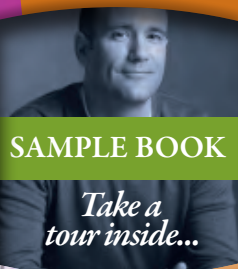


JONAH

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDIES

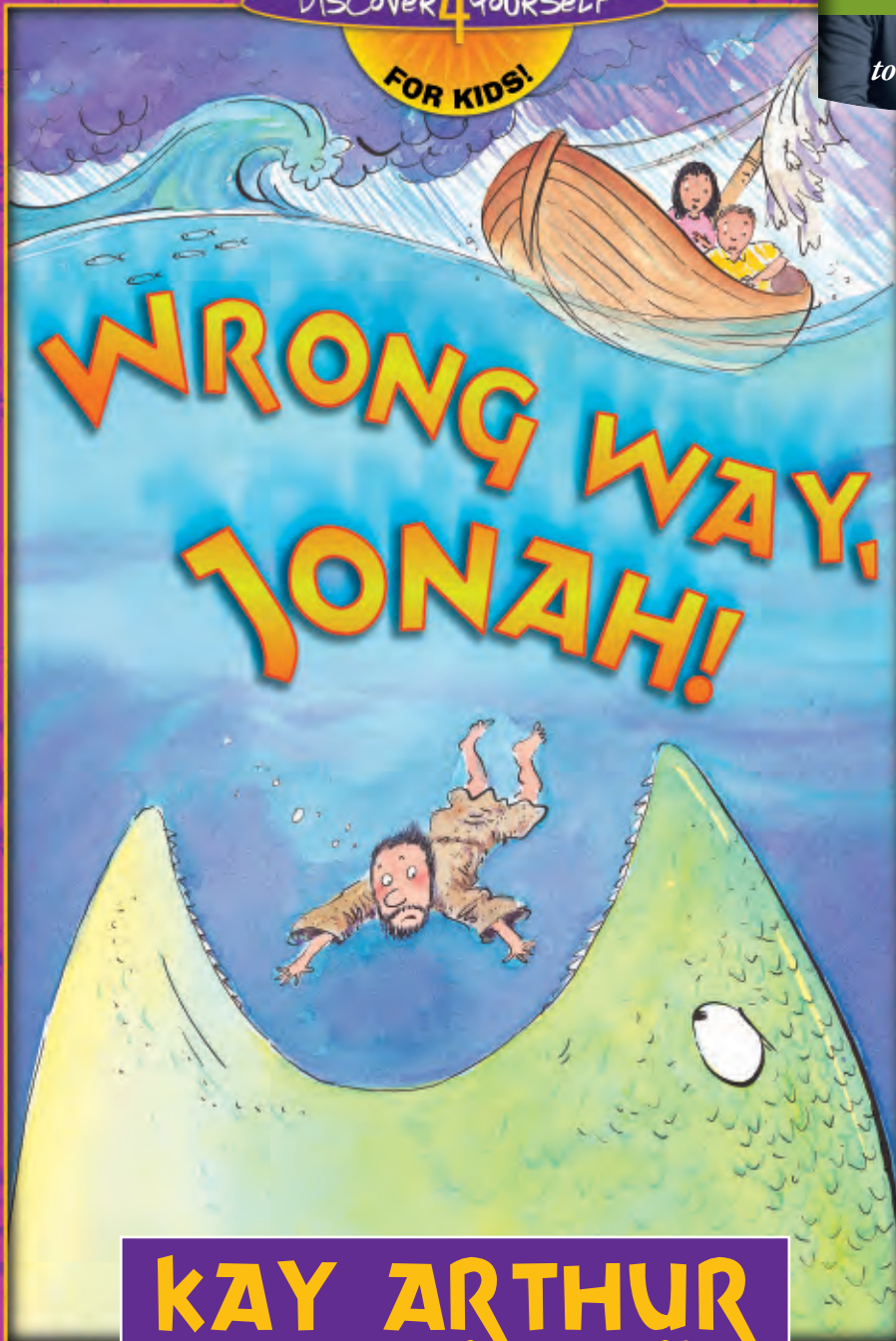
DISCOVER YOURSELF

FOR KIDS!



SAMPLE BOOK

Take a tour inside...



KAY ARTHUR
WITH SCOTI DOMEIJ

**WRONG WAY,
JONAH!**

JONAH

KAY ARTHUR
WITH SCOTI DOMEIJ

HARVEST HOUSE PUBLISHERS
Eugene, Oregon 97402

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A Bible Study *You* Can Do!

