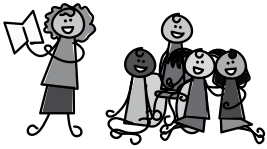




## Jonah and God

Jonah 1—4



### In class today . . .

. . . we learned about God's relationship with some people

who did not always do what God wanted them to do. As we read an entire book of the Bible to learn the story of Jonah, we discovered that even when the Ninevites and Jonah were disobeying God, God was with them, encouraging them to do the right thing. When they changed their ways, God showed love again by offering grace and forgiveness. Through art, we celebrated that we can turn to God at any time, no matter where we are, what we are feeling, or what we may have done, and trust that we worship a God who is gracious and full of love!

### Talk with your child about . . .

. . . what it feels like to know that you have done something wrong. Are there times when you have wanted to run away as Jonah did? Share times when you have asked for and received forgiveness. Talk about what it feels like to know that you are forgiven by someone else, and by God.

### Feeling Masks

The story of Jonah has many different emotions. Read the story together, and identify the different feelings that you notice. Then, using whatever art supplies you have, make masks that convey those feelings. You might make masks from paper plates or construction paper. Or, go to your local library or search the Internet for instructions on how to make papier-mâché masks. Use the masks to help remind you that it is OK to experience different feelings. Talk about the different ways you might talk to one another and to God when you feel these ways. Celebrate the gift of these feelings together!

### Something to Remember

As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the LORD; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

—Jonah 2:7

### Catechism Question

#### Question 12. What are the results of sin?

Our relationship with God is broken. All our relations with others are confused.

—*Belonging to God: A First Catechism*

### Main Idea

Jonah tried to run from the job God gave him, but Jonah learned that he couldn't hide from God.

### What Time Is It?

Jonah turned to God in prayer at many different times. In today's session, your child may have explored some of the ways to pray at all different hours. Together, talk about the different times of day when you can talk to God and pray. Remind each other by one of you asking, "What time is it?" and the other replying, "Time to pray!" Challenge yourselves to pray together at different times this week, whether at mealtimes, on the way to school, or playing in the park. Remember, God promises to hear all of our prayers at all times!

### Prayer about Feelings

Make up a prayer together. Choose a feeling that you need to talk to God about. Pray this prayer or make up another:

God, right now, I feel \_\_\_\_\_.

I would rather feel \_\_\_\_\_.

Please help me.

I know that you are with me, whatever I am feeling.

Thank you for helping me with my feelings, and loving me no matter what.