## LESSON 20 "COMPASSION" (page 1)



## **BIBLE CONNECTION**

Jonah 1-4 (pages 977-980)

#### CHARACTER WORD

<u>Compassion</u> – Feeling for another's need and helping that one without expecting anything in return

#### **TEACHING OBJECTIVE**

I can know that God shows me compassion when I repent.

#### **MEMORY LINK**

## Ephesians 4:32

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

(KBC Study Bible pg. 1289)

## SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

#### **GET CONNECTED**

None

## **MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY**

Option 1: Hula hoops Option 2: None

#### **BIBLE CONNECTION**

Through Their Eyes (resources)

### **SURF TEAM LEADER**

Memory Link cards, index cards, pens, Hang 10 pages

## MAKE-IT-STICK **REVIEW GAME**

Option 1: Bean bags, music Option 2: Bean bags, Great Fish (resources)

## **Jonah Runs from God**

## WHAT'S THE POINT?

Jonah was given an opportunity to serve God and give a word of hope to the cruel people of Nineveh. Unfortunately, he had a bad case of "What's in it for me?" After deciding that the task God called him to was too daunting, he headed off in the opposite direction. And in his disobedience, he caused others to find themselves in great danger. When he finally opted to be obedient, he followed through, but then became angry that God didn't destroy the people of Nineveh as He said He would. Rather than seeing himself as an instrument of God's mercy and compassion, Jonah tried to run away from God and His will for his life. But God, in His compassion, allowed Jonah to see things through His eyes and gain the right perspective.

Just as God showed great patience and compassion in dealing with Jonah, He shows those things to us as well. Because we have experienced His compassion and forgiveness in our lives, we should be "kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another."

## **GET CONNECTED**



10-15 Minutes - Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today's lesson

## No supplies needed

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the kids in your surf team and to introduce today's lesson.

- Today's character word is compassion. What does compassion mean?
- Can you think of a time where you have shown <u>compassion</u> to someone?
- Can you think of a way that God has shown compassion to you?
- It today's Bible story, you'll hear about a man who was given a job to do by God. Why or why not would it be important for Him to do that job?



Guide clubbers to locate and mark today's Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

## Worship Tip

Author Paul David Tripp says that "Corporate worship is a regular gracious reminder that it's not about you. You've been born into a life that is a celebration of another." So, let's teach children to celebrate God in our worship! Continually remind them that He is our audience and that we sing in praise of the One Who created us, loves us, has a plan for our lives, and wants an everlasting relationship with us. We have much to celebrate!

## **MEMORY LINK**



Teaching a Bible verse to clubbers; helping them to memorize the verse

No supplies needed

## Focus on the Bible

Direct kids who brought their Bibles to hold them high in the air. Celebrate with them that they are holding in their hands the very word of God! Have the children find the table of contents in their KBC Study Bibles (page vii). Remind them of the divisions of the New Testament (Gospels, History, Paul's Letters, General Letters, Prophecy). Have them say with you the books of the Gospels. Have them say with you the books of Paul's Letters (Romans – Philemon). Direct them to find Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus, the book of Ephesians.

## Focus on Today's Memory Link

Today's memory link is a great reminder of how we are to get along with one another. Let's read it together. "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32. (KBC Study Bible page 1289)

Guide them to see the three actions or attitudes that we are to have.

We are to be:

Kind - This reminds us to be both kind and helpful.

**Tenderhearted –** We are to show understanding and <u>compassion</u>.

**Forgiving –** Because we are forgiven by God, then we are to forgive others quickly and easily.

## Option 1 - STEP IN IT

## Hula hoops

Place the hula hoop on the floor and guide your surf team to stand in a circle around the hula hoop. Select one child to go first. They will step into the hoop and say the first word of the verse (AND) then step back out. The person to their right will step in and say the next word (BE) then step out. Continue around the circle until the entire verse and reference has been recited. After the verse is completed, repeat the game increasing speed.

## **Option 2 - ACT IT OUT**

#### No supplies needed

Give the surf teams a few minutes to come up with motions that act out or demonstrate the words of today's memory link. After groups have had time to practice, call on each surf team and allow them to demonstrate their motions to the rest of the clubbers. You may reward the team that does the best job by giving them bonus tickets.

## LESSON 20 "COMPASSION"

(page 2)

#### Ephesians 4:32

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

(KBC Study Bible pg. 1289)

## Teaching Tip

Remind the kids that the memory link is always found in God's word, the Bible. Be sure that you always read the scripture from the KBC Study Bible to reinforce to the kids that they have access to God's word just like you do.

