

God's Story

Our Story

Nov. 6, 2016



SHARE
your highs and lows

You may want to light a candle to begin your time. Invite all to share their highs and lows of the day.



READ
a Bible verse or story

If your household includes younger children you may want to use a children's Bible story book. If the assigned reading is not in your storybook, just choose another.

Sun: *Jonah and God's Mercy,*
Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11]

Mon: *Zephaniah Prophesies Against the Kingdoms,* Zephaniah 1:14-18

Tue: *Nahum Prophesies of God's Wrath,*
Nahum 1:1-11

Wed: *Habakkuk Prophesies and Prays,*
Habakkuk 3:1-19

Thur: *God Calls Jeremiah,* Jeremiah 1:1-19

Fri: *Ezekiel Sees a Vision,* Ezekiel 1:1-28

Sat: *The Valley of Dry Bones,* Ezekiel 37:1-14



TALK
about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows

Talk about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows. More discussion questions are on the back side.



PRAY
for one another's highs and lows

A prayer for the week: God of the heavens, who made the sea and dry land, and everything in it, please help all of creation to follow you. Even when we want to runaway from our problems, like Jonah, lead us with a gentle hand. Amen.



BLESS
one another

Pat your bellies, and say, **“As God was with Jonah in the belly of a fish, God will be with you wherever you go. Amen.”**

If you want a job done, don't send Jonah. Chances are he'll end up on a cruise heading in the opposite direction, or putting his fellow sailors in mortal peril. And when he finally (reluctantly) relents to the task at hand, he regrets his own success. Is God's mercy great enough even for the resistant prophet?

More resources for being the church at home this week

A meal time prayer: From the fish of the sea to the grains of wheat, thank you, God, for everything that is good to eat. With our bellies fed and hearts warmed, be with us God, through life's storm. Amen.

More questions for conversation:

Jonah tried to hide from God. He did not want to go to Nineveh and tell the people to repent. But God found Jonah, and next time he followed God. It's not always easy to follow God! Can you think of a time when you tried to do what's right and failed? Luckily, we have a God that loves us no matter what!

What countries or cultures do you most dislike? Why? How will you treat these neighbors knowing that God has asked you to love and serve people there?

When have you been angry with God for being generous with a someone you felt deserved punishment? What could you do to show love, rather than anger or hatred?

Ideas for putting faith in action:

By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive.

Do some research on a country or culture that you find it difficult to appreciate. Learn about what they eat, what holidays they celebrate, where and how they worship, what they wear, and more. Does your increased understanding make it easier or harder to love them?

Take care of creation: Rake leaves, winterize the yard, or clean up the sidewalk by your home.

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