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Discover 4 Yourself Inductive Bible Studies for Kids

WRONG WAY, JONAH!

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GETTING THE STORY FROM GOD'S WORD

A BIBLE STUDY YOU CAN DO!

There's a big news story unfolding in Israel! It has something to do with their old enemy Assyria—and we at the *Testimony Times* need the scoop! We need to know what's going on and why, who's involved, and what all the commotion means. And we want to be the first to print the story!

This is a big assignment for a rookie reporter, but we know you can do it! You have exactly what you need: God's Word in your hands and God's Spirit to help you understand it.

Besides, the book that you're holding is designed to help you get the story—and understand what it means for you! It's called an inductive Bible study. That word *inductive* means that this Bible study is set up to help you investigate the book of Jonah and discover for yourself what it means. Instead of reading what someone else says the story means, you'll look at the Bible passages and figure it out for yourself.

So your assignment is to stick close to Jonah (we'll cover your travel expenses), interview the people he knew (you'll definitely meet some interesting folks), and let us know what happens as it happens (all the materials you need are right here).

If you're ready, let's get started!

THINGS YOU'LL NEED

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE (UPDATED EDITION)

PEN OR PENCIL

COLORED PENCILS FOR OBSERVATION WORKSHEETS

INDEX CARDS

A DICTIONARY

THIS WORKBOOK

Disciple.

"I like the interactivity of these studies - so do my kids."

1



JONAH 1

Your Assignment

When news stories break, a lot can happen in a little bit of time. So as you dig into the story of Jonah, keep your wits about you. We're sure that with God's help you'll be able to gather the facts, write a super story, and even learn some lessons for life.

In fact, before your assignment on the Joppa-Nineveh news desk is over, you'll learn a lot about Jonah and about God. And we look forward to the reporting you'll do for the readers of *Testimony Times*. Get to work! We want to scoop the competition and be the first with the story.

One more thing. Along the way you'll find activities labeled "Extra! Extra!" These aren't necessary for you to get the facts for the *Testimony Times*, but they're a great chance for you to have fun and learn more.



Discover.

"I like news. It's cool that we're going to be reporters on a story!"



GETTING YOUR BEARINGS

Have you ever thought you knew something—and then found out you weren't quite right? Well, investigative reporters need to be accurate! We don't want hunches: We want the story told as it happened. After all, people are counting on you to give them the facts.

So before you start to track down Jonah, list three things you've heard from others about what happened to him. While you're on assignment, you'll see if they were right!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Go Deeper.

"I can memorize Bible verses and remember them when I need them."

A WORD TO OUR NEW REPORTER

Each week on this assignment you'll have a memory verse. It will give you direction as you do your investigative work. Here's the verse for this week.

For I know that the Lord is great
And that our Lord is above all gods.
Whatever the Lord pleases, He does,
In heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all the
deeps.

— Psalm 135:5-6

Now write Psalm 135:5-6 on an index card so you can carry

● it with you. Read it out loud at least three times each day.

● Your goal is to memorize this verse by the end of the week.

● What are three things your memory verse tells you about God?

● 1. _____

● 2. _____

● 3. _____

● Has anything in your life made you think that "the Lord is great"? List two or three of those things.

● _____

● _____

● _____

● Where does the Lord do whatever He pleases?

● _____



HEADLINE NEWS

A great way to tackle any assignment for the Lord is to start by praying, and your investigative report is no exception. Your Bible is the source for the information you need, and it's important to ask God to help you understand what you find there. So ask God to help you get the facts straight and then read through Jonah 1. It starts on page 89 of this book.

Reporters need to get the reader's attention, and a good headline is key. In newspaper talk, "head" is short for "headline" and

refers to the title of the story. The “head” lets the reader know what the story is about in just a few words. Write a “head” for Jonah 1.

Investigative reporters need to identify the main people and the most important events in the story they’re writing. One way you can do this is by looking for words that pop up again and again.

We call those *key words* because they unlock the meaning of the Bible passage and give you the facts you need for writing your story.

Key words offer you clues about what is most important in a passage of Scripture. Taking the time to mark them will help you figure out for yourself what the Bible is teaching.

