



# Jonah and the Ninevites

**Lesson Aim: To know God gives second chances because He cares about everyone.**

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God is:** The God of Power

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Jonah 1:4-5, 7, 11-12, 17; 3:4, 8-9; 4:1-2, 5-11

**What He has done:** God gave Jonah and the Ninevites each a second chance.

**Key Verse:** Jonah 4:2

## THE WAY

**Christ Connection:** 2 Peter 3:9

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Prepare to meet your God, O Israel. He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the Lord God Almighty is His name." "Seek good, not evil, that you may live.

Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you, just as you say He is." Amos 4:12b-13; 5:14

<b>Unit 7: The Prophets and God's Power</b>			
	<b>Bible Story</b>	<b>What He Has Done</b>	<b>Lesson Aim</b>
32	Elijah on Mount Carmel, 1 Kings 18:21, 24-32, 36-39	God sent fire to prove He is the one true God.	To acknowledge God as the one true God.
33	Elijah and Elisha, 2 Kings 2:1, 7-15	God chose Elisha to be Elijah's successor when He brought Elijah up to heaven.	To know God gives us spiritual gifts and mentors to help us accomplish the work He has for us.
34	Elisha and the Chariots of Fire, 2 Kings 6:15-20	God sent invisible horses and chariots of fire to protect His people.	To know we are surrounded by God's protection.
35	The Prophet Joel, Joel 2:1, 13, 25, 28, 32	God sent a message to His people through the prophet Joel.	To know God judges our hearts and wants our hearts to turn to Him.
36	Jonah and the Ninevites, Jonah 1:4-5, 7, 11-12, 17; 3:4, 8-9; 4:1-2, 5-11	God gave Jonah and the Ninevites each a second chance.	To know God gives second chances because He cares about everyone.
37	Amos and the Plumb Line, Amos 4:12b-13; 5:11-14; 7:7-8	God sent Amos with a message of justice and righteous living to the Israelites.	To know the Bible is the standard God gives us for living upright lives.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Jeremiah 31:3. Please join in praying, "Lord, thank You for speaking through the prophets. Fill the children with Your Spirit so they might know Your mercy and show kindness to others. Amen."

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**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Meet &amp; Greet</b>	None
		<b>Game: Dodge Fish</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	<b>Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Prepare to Meet Your God" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Everyone Who Calls" "I Lift Up My Eyes" "He Is Mighty to Save" "Neither Death nor Life" "Search Me, O God" "To Him Who Sits on the Throne" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "How Great Is Our God" "How Great Thou Art" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Worship Jamz Series Shout Praises Kids: Hymns
		<b>Worship Scripture Reading:</b> Jonah 2:7-9	Bible
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	Lesson 36 The Love Sub script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Read the Word:</b> Jonah 1:4-5, 7, 11-12, 17; 3:4, 8-9; 4:1-2, 5-11	Readers' Theatre scripts, props, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Discuss the Word</b>	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		<b>Christ Connection:</b> 2 Peter 3:9	
		<b>Golden Bowl</b>	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
	Final 5	<b>Final Five Minutes</b>	Treasure Treats—Any candy or snack shaped like a worm (gummy worms, licorice), W <sup>3</sup> s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Prepare to Meet Your God," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Snack:</b> Little Fish, Big Fish	Any fish-shaped snack
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Second Chance Toss	Two cups, two small balls (ping pong balls, golf balls, or marbles), floor tape or chalk
	Up to 15	<b>Craft:</b> Jonah and the Giant Fish Mobile	Paper plate, sturdy paper, yarn, paper clip, scissors, glue or tape, hole punch, crayons or markers
	Up to 5	<b>Discussion:</b> The Sign of Jonah	Bible
	Up to 5	<b>Discussion:</b> What Happened Next?	Bible
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Picture God's Power	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase board and marker or chalkboard and chalk, timer
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Unscramble the Verse	Paper, marker, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player, timer
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Timeline Review</b>	Date with story title or name printed on card

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

## THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

**Meet & Greet Question: When has someone given you a second chance?**

### **GAME: DODGE FISH**

**Purpose:** Children will begin to discover God gave Jonah and the Ninevites a second chance.

**Supplies:** None

**Let's pretend we are sailing to a place called Tarshish. When the captain of the ship chooses you to swim, try to sneak past the Great Fish without getting caught!**

