

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church or download at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



2.10

GOD IS GRACIOUS

Jonah 1—4

Jonah fled from God and got swallowed by a large fish. Jonah repented and God was gracious and gave him another chance.

JUST FOR FUN

Play a game of hide and seek with your kids. Talk about how fun it can be to find a good hiding spot where nobody can find you. Explain that Jonah was trying to hide from God. Remind them that there is nowhere we can hide from God. **Read Jonah 1:1—2:10.**

Did You Know?

- Ninevah was the center of the ancient Assyrian empire.
- The Ninevites worshipped an evil goddess named Ashtarte, and they were known for their cruelty and horrible behavior.
- God was gracious to the Ninevites by sparing their city. He was also gracious to Jonah by continuing to provide opportunities for him to repent.

Remember Verse

*As for me, I call to God,
and the LORD saves me.*

Psalm 55:16

Many children this age enjoy water play. After reading the Jonah story, give your child a bucket or tub with water in it. Then, give him a toy boat, fish, or other water-safe toys. Allow him to recreate Jonah's story as he plays.

Teachable Moments

- Why do you think Jonah ran away from God?
- Have you ever tried to run and hide from someone? What happened?
- How does it make you feel to know that God is gracious?

Blessing

For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **God is gracious and He loves you. May you trust in God and follow Him all the days of your life.**