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#### BIBLE CONNECTION



"COMPASSION" (page 3)

**LESSON 20** 

Teaching today's character word through a gospel-centered Bible story

Through Their Eyes (resources)

## **Introduce the Story**

Before the session, select clubbers to hold up the "Through Their Eyes" resource pages (Cards with the words God, Jonah, The People of Nineveh, The Mariners and The Great Fish).

Today we're going to look at a part of God's word through the eyes of those involved in the story. We are going to imagine what we would be thinking and feeling if we were them. We will also watch for examples of compassion throughout this passage.

## Jonah 1:1-4 [11]

Direct the clubbers to find the book of Jonah in their KBC Study Bibles (page 977). Dramatically read Jonah 1:1-4 as the kids follow along in their KBC Bibles.

Ask the child holding the card with "God" to hold it out in front of him. God is sending Jonah to the people of Nineveh because of their wickedness. Try to see things through God's eyes. Why would He do that? Discuss possible ideas.

Ask the child holding the card with "Jonah" to hold it out in front of him. Did Jonah go to Nineveh? (No, he ran the other way.) So, now imagine that you are Jonah. What is running through your mind? Do you feel <u>compassion</u> toward the people of Nineveh? Discuss possible ideas. Jonah tried to run away from God by heading to Joppa where he got on a boat to Tarshish. Will that solve his problem? Can we ever run away from God? Discuss possible ideas.

## Jonah 1:5-16 🛄

Follow along as I read Jonah 1:5-16 (page 977-978).

Ask the child holding the card with "The Mariners" to hold it out in front of him. The mariners (sailors) have a problem! Let's look at this story through their eyes. If you were a sailor on that ship, what are you thinking? Discuss possible ideas.

## Jonah 1:17-2:1

Read Jonah 1:17-2:1 as the kids follow along in their Bibles (page 978).

Ask the child holding the card with "The Great Fish" to hold it out in front of him. We see that God planned for a great fish to swallow up Jonah. He stayed there three days and three nights! OK... you know what's coming next. Let's imagine that you are that great big fish. What is going through your mind? Discuss possible ideas.

The fish might be thinking, "Why can't I just eat him?" But we know that God had other plans. Jonah was hanging out in the belly of the fish, and God was at work on Jonah's heart. Jonah realized that "Salvation is of the Lord." God gave Him his salvation and He was offering that same salvation to the people of Nineveh. God felt compassion for Jonah and had the great fish vomit Jonah out on dry land.

Ask the child holding the card with "Jonah" to hold it out in front of him. Let's look at all this again through Jonah's eyes. If you were Jonah, what are you thinking at this point? Discuss possible ideas.

## **Teaching Tip**

Remind the kids that we should learn all that we can from God's word. One way we can do that is to step into the shoes - or sandals - of the people we read about in the Bible. What was their life like? What were they feeling? Where were they? What were they doing? Who was with them?

## Jonah 3:1-9

Read Jonah 3:1-9 (KBC Study Bible page 978-979)

Ask the child holding the card with "The People of Nineveh" to hold it out in front of him. Let's pretend that you are the people of Nineveh. What is running through your mind as you are listening to Jonah? Discuss possible ideas. Jonah was obedient. He told the people of Nineveh that they had to turn from their wicked ways or God would destroy them. They did turn from their sin and God had <u>compassion</u> and He allowed them to live. Jonah must be thrilled, right? Wrong! Listen to what came next.

## Jonah 4:1-11

Read Jonah 4:1-11 (KBC Study Bible page 979-980)

God allowed Jonah to see things through His eyes. God had great <u>compassion</u> for the people of Nineveh and He sent Jonah to deliver His message to them. God had great <u>compassion</u> for Jonah. He could have just let that fish gobble him up, and God could have picked someone obedient to go to Nineveh. But instead, He helped Jonah see things through His eyes. God used this experience to teach Jonah about <u>compassion</u>.

## **Gospel Connection**

God had great <u>compassion</u> for Jonah and for the people of Nineveh, and He has great <u>compassion</u> for us. We know that sin is a big problem. We know from Romans 6:23 that the wages, or punishment, for our sin is death.

Because of our sin, we are separated from God. But as we've seen, God has <u>compassion</u> for us. He loves us and wants us to be with Him forever in Heaven. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment that we deserve. Jesus will forgive your sin and make it possible for you to have a relationship with God when you ADMIT your sin, BELIEVE in Jesus as your Savior, and CHOOSE to follow Jesus as Lord. You can know that God shows you <u>compassion</u> when you repent.

Lead a prayer and offer kids an opportunity to go to the designated location to talk more with a leader about how they can choose to place their trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord.

## **Application/Transition**

Just as God wanted Jonah to have <u>compassion</u> for the people of Nineveh, God wants us to have <u>compassion</u> for others. We need to see others through His eyes and love them just as He does.

