

Jonah 1

v2 – preach	(verb)	speak God’s word publicly
v2 – wickedness	(noun)	the quality of being morally wrong; rebellion against God
v3 – bound for	(adjective)	travelling towards
v3 – port	(noun)	a harbour area where ships load and unload goods and passengers
v3 – fare	(noun)	the money you pay for a journey you take
v3 – aboard	(adverb)	on a ship
v3 – flee	(verb)	run away
v4 – great	(adjective)	large, severe, strong
v4 – violent	(adjective)	happens suddenly and with a lot of force
v4 – threatened	(verb)	seemed likely to happen
v5 – cargo	(noun)	the goods carried by a ship
v6 – perish	(verb)	be destroyed; be killed
v7 – cast lots	(phrase)	make a decision by random selection. This often involves using one of a set of objects such as straws or stones that are selected randomly as part of the process.
v7 – calamity	(noun)	an event that causes great damage, destruction or personal distress
v9 – Hebrew	(proper noun)	someone from the nation of Israel
v10 – terrified	(adjective)	very frightened
v13 – row	(verb)	make a boat move through water by pulling on oars
		
v14 – accountable	(adjective)	responsible
v14 – innocent	(adjective)	not guilty; not responsible for something bad that has happened
v15 – overboard	(adverb)	over the side of the boat and into the water
v15 – raging	(adjective)	moving forcefully and violently
v16 – sacrifice	(noun)	a ceremony in which an animal is killed and offered to God as an act of worship
v16 – vows	(noun)	promises
v17 – swallow	(verb)	cause something to go down from your mouth into your stomach

Jonah 2

v2 – distress	(noun)	a state of extreme sadness, suffering or pain
v2 – depths	(noun)	the lowest and hardest to reach parts of something
v2 – grave	(noun)	an underground place where a dead person is buried
v3 – hurled	(verb)	threw something violently and with a lot of force
v3 – currents	(noun)	a steady continuous flowing movement of water
v3 – swirled	(verb)	moved round and round quickly
v3 – breakers	(noun)	big sea waves

v3 – swept	(verb)	moved along quickly
v4 – banished	(verb)	sent away from an area and prevented from entering it again
v4 – holy	(adjective)	set apart for God’s purpose
v4 – temple	(noun)	the place in Jerusalem that symbolised God’s presence with his people
v5 – engulfing	(adjective)	covering something completely
v5 – threatened	(verb)	seemed likely to happen
v5 – seaweed	(noun)	a plant that grows in the sea
v6 – roots	(noun)	the part of a plant that is underground; the origins of something
v6 – barred	(verb)	prevented from going in or out
v6 – pit	(noun)	a deep hole in the ground
v7 – ebbing	(verb)	falling gradually
v7 – rose	(verb)	came up
v8 – cling	(verb)	hold tightly to something
v8 – worthless	(adjective)	of no value
v8 – idols	(noun)	false gods; statues that are worshipped as a god
v8 – forfeit	(verb)	give up ownership of something
v8 – grace	(noun)	the undeserved kindness of God
v9 – sacrifice	(verb)	offer something valuable (e.g. an animal) to God as an act of worship
v9 – vowed	(verb)	promised
v9 – salvation	(noun)	the act of saving someone from trouble
v10 – commanded	(verb)	ordered
v10 – vomited	(verb)	made food or drink come back up from the stomach