#### **Directions:**

1. Choose one child to be the Giant Fish. Choose another child to be the Captain. The remaining children are the Sailors.
2. At one end of the play area, the Sailors stand shoulder-to-shoulder in a line. The Captain stands behind the Sailors. Point to a wall or object on the opposite side of the play area to represent Tarshish. The Giant Fish stands in the middle of the room, facing the Sailors, and closes his or her eyes.
3. The Captain touches one Sailor on the shoulder and says, "It's time to go to Tarshish." The Giant Fish opens his or her eyes and the Sailor must try to get past the Giant Fish and touch Tarshish.
  - If the Giant Fish tags the Sailor before he or she touches Tarshish, the Sailor becomes the Giant Fish and the Giant Fish becomes a Sailor.
  - If the Giant Fish does not tag the Sailor before the Sailor touches Tarshish, the Giant Fish returns to wait for another Sailor.
4. Play as often as you like.
  - Choose a new Giant Fish if the Giant Fish misses three Sailors in a row.
  - You may choose to pick a new Captain if you play several times.

**God told the prophet Jonah to go and warn the Ninevites, but Jonah disobeyed and tried to sail the opposite direction to a place called Tarshish. In our Bible story, we will find out how God gave Jonah and the Ninevites each a second chance to obey Him and do what was right.**

**Limited space?** Play SECOND CHANCE TOSS located in the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.



The God of Power

## THE WORSHIP

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



**We worship the God of Power. In today's story, we will see His power in the way He provided a storm, a big fish, a vine, sunshine, and even a worm to offer second chances to Jonah and the Ninevites. Jonah prayed to God because he knew about God's power, patience, and kindness. Each time, God heard and answered Jonah's prayers. Listen as I read part of Jonah's prayer from when he was inside the belly of the big fish. Read Jonah 2:7-9.**



**As we give our offering today, let's thank God for the second chances He has given us.** Play: "Search Me, O God" as background music while collecting the offering.

**The same Lord that was with Jonah then is with us now. Let's praise Him as Jonah did in the belly of the big fish.** Sing "How Great Is Our God" and "He Is Mighty to Save." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God's patience and His kindness.



Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 7, Lesson 36.



**Just as He did with Jonah and the Ninevites, God gives us many chances to come to Him. He wants us to be prepared to meet Him one day.** Sing the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Prepare to Meet Your God."



God gives Jonah a second chance

## THE WORD

**Teacher Tip:** As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write their name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

**Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."**

**Last time, we learned the prophet Joel warned the people the Day of the Lord was coming when Jesus will come to judge the world. Today, we will learn about Jonah and the good news that God gives us second chances to turn away from wrongdoing.** If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Jonah (Circa 781 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. If a map is available, point to the location of the ancient city of Nineveh located between the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean. Nineveh was across the river from the modern-day major city of Mosul, Iraq, on the eastern bank of the Tigris in ancient Assyria.



**Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you.** Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Jonah 1:4-5, 7, 11-12, 17; 3:4, 8-9; 4:1-2, 5-11. **Let's start with Jonah 4:2, and see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Jonah 4:2.**

**Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us?** Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

**READERS' THEATRE: Instead of reading our Bible passage, let's act it out.** Distribute the Readers' Theatre scripts to the children, assign roles, and hand out props. Read and act out the Bible story from Jonah 1-4.

**Optional:** The Readers' Theatre script directly quotes the Bible Story Scripture passages. If you choose to omit the Readers' Theater, read the following information and passages. **Jonah ran away when God told him to go to Nineveh. Check out what happened when Jonah sailed for Tarshish.** Read Jonah 1:4-5, 7, 11-12, 17. **Inside the big fish, Jonah prayed for God to save him. God heard Jonah's prayer and commanded the big fish to spit him onto the shore. This time, Jonah obeyed. Read the warning Jonah gave the Ninevites.** Read Jonah 3:4. **Look for the choice and promise from God in the king's decree to the Ninevites.** Read Jonah 3:8-9. **The Ninevites turned from their evil ways, so God gave them a second chance. He did not harm them. Jonah was angry that God did not punish them. Let's see what God did to teach Jonah why He gave the Ninevites a second chance.** Read Jonah 4:1-2, 5-11.



