

First Look | September 27

Today's Bible Story: Jonah • Jonah 1–3:3

I can always talk to God.

Key Question: Who is always with you?

Bottom Line: God is always with me.

Memory Verse: *"God is with you wherever you go."* • Joshua 1:9 NLT

1. Video on Jellyfin

Lead the children in worship to the September Worship song and then watch today's video lesson.

2. Pray

"Let's open up today in prayer. Dear God, thank You that we can always talk to You. Thank You that You hear us when we are playing, when we are eating, and when we are going to bed. Thank You for being with us wherever we go. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

3. Jonah and the Big Fish

What You Need:

- ☐ "Jonah and the Big Fish" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Crayons or washable markers
- ☐ Permanent marker
- ☐ Fish stickers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print the "Jonah and the Big Fish" Activity Page on cardstock, one per child. Fold each paper along the center line so the fish's mouth closes over Jonah. Write each child's name on the back of the paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color the picture and add fish stickers. Show them how to fold the paper so the fish opens and closes its mouth around Jonah. Invite them to practice opening and closing the fish while they retell the Bible story.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, today we're going to make a picture from our Bible story! Look what happens when I fold the paper. (Demonstrate.) The big fish closes its mouth around Jonah! When I open it, Jonah is inside! Let's decorate our pictures!"

During the Activity: "Use lots of colors to make your picture beautiful. You can color the big fish, Jonah, and the water. When you're done, fold your paper like this. (Demonstrate.) Chomp! The big fish swallowed Jonah! Open it back up. There he is! God sent the big fish to keep Jonah safe. Can you make your fish open and close its mouth? Chomp! Chomp!"

After the Activity: "God sent the big fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah stayed inside the fish for three days. While Jonah was inside, he prayed and talked to God. God heard Jonah's prayer because God was with him the whole time. God is with us too! We can talk to God wherever we are because God is always with us. **Who is always with you? [Bottom Line] God is always with me.**