KEY WORDS

- ✓ Key words are usually used over and over again
- ✓ Key words are important
- ✓ Key words are used by the writer for a reason

Now turn to page 89. We call these pages “Observation Worksheets,” and this is where you’ll do your investigative work. Today, you’ll focus on Jonah 1:1-9. As you read these nine verses again, look for and mark the key words listed below.

Here are some helpful ways to mark these words. You may mark them by using different colors instead of symbols. Different colors are easier to spot quickly. However, if you want to use symbols, remember to keep them simple. You can use ours or make up your own.

By the way, you also need to mark the pronouns that refer to each one of the key words.

 Jonah (orange)

 Lord or Lord God (yellow)

 sailors (dark blue)

 captain (blue and red)

 calamity (red)

Good job! You’ve found some important clues. Tomorrow we’ll start figuring out what they tell us!

WHAT’S IN A NAME?

We bet you know what a noun is. A noun is a person, place, or thing. But do you know what a pronoun is?

Pronouns are words that take the place of nouns so you don’t have to repeat words over and over again. For example, read this sentence: “I have a friend named Bob. Bob likes people to call Bob and tell Bob that Bob is a nice guy.” Doesn’t that sound funny?

Now read it again with the pronouns “he” and “him”: “I have a friend named Bob. He likes people to call him and tell him that he is a nice guy.” You can see that the “he’s” and “hims” all mean “Bob.”

Be on the lookout for these other pronouns when you’re marking key words:

I	you	he	she
me	yours	him	her
mine		his	hers

we	it
our	its
they	them

It may take some practice, but you’ll get it!

Disciple.

“My third graders are learning the Bible and transferable reading skills. Thanks!”



WAY WRONG, JONAH!

Don't try to tackle your big assignment today without praying or reviewing your memory verse. Okay, let's go!

The 5Ws and an H

The "5Ws and an H" is an odd phrase that refers to the questions "WHO?" "WHAT?" "WHERE?" "WHEN?" "WHY?" and "HOW?" A well-written article will answer those questions for the reader. In fact, the lead (or opening sentence) will include answers to as many of those questions as possible, and the paragraphs that follow will give more details.

Look again at Jonah 1:1-9.

Jonah 1:1 WHO is the main person in this story?

Jonah 1:2 WHAT two things did God tell Jonah to do?

Jonah 1:2 WHY did God want Jonah to go to Nineveh?

Jonah 1:3 HOW did Jonah respond to God's command?



Jonah 1:4 WHAT did God do when Jonah tried to run from His presence?

That's a lot of action in just a few verses! Already the story is exciting! But the story will mean more if you understand (and explain to your readers) something about where all this action is taking place.

Jonah's Flight Plan

Turn again to your Observation Worksheet. Draw two green lines under the names of these cities every time you see them:

- Nineveh
- Tarshish
- Joppa

As a reporter who wants to get all the facts, this is a good way to mark anything that tells you WHERE. Now look at this map.



Jonah 1:2 WHERE did God tell Jonah to go?

Draw a green arrow from Jonah to the city God told him to go.

Jonah 1:3 WHERE did Jonah go to instead?

Draw a red arrow from Jonah to the seaport city where he bought a ticket for a boat ride.

Jonah 1:3 WHERE was the boat going to?

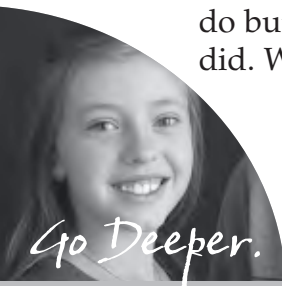
Now draw another red arrow from Joppa to where the ship was going to take Jonah.

Which way was Jonah going? The right way or the wrong way? How do you know?

Can you think of a time when you knew the right thing to do but didn't do it? Write out a brief story about what you did. What happened? What should you have done?

WRONG WAY, _____ !

(put your name here)



Go Deeper.

"These questions make me think about what's in my heart, not just my brother's or sister's."

Jonah went the wrong way when he headed out for Joppa instead of Nineveh. Not a great start on his mission from God! But you're off to a super start in your assignment to track this story! Keep up the good work!



LOTS TO DO

Take a moment to remember what was happening when we left Jonah.

Jonah 1:2 WHERE did God want Jonah to go?

Jonah 1:3 WHERE was Jonah during the sea voyage?

Jonah 1:4 WHAT were the weather conditions?



NINEVEH—THEN AND NOW

Nineveh was the capital city of the nation of Assyria, a longtime enemy of Israel. For more than 100 years, the Assyrians continually attacked the borders and raided the land. The Assyrians were fierce warriors who either killed or tortured the people they defeated—and that included the Jews.