God gives everyone second chances

## THE WAY

**How did God give Jonah a second chance?** (God had the fish spit Jonah onto the shore. God told Jonah a second time to go warn the Ninevites.) **Have you ever been sorry for your wrongdoing and wanted a second chance to make things right?** (Children respond.) **Has someone ever given you a second chance to do the right thing?** (Children respond.) **Have you ever given someone else a second chance when they wronged you?** (Children respond.)

**Why was Jonah angry that God gave the Ninevites a second chance?** (He wanted God to punish them.) **Have you ever been angry when others were not punished for their wrongdoings?** (Children respond.) **Jonah didn't want to give the people of Nineveh a second chance. Is there someone in your life who needs you to give them a second chance?** (Children respond.)

**The Ninevites were known for doing evil. They hurt many of God's people. Did Jonah have the right to be angry about God's choice concerning the Ninevites He created?** (Children respond.) **What did God show Jonah by growing the vine and sending the worm to destroy it?** (Children respond.) **Jonah learned He had no right to complain about the choices God made concerning the vine He created. What changes did God see in the king and the Ninevites after Jonah warned them?** (They were sorry. They repented.) **To repent is to turn from doing things our way and to choose to do things God's way instead.**

**Every wrongdoing deserves punishment, but we are blessed because God does not always give us what we deserve. That's called mercy. How did God show mercy to Jonah?** (Children respond.) **How did God show mercy to the Ninevites?** (Children respond.) **How has God shown mercy to you?** (Children respond.)

**By giving the Ninevites a second chance, God showed He loves the whole world, not just His own people. He will give a second chance to anyone, no matter who they are or what evil they have done, if they just believe and repent. What did Jesus have to do to give the whole world a second chance for life forever close with God?** (He had to take our punishment of death by dying on the cross.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

## CHRIST CONNECTION

**God showed His great patience when He gave Jonah and the Ninevites a second chance to repent and be close with Him. 800 years later, Peter explained how God still shows His great patience with us today. At that time, people were asking why God had not yet kept His promise that Jesus would return, coming with the clouds, to judge the world.**



**FIND IT FIRST** > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: 2 Peter 3:9. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read 2 Peter 3:9.

**God is patient with us and gives us many, many chances to repent. How has God shown His patience with you, with this nation, or with the world?** (Children respond.)

# THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

## GOLDEN BOWL

**Teacher Tip:** Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

**Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.**

**Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_. Read names in Golden Bowl.**

**Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## FINAL FIVE MINUTES

**TREASURE TREAT:** Today, your Treasure Treat is a snack shaped like the worm God sent to chew Jonah's shade vine! Tell your family the story of Jonah and his second chance. (Alternate treasure treat: A fish-shaped snack like the big fish in the story.)

**W<sup>3</sup>:** Take home today's W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry #36. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

**OFFERING OF ART:** Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jonah praying to God from inside the belly of the big fish.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Play the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Prepare to Meet Your God," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SNACK: LITTLE FISH, BIG FISH**

**Purpose:** Children will eat a fish-shaped snack while discussing second chances.

**Supplies:** Any fish-shaped snack

**What was the name of the city of people who were given a second chance to obey God in today's story?** (The Ninevites.) **Who else received a second chance?** (Jonah.) **God gives us second chances because of His patience and loving kindness. We can show His patience and loving kindness when we give others a second chance to do what is right. Let's eat a snack shaped like the fish that swallowed Jonah and talk about a time when you gave someone a second chance.**

**Directions:**

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"When have you given someone a second chance?"**

### **GAME: SECOND CHANCE TOSS**

**Purpose:** For children to appreciate getting a second chance from God to do what is right.

**Supplies** Two cups, two small balls (ping pong balls, golf balls, or marbles), floor tape or chalk

**Prepare:** Mark a start line for each team with floor tape or chalk. Place a cup several feet in front of each start line. (The distance will depend on the ability level of the children. It should be a challenge to get the ball in the cup, but not impossible.)

**Directions:**

1. Form two teams. Teams line up behind their designated start line.
2. The children on each team each get one chance to toss the ball into the cup from behind their team line. Keep a total of the successful tosses for each team.
3. After all the children have a turn, read the scores aloud.
4. **Many of you missed the cup, but don't worry; this game is called "Second Chance Toss." That means you get a second chance!**
5. Move the cups so they are only one foot in front of the start lines.
6. Give each child a second chance to toss the ball into the cup. Keep a total of the successful tosses for each team.
7. After all the children have a turn, read the new scores aloud.

