

The Promised Land

Preparation : Please make sure the room is set up, with reading books on the tables, DVDs are out, toys are out, etc from the Promised Land cupboard. Teachers to have name tags on (*remember this helps the parents*). Children should arrive with name tags already on them from the registration table. Please make sure the door is locked once all the children are in. It would be good to have someone at the door to make sure no kids escape.

Phase 1 : Greet the kids and parents as they come in.

If it is a BIG GROUP Week take the children through to Throne Zone and help them to participate. Help everyone settle down.

Phase 2 : Worship

Bring all the children together. Sing songs with Big Actions. There are CD's and DVD's of songs in the cupboard if you want to use them.

Phase 3 : STORY – Jonah

A long time ago there was a man called Jonah. Jesus told Jonah, "Go to the people who live in Nineveh and tell them what they are doing is wrong. Go and tell them about me." Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh. He went the other way – he tried to run away from Jesus! Jonah got on a boat and went to sea. He tried to get as far away as possible from where Jesus had told him to go! Jesus could see him running away in the boat and sent a huge storm. The waves got bigger and the wind blew. The boat got tossed this way – then that way. Everyone on the boat was scared. Jonah told them the storm was his fault for running away from Jesus. The sailors told him that was a bad thing to do. He told them to throw him into the water. "SPLASH". Jonah thought he was going to drown. Down he went into the water, GLUB, GLUB, GLUB. Jesus could see him going down (Glub), down (glub) in the water. He sent a big, big fish to save Jonah. The big, big fish swallowed Jonah whole, YUM YUM, it gobbled him up all in one gulp, Jonah went all the way down into the big big fish's tummy. Jonah sat in the tummy of the big big fish for three days and three nights. Jesus could see Jonah sitting in the big big fish's tummy under the sea. Jesus made the big big fish spit Jonah up onto the beach –SPLAT. He was back where he had started! Jesus told him again, "Go to Nineveh and tell them what they are doing is wrong. Tell them about me." This time Jonah didn't run away. He went to Nineveh like Jesus had told him to. Jesus knows where I am even when I am hiding. I can't hide anywhere from Jesus. Jesus sees everything, even when it is dark!

Phase 4: Chant - If it's dark or if it's day Jesus sees me all the way!

Phase 5: Activity Craft, toys or playdough.

