

# WHAT WE ARE TEACHING THIS WEEK



## TODAY'S TRUTH

Even when we don't  
listen to God, God listens  
to us when we pray.

## BIBLE STORY

Jonah's prayer -  
rescued rebel  
Jonah 1:17-2:10

## MEMORY VERSE

You, Lord, are forgiving  
and good.  
Psalm 86:5

## KEY QUESTION

Who listens to us no  
matter what?

## BIG TRUTH

I can pray about everything.

**Prayers of the Bible**  
**WBS Kids Lesson #16**  
**Jonah 1:17-2:10**

**Hook:** Have you ever had a chance to go fishing and catch a fish? Can you imagine what it would be like to have a fish catch you and swallow you?! Don't worry, I've only heard of that happening one time. It happened to a guy named Jonah. The story of how God took care of Jonah is a true story from the Bible. God sure can do some unusual, amazing things, can't he?

**Book:** In our story today, God asks Jonah to do something for him, but Jonah doesn't want to. Instead of listening to God, Jonah ran in the other direction, got on a boat, and found himself in some deep trouble. Even though Jonah thought he was hiding from God, God was with him the whole time. Just like He's with us all the time. I have a really fun book for us to read today. Let's read it now.

Tell the story of Jonah from Jonah 1:17-2:10 **OR** read *Jonah and the Big Fish* by Josh Edwards.

**Look:** Lead the kids in a game of Jonah vs. Big Fish. Select three kids to be "big fish" and stand in the center of a room. Explain to the group that Jonah was called to journey toward Nineveh but boarded a ship in Joppa bound for Tarshish in Spain. Designate the wall by which they're standing as Joppa and explain they have to make it to the opposite wall, which is Tarshish. On your signal, the kids run across the room, attempting to reach Tarshish, but have to avoid being tagged by the big fish in the center. Those who are tagged join the big fish until everyone has been caught. At the end, lead everyone in traveling toward Nineveh.

**Took:** Even when we don't listen to God, God listens to us when we pray.

**Memory Verse:** You, Lord, are forgiving and good. Psalm 86:5

**Prayer:** God, help me to always remember that I can pray to you about anything, at anytime, in any place. Thank you for listening to me, even when I choose not to listen to you. AMEN.

Prayers of the Bible  
WBS Kids Lesson #16  
Jonah 1:17-2:10



Even when we don't listen to God, God listens to us when we pray.



You, Lord, are forgiving and good.  
Psalm 86:5



When God asked Jonah to do something for Him, Jonah didn't want to do it. Instead, he tried to run away from God. He ended up in the belly of a big fish. Then he remembered to pray. Talk with your kids about times when they (or you) have made bad decisions and ended up in an unhappy place. Remind your kids that they can talk to God about anything, anytime, anywhere.

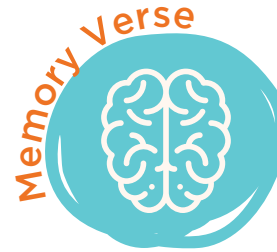


God, help us to always remember that we can pray to you about anything, at anytime, in any place. Thank you for listening to us, even when we choose not to listen to you. AMEN.

Prayers of the Bible  
WBS Kids Lesson #16  
Jonah 1:17-2:10



Even when we don't listen to God, God listens to us when we pray.



You, Lord, are forgiving and good.  
Psalm 86:5



When God asked Jonah to do something for Him, Jonah didn't want to do it. Instead, he tried to run away from God. He ended up in the belly of a big fish. Then he remembered to pray. Talk with your kids about times when they (or you) have made bad decisions and ended up in an unhappy place. Remind your kids that they can talk to God about anything, anytime, anywhere.



God, help us to always remember that we can pray to you about anything, at anytime, in any place. Thank you for listening to us, even when we choose not to listen to you. AMEN.