## Gospel Tip

Affirm every child who responds to the gospel. If kids aren't making a salvation decision but are simply asking questions, be sure to compliment them on the way they are listening to God and wanting to understand better. For those who choose to follow Jesus, celebrate with them! Make every effort to connect with a parent as soon as possible following a child's decision in club. Remember to complete a decision card for each child and enter each profession of faith (POF) in the KiDs Online Management System. Refer to the KBC Leadership Manual Volume 3: Record Keeping Made Easy on pages 16-17.

## LESSON 20 "COMPASSION"

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## **Teaching Tip**

For most clubs, next week will be your last Beach Club meeting for this school year. Make it special! Plan a party or give small gifts to the kids. Communicate what is happening at your church during the summer months and extend an invitation to your Beach Club kids.

#### **SURF TEAM TIME**

5-10 MINUTES

LESSON 20
"COMPASSION"
(page 5)

Connecting with kids in small groups; applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

## **Gospel Connection**

Before you begin, ask if there are any clubbers who would like to talk with the Bible Connection Leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their forever friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.

## **Today's Lesson**

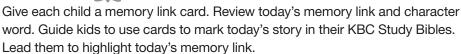
- What questions do you have about today's story?
- How did God show <u>compassion</u> to Jonah? (Saved his life when he was thrown overboard, taught him to show love and <u>compassion</u> for others.)
- How does God show compassion to us? (Answers may vary.)

#### **Pray**

Giving attention to the kids' prayer requests shows your <u>compassion</u> about their needs and concerns. Encourage kids to write prayer requests on index cards. Lead the kids in prayer. Take the cards home to pray for kids during the week.

God, thank You for Your <u>compassion</u>. Thank You for the way that You teach us to be more like Jesus through the experiences of our lives, just as You taught Jonah to show <u>compassion</u>. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Use the Bible



## Hang 10 Pages

Give each child a Hang 10 page. Challenge kids to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to bring back their Hang 10 pages next week.

Give each kid an index card. Let's look at Day 1. God wants us to treat one another well. We should love others as He loves us. Think of five people that you can show God's love to this week. Who can you help? Who can you encourage? Who can you forgive? Write the names of 5 people on the index card and take the list home.

## **Teaching Tip**

The KiDs Beach Club®
"Hang 10" Summer
Reading Plan is a great
way for kids to continue
good habits of spending
time with God every
day. The plan runs in the
months of June, July and
August. For details, follow
the social media accounts
for KiDs Beach Club®
on Facebook, Twitter
and Instagram at

@KiDsBeachClub.

## **MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME**



Playing a game to review today's Bible Connection and Character Word

## **Option 1 - MUSICAL BEAN BAG**

Bean bags, music

Guide each surf team to sit in a separate circle. Give each surf team a bean bag. The leader will play the music, indicating when all surf teams will start tossing the bean bag. As the music plays, the kids will gently toss the bean bag randomly to other children in that surf team. When the music stops, whoever has the bean bag (or if in mid-air whoever touched it last) must answer a review question asked by their surf team leader. Continue until all questions are asked and answered.

## **Option 2 - JONAH IN THE GREAT FISH**

Bean bags, Great Fish (resources)

Guide each surf team to divide into two teams that will compete with one another to toss bean bags onto the Great Fish resource page. Place the fish outline about 8 feet from each surf team. Have each group line up single file. Give the first kid in each line a bean bag. Have them toss the bean bags toward their surf team's fish at the same time. Whoever gets closer to the middle of the fish gets to answer a review question.

#### **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

- 1. What is today's character word? (Compassion)
- 2. What book of the Bible was our story in today? (Jonah)
- 3. What did God want Jonah to do? (Go to Nineveh and tell them to stop sinning)
- 4. Instead of going to Nineveh, what did Jonah do? (Went to Joppa and got on a boat to Tarshish)
- 5. What happened when Jonah was on the boat? (God sent a bad storm. Jonah was thrown overboard.)
- 6. How did God rescue Jonah after he was thrown overboard? (Caused a great fish to swallow him up)
- 7. How long was Jonah in the belly of the fish? (Three days and three nights)
- 8. What happened after Jonah finally went to Nineveh? (Answers may vary.)
- 9. How does God show <u>compassion</u> to us? (Answers may vary.)
- 10. How can we show compassion to others? (Answers may vary.)

# LESSON 20 "COMPASSION" (page 6)

## **Teaching Tip**

Double check your attendance and decisions in the KiDs Online Management System. Make sure the information is up to date so you can continue to communicate with your clubbers and follow up with kids who have made professions of faith this year.

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"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

Ephesians 4:32

**KBC Study Bible page 1289**