

Dear Parents,

This week we will be learning about the importance of listening to God and following his commandments.

Our Bible story, found in the book of Jonah, tells of the great miracle that God performed in preparing the great fish to swallow Jonah.

We will be emphasizing that no one can hide from God and also the awesome power of God.

## **Jonah**

God told Jonah to go to the great city of Nineveh to preach, but Jonah didn't want to go. He tried to run away from God by going in the opposite direction.

He got on a ship. God caused a storm to come. It nearly sank the ship. When the men on the ship discovered that it was Jonah's fault, they threw him overboard into the sea, and the sea became calm.

God had provided a large fish that swallowed Jonah. Jonah prayed to God from inside the fish and God heard him. He was in the fish for three days and three nights. The fish spit him out onto dry land.

God again told him to go and preach to the people of Nineveh, and this time he obeyed. It was a very large city. Jonah told the people that they must repent or they would be destroyed. The people listened and believed. They were sorry for their sins and God forgave them.

Jonah was angry. He didn't really care about the people of the city, but God loved them.

When Jesus was on earth, he talked about Jonah in Matthew 12: 39. He compares Jonah's experience to his being in the grave for three days and three nights.

*You can read the story of Jonah in the book of Jonah chapters 1-4*

Memory Verse:

From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God, He said,  
"In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me."

Jonah 2:1-2

*You can listen to the story of Jonah at: <http://gardenofpraise.com/bibl22s.htm>*