**How did you feel about getting a second chance to score points for your team?** (Children respond.) **Both Jonah and the Ninevites disobeyed God. What did God do?** (Gave them each a second chance to obey Him.) **How do you feel about getting a second chance to obey God?** (Children respond.) **God gives you a second chance because He cares about you!**

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **CRAFT: JONAH AND THE GIANT FISH MOBILE**

**Purpose:** Children will make a mobile featuring Jonah and the giant fish to help them remember God gives second chances to everyone.

**Supplies:** Paper plate, sturdy paper, yarn, paper clip, scissors, glue or tape, hole punch, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** From sturdy paper, draw and cutout Jonah (one to two inches tall). On the paper plate, draw a wedge shape from the edge to the middle of the plate. Children will cut this out to make the fish's mouth and then use the wedge piece for the fish's tail. Between the point of the wedge and the opposite edge of the plate, draw a circle shape (using the rim of a cup or other round object) for the fish's belly.

**Optional:** You may choose to cut out the wedge and circle for younger children or if your time is limited. Use large wiggly eyes on the fish. Cover the fish with shiny paper or glitter for scales.

**Today, we learned God gave Jonah a second chance. What did God want Jonah to do?** (Warn the people in Nineveh to stop doing evil.) **What did Jonah do instead?** (Ran away and sailed for Tarshish.) **How did God give Jonah a second chance?** (When Jonah was in the stormy sea, God provided a big fish to swallow him and spit him up onto the shore three days later.) **What did God give Jonah a second chance to do?** (To obey God by going to warn Nineveh.)

### **Directions:**

1. Cut out the circle shape for the fish's belly.
2. Cut out the wedge shape for the fish's mouth.
3. Glue or tape the wedge cutout to the opposite edge of the paper plate for the tail.
4. Decorate your fish.
5. Color Jonah.
6. Punch holes in the top of Jonah, above the fish's belly, and at the top of the fish.
7. Slide the paperclip through the hole above the fish's belly.
8. Slide Jonah onto the paper clip so he hangs down into the belly.
9. Tie a length of yarn through the top hole for a hanger.

**Take your "Jonah and the Giant Fish Mobile" home. Use your craft to tell the story of how God gave Jonah a second chance. Take Jonah on and off the paperclip to tell the story.**

## **DISCUSSION: THE SIGN OF JONAH**

**Purpose:** Children learn how the story of Jonah is connected with Jesus.

**Supplies:** Bible

**800 years after God gave Jonah a second chance, who did God send to give the whole world a second chance?** (He sent His Son Jesus as the Savior to give the world a chance for forgiveness and life forever with God.)

**At that time, the Pharisee and the teachers of the law asked Jesus to give them a sign to prove He was the promised Savior. Jesus knew that He would die and be buried for three days, and then be raised from the dead. Jesus used the story of Jonah to explain to others what was going to happen to Himself. Let's read what Jesus said about Jonah and Nineveh. Read Matthew 12:39-40.**

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **DISCUSSION: WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?**

**Purpose:** Children learn about the prophet Nahum and the fall of Nineveh.

**Supplies:** Bible

**After Jonah gave the Ninevites their first warning from God, they did turn from evil, but not for long. About 100 years later, they returned to their evil and cruel ways. They worshiped idols and false gods. So God sent the prophet Nahum to warn them. Read the warning to the Ninevites in Nahum 1:7-8.**

**Nineveh was the capitol city of Assyria. It was a large city protected by a tall, thick wall surrounding it. Everyone thought that no enemy was powerful enough to destroy Nineveh. History tells us 50 years after Nahum gave the Ninevites their second warning from God, Nineveh was destroyed by a massive flood. Ninevites put their confidence in their own ways and in their high, thick city walls. God sent a flood so powerful that the entire city was completely destroyed.**

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Prepare to meet your God, O Israel. He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the Lord God Almighty is His name.” “Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you, just as you say He is.” Amos 4:12b-13; 5:14

### **GAME: PICTURE GOD’S POWER**

**Purpose:** Children learn the meaning of the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase board and marker or chalkboard and chalk, timer