Jonah 3

v2 – proclaim	(verb)	announce publicly
v4 – overturned	(verb)	destroyed
v5 – Ninevites	(proper noun)	people from Ninevah
v5 – declared	(verb)	announced officially
v5 – fast	(noun)	a period of time when you do not eat any food
v5 – sackcloth	(noun)	a rough kind of material that is used to make sacks. Wearing sackcloth was a sign that you are sorry for doing something wrong.
v6 – throne	(noun)	a special seat that kings and queens sit on for official or important occasions
v6 – royal	(adjective)	connected with a king or queen
v6 – robes	(noun)	loose clothing that covers your whole body and reaches to the ground
v6 – dust	(noun)	very small particles of sand
v7 – issued	(verb)	made something known formally
v7 – proclamation	(noun)	a public announcement about something important
v7 – decree	(noun)	an official order or decision made by the ruler of a country

v7 – nobles	(noun)	people from a privileged social or political class
v7 – beast	(noun)	animal
v7 – herd	(noun)	a group of animals grouped together under the care of a keeper
v7 – flock	(noun)	a group of animals grouped together for purpose of migration
v8 – urgently	(adverb)	as quickly as possible
v8 – call ... on God	(phrase)	ask God for his help
v8 – evil	(adjective)	against God
v9 – relent	(verb)	change your mind about what you harsh that you said you will do
v9 – compassion	(noun)	feeling of understanding for someone's troubles
v9 – fierce	(adjective)	very intense, strong
v9 – perish	(verb)	be destroyed

Jonah 4

v2 – abounding	(adjective)	having a large amount of something
v2 – relents	(verb)	changes your mind about something harsh that you said you will do
v2 – calamity	(noun)	an event that causes great damage, destruction or personal distress
v5 – shade	(noun)	an area of darkness (e.g. under a tree) where sunlight does not reach
v6 – vine	(noun)	a plant that grows up or over things, e.g. a grape vine
v7 – dawn	(noun)	the time of day when light first appears in the sky
v7 – withered	(verb)	became thin and weak
v8 – scorching	(adjective)	very hot
v8 – blazed	(verb)	burned strongly
v8 – faint	(adjective)	weak and unsteady
v10 – tend	(verb)	look after a plant and help it to grow
v10 – sprang up	(phrasal verb)	appeared suddenly

English Corner Sundays 6:15-6:45pm in the Cottage



Is English your second (or third or fourth...) language?
Come and join us at English Corner!
We will help you understand the Bible passage for that evening's sermon.

Jonah (New International Reader's Version)

1 A message from the LORD came to Jonah, the son of Amittai. The LORD said, ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh. Preach against it. The sins of its people have come to my attention.”

³But Jonah ran away from the LORD. He headed for Tarshish. So he went down to the port of Joppa. There he found a ship that was going to Tarshish. He paid the fare and went on board. Then he sailed for Tarshish. He was running away from the LORD.

⁴But the LORD sent a strong wind over the Mediterranean Sea. A wild storm came up. It was so wild that the ship was in danger of breaking apart. ⁵All the sailors were afraid. Each one cried out to his own god for help. They threw the ship's contents into the sea. They were trying to make the ship lighter.

But Jonah had gone below deck. There he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. ⁶The captain went down to him and said, “How can you sleep? Get up and call out to your god for help! Maybe he'll pay attention to what's happening to us. Then we won't die.”

⁷Here is what the sailors said to one another. “Someone is to blame for getting us into all this trouble. Come. Let's cast lots to find out who it is.” So they did. And Jonah was picked. ⁸They asked him, “What terrible thing have you done to bring all this trouble on us? Tell us. What do you do for a living? Where do you come from? What is your country? What people do you belong to?”

⁹He answered, “I'm a Hebrew. I worship the LORD. He is the God of heaven. He made the sea and the dry land.”

¹⁰They found out he was running away from the LORD. That's because he had told them. Then they became terrified. So they asked him, “How could you do a thing like that?”

¹¹The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, “What should we do to you to make the sea calm down?”

¹²“Pick me up and throw me into the sea,” he replied. “Then it will become calm. I know it's my fault that this terrible storm has come on you.”

¹³But the men didn't do what he said. Instead, they did their best to row back to land. But they couldn't. The sea got even rougher than before. ¹⁴Then they cried out to the LORD. They prayed, “Please, LORD, don't let us die for taking this man's life. After all, he might not be guilty of doing anything wrong. So don't hold us responsible for killing him. LORD, you always do what you want to.” ¹⁵Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard. And the stormy sea became calm. ¹⁶The men saw what had happened. Then they began to have great respect for the LORD. They offered a sacrifice to him. And they made promises to him.

