A	R	E	D
O	P	K	I	N	G	O	Y
W	U	C	E	D	G	N	I
N	T	L	V	A	N	D	N
S	T	O	E	T	H	E	N
A	H	T	D	U	S	T	E
T	E	H	A	N	O	J	M

What did God do then?

D	A	H	G	R	D	C	T	N
I	A	W	O	E	E	O	H	O
D	H	A	D	P	S	M	R	P
R	D	N	A	E	T	P	E	U
E	I	D	H	N	R	A	A	N
O	V	T	I	T	U	S	T	T
F	D	I	D	E	C	S	E	O
W	O	U	L	D	T	I	N	T
T	H	A	T	I	I	O	E	H
D	I	A	S	T	O	N	D	E
N	O	B	R	I	N	G	G	M

What was Jonah's reaction?

B	W	V	P	D	A	E
E	H	E	R	I	N	X
C	E	R	A	S	D	C
A	N	Y	Y	P	A	E
M	H	E	E	L	S	E
E	W	A	S	E	I	D
I	J	O	N	A	H	I
O	U	W	A	S	T	N
Y	L	T	A	E	R	G
S	U	L	K	D	I	L
T	H	A	N	G	R	Y





What do you think Jonah needed to learn?

Like Jonah, we have a responsibility to tell others about God.

Do you find it easy?

Why?

Make a list of situations in which you might be able to talk to others about God's word, and turn them into drama sketches, to help you practise for the real thing!



Readings this week:

S	Jonah 3
M	Jonah 4
T	Psalm 32
W	Psalm 130
Th	Psalm 145
F	Micah 7:18-20
S	Colossians 3:5-17

The city of Nineveh was enormous - it took Jonah days to walk across it and chapter 4 tells us that it had over 120,000 inhabitants.

Historians think that it was at least 14 km in circumference. Some think that it was one of 4 cities joined together which would have been about 100km in circumference! Nineveh's huge population makes us realise just how severe God's punishment on them would have been.

Digging Deeper

Nineveh

Nineveh was later the capital of Assyria. Find it on a map.

The Assyrians were a very cruel nation and soon after Jonah went to them they returned to their barbaric ways.

What did Hosea warn the people of Israel would happen to them if they carried on worshipping idols? Look in Hosea 10:5-6. (Samaria was in Israel and Ephraim is what Hosea often called Israel)

What happened next? Find out by reading 2 Kings 17:1-6. (The NIV Study Bible has several pages about the Assyrian invasion with some maps if you want to find out more about it)

What did Nahum warn Nineveh would happen to them because of what they had done to Israel? Nahum 1:1 and 14; 3:1.

(In Nahum's time, Nineveh was the capital of Assyria and represented the whole of Assyria)

In 612 BC, Assyria fell to an alliance of the Babylonians, the Medes and the Scythians.

Do you feel that some other people are not worth God bothering with?

Why?

Do you think you are qualified to make decisions like that about others?

Pray that you will learn to forgive others, as Jesus has taught us.