Nineveh itself was a large city (it took three days to walk through it) located on the east bank of the Tigris River. It was built at the main river crossing leading to the best farmland. The wall that surrounded the city was 50 feet high. Nineveh was also home to many beautiful temples built to false gods. The people's idol worship made God angry.

The ruins of Nineveh are in the modern-day country of Iraq.

Now for more details.

Jonah 1:5 HOW did the sailors respond to the storm?

Jonah 1:5 WHAT was Jonah doing as the storm raged?

Jonah 1:6 WHAT instructions does the captain give Jonah?

Jonah 1:7 WHAT do the sailors do to figure out why they were in such a nasty storm?

Jonah 1:7 WHO did the lots fall on?

Jonah 1:8 WHAT did the sailors want to know about Jonah?

Jonah 1:9 WHAT did Jonah say? WHAT did he leave out? (Remember verse 2!)

CASTING LOTS

In the Old Testament, people cast lots to decide things. God sometimes used lots to reveal truth to His people. In the New Testament God gave His people different ways to know the truth, by reading His Word and obeying the leaders He had appointed over them.

Lots were small bits of wood or stone. Sometimes the names of people were written on the stones. The stones were placed in a container and shaken together. The first "lot" to fall out showed who was chosen. When the sailors cast lots, who was identified? Right! The storm had struck because of Jonah.

Let's see what your key words help reveal about this passage of Scripture.

What key word does verse 7 contain?

What do you think "calamity" means? Use a dictionary to confirm your guess.

Disciple.

"My advanced readers like more detail. Sidebars like these really help them get the context for the Bible and the study comes to life."

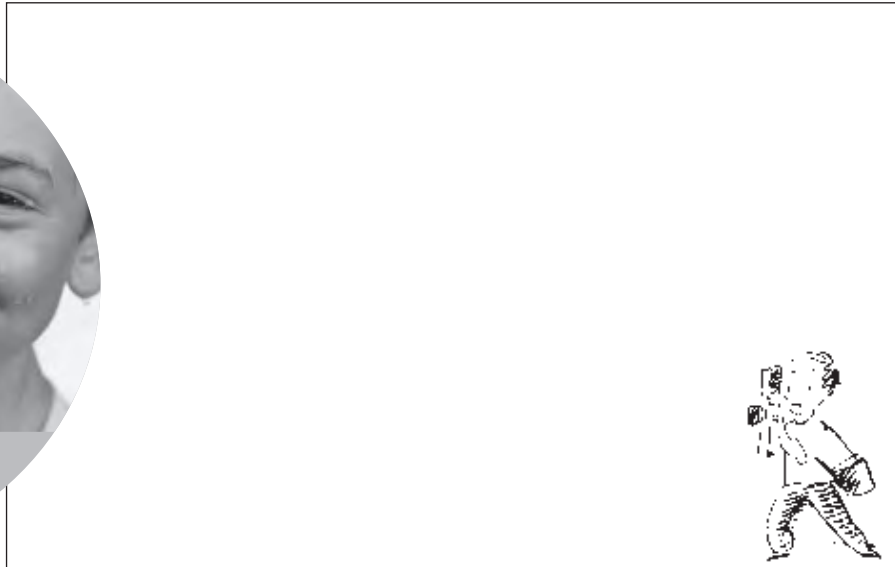
Now investigate the text! Read Jonah 1:1-9. What is the calamity? How is it described in Jonah 1:4?

Mark these words the same way you marked the key words.

A picture is worth a thousand words! And it gets our attention quickly. In Jonah's day they didn't have cameras so they had to draw pictures. Instead of taking a photo, draw a picture of what you've seen in Jonah 1:1-9. We plan to run the drawing with your piece—and the right "shot" will make your story impossible to skip!



"Cool!"



One more thing. Practice your memory verse by reading it or trying to say it without looking at your card. What evidence that "whatever [the Lord] pleases, He does" have you seen in Jonah 1:1-9?



GOING TO PRESS

The deadline approaches! We need to get the story printed, and we know you're almost ready to send it our way!

A few days ago when you first read through Jonah 1, you wrote a head for the chapter. Write that title here.

To keep the reader's interest and move the story along in bite-sized pieces, journalists often write subheads for different sections of their story. Since this is the first piece of your ongoing story, come up with another head for Jonah 1:1-9. Write it at the top of your story on p. 18.

