

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

Scripture

Jonah 1:1-4, 17; 2:10-3:5, 10; 4:1, 8-11

Session Summary

In the story of Jonah, God relentlessly pursued the people of Nineveh and the heart of Jonah. When the word of God came to Jonah to preach a message to Nineveh, he ran. However, he didn't get far when God sent a storm that would have him cast into the sea and swallowed by a fish. In the midst of God's discipline, Jonah recognized his need to repent and ask for forgiveness. He went on to preach to the Ninevites and the people repented of their ways immediately. Instead of being amazed by the mercy of God, Jonah's heart was hardened and he was angry over God's forgiveness of the Ninevites. God once again pursued Jonah, which revealed He wasn't simply trying to get Jonah to accomplish a missionary task; He was after Jonah's heart.

Conversation Questions

- Who does God desire for our family to extend mercy and love to right now?
- Have there been opportunities that God has given our family to further the gospel?
- Were we obedient or disobedient to God when those opportunities were presented? Why or why not?
- How has bias or prejudice kept our family from loving or extending mercy to those around us?

Family Challenge

As a family, discuss what opportunities are available right now for your family to further the gospel. Maybe it means inviting your neighbors over for dinner or serving down at the local homeless center. Whatever it is, make a plan and don't delay in following through! Pull out your phone or your family calendar and put something into motion today. God demands obedience and He desires for His people to share His truth and love with others.