**Our Bible Memory Verse describes God’s power. What are some of the things these verses say that God does?** (Makes the mountains and the wind, tells His thoughts to us, makes day and night happen, is everywhere on the earth.) **What does the verse say His name is?** (The Lord God Almighty.) **Let’s think of more powerful acts of God.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Choose one child to draw. Child thinks of one way God is powerful. (He sent Jesus to die on the cross, created trees, created sheep, heals people, gives food, etc.) Younger children can focus on drawing one of God’s creations.
2. Set the timer for 60 seconds. (Add more time, if needed.) On your signal, the child draws a simple picture (cross, tree, sheep, person dropping crutches, plate of food, etc.) without talking.
3. The other children try to guess what the picture represents.
  - If a child guesses correctly before the time is up, that child takes the next turn.
  - If no one guesses, the child who was drawing picks the next child to draw.

### **GAME: UNSCRAMBLE THE VERSE**

**Purpose:** Children memorize the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Paper, marker, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player, timer

**Prepare:** Display the Bible Memory Verse poster. Divide the Bible Memory Verse into five or six phrases. Write each phrase on a separate sheet of paper and fold the papers in half so the words are hidden. For non-readers, number the papers in order. For more of a challenge, increase the number of phrases.

#### **Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Shuffle the folded papers. Give each paper to a different child.
3. Play and sing the Bible Memory Verse Song as children pass the folded papers around the circle.
4. After a short time, pause the music. When the song stops, the children holding the folded papers race to put them in order on the floor in the center of the circle. Time how long it takes. Children may look at the Bible Memory Verse poster for help. Non-readers may use the numbers to help them put the phrases in order.
5. Play again. Each time you play, challenge the children to beat their previous times. Eventually, remove the poster for an added challenge.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Prophets & Promises Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Elijah through Malachi. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and He has done.

**Elisha (Circa 845-800 B.C.)** Elisha was the next prophet after Elijah. God had a plan for Elisha when He chose him and gave him Elijah as a teacher. When Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind, what did Elisha do? (He took Elijah's cloak and parted the Jordan River just as Elijah had done.) Everyone who saw this miracle knew Elisha was a prophet of the Lord. When surrounded by the enemy, what did Elijah's servant see when God opened his eyes? (He saw the hills filled with God's horses and chariots of fire.) What did Elisha ask God to do to the enemy army? (Blind them so he could lead them to Samaria.)

**Joel (Circa 830 B.C.)** Joel warned the people of Judah that the Day of the Lord was coming. He compared it to an invasion of locusts. He told them they had a choice to return to God by turning away from sin. He told them God's promises to restore what the locusts had taken, to pour out His Spirit on all people, to save anyone who called upon His name, and to judge the nations for their wrongdoing. Which promise from God means the most to you? (Children respond.)

**Jonah (Circa 781 B.C.)** God sent Jonah to warn the Ninevites. Jonah disobeyed and sailed away to Tarshish. God sent a storm. When the sailors threw Jonah overboard, what did God send to rescue Jonah from the sea? (A big fish.) God gave Jonah a second chance to obey. Jonah obeyed and warned the Ninevites. They turned from evil, so God gave them a second chance, too. Jonah was angry that God took pity on the Ninevites. God used a vine to show Jonah he had no right to be angry with Him for giving the Ninevites a second chance.

How to create a Bible Timeline from Elijah through Malachi:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the Unit 10 cards for Prophets & Promises Lessons 48-52.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

**Elijah – Malachi:** Elijah (Circa 870-845 B.C.) > Elisha (Circa 845-800 B.C.) > Joel (Circa 830 B.C.) > Jonah (Circa 781 B.C.) > Amos (Circa 760 B.C.) > Isaiah (Circa 710 B.C.) > Micah (Circa 700 B.C.) > Zephaniah (Circa 630 B.C.) > Jeremiah (Circa 626 B.C.) > Habakkuk (Circa 603 B.C.) > Ezekiel (Circa 593 B.C.) > Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Circa 580 B.C.) > Daniel (Circa 580 B.C.) > Haggai and Zechariah (Circa 530 B.C.) > Malachi (Circa 430 B.C.)

**Unit 10:** 400 Years of Silence (Circa 400-2 B.C.) > The Birth of Jesus (Circa 7-2 B.C.)