Look again at the photo you drew yesterday. It's time to fill in the holes of your story.



TESTIMONY TIMES

ISSUE 1 VOL 1

BIG NEWS!

Put your headline here.

Although commanded by _____ whom (Jonah 1:1) _____ to go to _____ where (verse 2) _____ to _____ what (verse 2) _____ the prophet _____ who (verse 1) _____ headed instead for a seaport in Joppa. After buying a ticket for Tarshish, he climbed aboard the ship and went down into its hold. Sources say Jonah was trying to flee from _____ whom (verse 3) _____

Not long into the voyage a great calamity happened.

A violent _____ what (verse 4) _____ struck. Sailors threw cargo overboard to lighten the load and save the ship and their lives. When the storm didn't stop, they decided to cast _____ what (verse 7) _____ why (verse 7) _____ When the lot fell to _____ whom (verse 7) _____ the sailors asked him many questions. As the waves crashed and wind howled, Jonah responded, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear _____ whom (verse 9) _____ who made the sea and the dry land."

"EXTRA! EXTRA!"

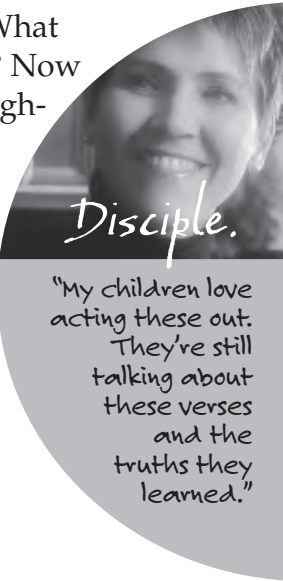
Give Us a Hand!

Your story was so good, you may want to get some of your friends and turn it into a TV show.

As you read either Jonah 1:1-9 from the Bible or the story you wrote before or as you tell of the events in your own words, use hand motions and sound effects to illustrate what is happening. What will the rain sound like? How will you make the noise of the wind? What gestures suggest Jonah is running? Now



you're ready to put your show on for your family or neighbors. Have fun! We'll add more later!



Disciple.

"My children love acting these out. They're still talking about these verses and the truths they learned."

Great story! You'll have readers looking forward to the next report!

OBSERVATION WORKSHEETS

JONAH

Chapter 1

- 1 The word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai saying,
- 2 “Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me.”
- 3 But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. So he went down to Joppa, found a ship which was going to Tarshish, paid the fare and went down into it to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.
- 4 The LORD hurled a great wind on the sea and there was a great storm on the sea so that the ship was about to break up.
- 5 Then the sailors became afraid and every man cried to his god, and they threw the cargo which was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone below into the hold of the ship, lain down and fallen sound asleep.
- 6 So the captain approached him and said, “How is it that you are sleeping? Get up, call on your god. Perhaps your god will be concerned about us so that we will not perish.”
- 7 Each man said to his mate, “Come, let us cast lots so we may learn on whose account this calamity has struck us.” So they cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.
- 8 Then they said to him, “Tell us, now! On whose account has this calamity struck us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?”
- 9 He said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD God of heaven who made the sea and the dry land.”

- 10 Then the men became extremely frightened and they said to him, “How could you do this?” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.
- 11 So they said to him, “What should we do to you that the sea may become calm for us?”—for the sea was becoming increasingly stormy.
- 12 He said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm has come upon you.”
- 13 However, the men rowed desperately to return to land but they could not, for the sea was becoming even stormier against them.
- 14 Then they called on the LORD and said, “We earnestly pray, O LORD, do not let us perish on account of this man’s life and do not put innocent blood on us; for You, O LORD, have done as You have pleased.”
- 15 So they picked up Jonah, threw him into the sea, and the sea stopped its raging.
- 16 Then the men feared the LORD greatly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.
- 17 And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.

Chapter 2

- 1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the stomach of the fish,
- 2 And he said,
“I called out of my distress to the LORD,
And He answered me.
I cried for help from the depth of Sheol;
You heard my voice.
- 3 “For You had cast me into the deep,
Into the heart of the seas,
And the current engulfed me.
All Your breakers and billows passed over me.



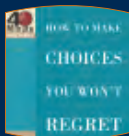
Discover. Go Deeper. Disciple.

Wherever they are on their faith journey, Precept can help your people get into God's Word for themselves.



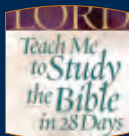
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