¹⁷Now the LORD sent a huge fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights.

2 ¹From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God. ²He said,

“When I was in trouble, I called out to the LORD.
And he answered me.

When I was deep in the place of the dead,
I called out for help.
And you listened to my cry.

³You threw me deep into the Mediterranean Sea.
I was deep down in its waters.
They were all around me.

All your rolling waves
were sweeping over me.

⁴I said, ‘I have been driven away from you.
But I will look again
toward your holy temple in Jerusalem.’

⁵I had almost drowned in the waves.
The deep waters were all around me.
Seaweed was wrapped around my head.

⁶I sank down to the bottom of the mountains.
I thought I had died
and gone down into the grave forever.

But you are the LORD my God.
You brought my life up
from the very edge of the pit of death.

⁷“When my life was nearly over,
I remembered you, LORD.

My prayer rose up to you.

It reached you in your holy temple in heaven.

⁸“Some people worship the worthless statues of their gods.

They turn away from God's love for them.

⁹But I will sacrifice a thank offering to you.

And I will shout with thankful praise.

I will do what I have promised.

I will say, ‘LORD, you are the one who saves.’”

¹⁰The LORD gave the fish a command. And it spit Jonah up onto dry land.

3 A message from the LORD came to Jonah a second time. The LORD said, ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce to its people the message I give you.”

³Jonah obeyed the LORD. He went to Nineveh. It was a very large city. In fact, it took about three days to go through it. ⁴Jonah began by going one whole day into the city. As he went, he announced, “In 40 days Nineveh will be destroyed.” ⁵The people of Nineveh believed God's warning. So they decided not to eat any food for a while. And all of them put on the rough clothing people wear when they're sad. That's what everyone did, from the least important of them to the most important.

⁶Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh. He got up from his throne. He took off his royal robes. He also dressed himself in the clothing of sadness. And then he sat down in the dust. ⁷Here is the message he sent out to the people of Nineveh.

“I and my nobles give this order.

Don't let people or animals taste anything. That includes your herds and flocks.

People and animals must not eat or drink anything. ⁸Let people and animals alike be covered with the clothing of sadness. All of you must call out to God with all your hearts. Stop doing what is evil. Don't harm others. ⁹Who knows? God might take pity on us. He might not be angry with us anymore. Then we won't die.”

¹⁰God saw what they did. He saw that they stopped doing what was evil. So he took pity on them. He didn't destroy them as he had said he would.

4 But to Jonah this seemed very wrong. He became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD. Here is what Jonah said to him. “LORD, isn't this exactly what I thought would happen when I was still at home? That is what I tried to prevent by running away to Tarshish. I knew that you are gracious. You are tender and kind. You are slow to get angry. You are full of love. You are a God who takes pity on people. You don't want to destroy them. ³LORD, take away my life. I'd rather die than live.”

⁴But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

⁵Jonah had left the city. He had sat down at a place east of it. There he put some branches over his head. He sat in their shade. He waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶Then the LORD God sent a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah. It gave him more shade for his head. It made him more comfortable. Jonah was very happy he had the leafy plant. ⁷But before sunrise the next day, God sent a worm. It chewed the plant so much that it dried up. ⁸When the sun rose, God sent a burning east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah's head. It made him very weak. He wanted to die. So he said, “I'd rather die than live.”

⁹But God spoke to Jonah. God said, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” Jonah said. “In fact, I'm so angry I wish I were dead.”

¹⁰But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant. But you did not take care of it. You did not make it grow. It grew up in one night and died the next. ¹¹And shouldn't I show concern for the great city of Nineveh? It has more than 120,000 people. They can't tell right from wrong. Nineveh also has a lot of animals.”