

WELCOME  
TO NEWGEN

# KIDS

**Scripture:** Jonah 2:1-9 & 4:1-11

**Background:** Jonah is commissioned not once but due to his reluctance twice to GO and share God's message with some people he did not like (the Ninevites). Instead of going to Nineveh, Jonah decided that he would go as far away from Nineveh as he could. He hoped God would pick somebody else to go and warn the people. Jonah got on a ship that was going to the farthest city he could find. God wasn't happy with Jonah at all. He caused a huge storm to come up. Jonah told the sailors to throw him overboard because he knew the storm came because he disobeyed God. As soon as Jonah hit the water the storm quit and all was calm. God sent a huge fish to swallow Jonah and take him down to the bottom of the sea. Finally, after three days of being in the dark, stinky, belly of the fish, the fish came up to the top of the sea and spit Jonah out on the shore. Then Jonah obeyed God and went and told the people to stop sinning. They believed Jonah, and God saved them. God uses the worm at the end of the book to highlight Jonah's duplicity or hypocrisy.

**The Gist:** The worm is an illustration that Jonah expects God to serve him and his purposes but as soon as it is extended outside of his preferences and comforts, he rejects God. This comparison not only reveals Jonah's duplicity, but also exposes his self-righteousness and complete lack of compassion toward the lost.

**Big Idea:** God in his sovereignty can love and save whoever he wants, even if we don't like it. God saved.... Noah, Joseph, Moses, his people from slavery, David, Jonah. Jesus saved... a little girl, a poorly boy, an old woman, his friend.

God sent Jesus to save us, Jesus was born to save us. All of us, no matter who we are.

## Discussion Questions:

1. Why would it be hard to die for a real "bad" person, someone who sins against you? (You might consider them as your enemy, not worthy).
2. How did God demonstrate His love for us? (He sent His only begotten son to die in our place, even though we were sinning against Him).

God is merciful. He loves us and does not want to punish us, but rather wants to save us. God in his sovereignty can love and save whoever he wants, even if we don't like it. He sent His only begotten Son to die for us, all of us. Jesus was completely without sin. He got what he did not deserve, to keep us from getting what we do deserve, that is death.

The Grace of God can be described in this way:

**G – od's**

**R – iches**

**A – t**

**C – hrist's**

**E – xpense**

**Call to Action:** Those who have been forgiven much love much, let us not be guilty of hypocrisy and rob others of our compassion and the gospel.

Craft:

