

# the way

Jesus-centred Spirit-led Hope revealed



## Kids

# THE WAY



**Kids**

## 11 week Kid's Ministry lessons

We have adapted **11 child-friendly lessons** from our Junior Soldiers material to align with the **five Key Principles** outlined in The Way. Each principle is explored through engaging, age-appropriate teaching themes:

- **Discipleship** – Who Is God? · You're the One God Needs
- **Mission** – Standing Up for Others · One Body, Many Parts
- **Evangelism** – Letting Your Light Shine · Creating Faith Pathways
- **Prayer** – Talking to God · Listening to God · Creative Prayer Stations
- **Spiritual Warfare** – Armour of God · Super-Human Power

### Lesson Structure

Each lesson is designed to support leaders and actively engage children, and includes:

#### **LEADER READY YOUR HEARTS & HAND**

A reflection page to help leaders prepare spiritually and practically before teaching

#### **CONNECT**

A 5-minute activity that introduces the main teaching point in a fun and creative way - often includes two activity options

#### **EXPLORE**

Approximately 10 -15 minutes of teaching time where children engage deeply with the Bible story or theme

#### **RECAP & REFLECT**

An intentional space to bring together everything from CONNECT and EXPLORE, helping children reflect, respond, and apply what they've learned.

# LIVE IT OUT DISCIPLESHIP FOR SALVO KIDS



# Kids

**You're the One God needs**

based on unit 7 lesson 2

## LEADERS READY YOUR HEART AND HANDS

Before teaching this lesson, take time to reflect, prepare, and pray. You're not just delivering content, you're helping to shape young disciples for a lifetime of faith.

### 1. Pray first

- Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you and through you
- Pray specifically for each child in your group—by name if possible
- Invite God to open their hearts to receive his truth and recognise the Holy Spirit's presence in their lives

Prayer prompt:

Holy Spirit, guide me as I lead these children. Give me clarity, compassion, and wisdom. Help me to see each child's potential and speak life into it.

### 2. Know the purpose

This lesson helps children understand that God might ask them to do things they don't want to do, but - with his help - we can do it.

- God's plans are good - even when they feel difficult
- God gives us the courage and strength to do hard things
- God never leaves us -He is with us every step of the way

### 3. Know the children

Reflect on the following:

- Which child might need extra encouragement?
- Who might be ready to step up and lead in prayer or discussion?
- Who needs to be gently drawn in to participate?

**Ask:**

"Holy Spirit, how can I affirm each child's gifts?"

### 4. Explore your own story

Spend time reflecting on moments when God asked you to do something you didn't want to do—or felt unprepared for—but saw him help you through it. Share age-appropriate stories during the lesson. It's powerful for children to hear how adults trust God and rely on His help when things are hard.



# Lesson: You're the one God needs for the job!

**Focus:** We can trust God and rely on His strength to sustain us when he calls us to do His work.

**Key verses:** Philippians 4:13

**Time:** 45 minutes

## Connect



### Option A. Simon Says (5 minutes)

**Supplies needed:**  
Nothing!

**Instructions:**

Play Simon Says, starting with easy actions and gradually making them harder or less fun. Examples of less fun ones could include “lick your elbow”, “smell someone’s feet”, or do 20-star jumps.

Children may choose not to do an action and sit out. Keep playing while it’s fun and allow time for children to react or complain about the tricky instructions.

**Debrief questions and suggested answers:**

**Ask:**

- “Was there anything in the game you didn’t like?”
- “How did that make you feel?”

**Leader:**

We played a game where you sometimes chose not to do something, because you didn’t want to do it. Today we’ll look at the story of Jonah - when God asked him to do something he didn’t want to do. Jonah tried to run away and ended up in a fishy situation! But God didn’t give up on Jonah. He gave him another chance, and when Jonah obeyed, it made a difference for others too.

### Option B. Brainstorm (5 minutes)

**Supplies needed:**

- Whiteboard & Markers or butchers paper and pens

**Instructions:**

- On one side of the whiteboard/ paper, list things children like to do (sports, reading, movies, beach)
- On the other side of the whiteboard/paper, list things they don’t like to do (tidying rooms, homework, chores)

**Debrief Questions + Suggested Answers:**

**Ask:**

- “Why do you like the things on this side?”
- “Why don’t you like the things on this side?”
- “Have you ever made an excuse to avoid something you were meant to do?”

**Leader:**

Just like today’s lists, there are things we enjoy and things we avoid. In the story of Jonah, God asked him to do something he didn’t want to do. Jonah tried to run away and ended up in a fishy situation—but God didn’t give up on him. God gave Jonah another chance, and when he obeyed, it made a difference for others.

# Explore

**LEARNING STYLES:** KINAESTHETIC, INTERPERSONAL, VERBAL

## Option A. Jonah's Story in three parts (15 minutes)

### Set up:

Set up the room with three stations, each with a box containing the supplies for that station. Carry the 'Jesus Storybook Bible' with you to each station.

### Supplies needed:

- Box 1: Blue fabric, boat, wooden person
- Box 2: Blindfold, can of sardines (optional)
- Box 3: Wooden blocks (two or three per child), party poppers, small box with a heart inside

### Start:

Today we're going on a journey through the story of Jonah. At each station, someone will open the box and follow the instructions as we explore part of the story together.

### Station 1: Jonah Runs Away (5 min)

#### Instructions:

- Use the blue fabric, boat, and wooden person to set the scene.
- Take turns reading from "God's Messenger" (pg. 160–162 of Jesus Storybook Bible).

#### Leader Questions:

- What part of this story stood out to you?
- Have you ever felt like Jonah?

### Station 2: Inside the Fish (5 min)

Read "God's Messenger" (pg. 164–167 Jesus Storybook Bible).

#### Action:

- Invite children to experience what it may have felt like inside the fish.
- Place a blindfold on the child.
- Open the sardine can and let them smell it.

**Note:** If strong smells are an issue, skip the sardines and focus on darkness.

#### Leader questions:

- How do you think Jonah felt inside the fish?
- What did Jonah do while he was there?
- Do you think things could have ended differently?

### Station 3: Nineveh Listens

#### (5 minutes)

- Give each child two or three wooden blocks to build the city of Nineveh together.
- Read "God's Messenger" (pg. 168–169 Jesus Storybook Bible) while they build the city.
- Ask one child to open the small box and place the heart near the city.

#### Leader questions:

- What message did Jonah share with Nineveh?
- How did the people respond?
- How did this change Jonah?
- Looking back, what was your favourite part of the story?
- What did you learn about God from Jonah's story?

## Option B. Jonah's Story quick draw emotions (10 min)

#### Supplies needed:

- Video - The Story of Jonah  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3V3jfE4QBOQ>
- Quick draw page for each child
- Textas and pencils



#### Instruction:

- Tell the children that we are going to watch a video and that you are going to pause it 6 times and ask them to draw a part of the story they just heard.

#### Leaders:

You will need one leader to pause the video at time stamps and then the other key leader to instruct the kids on what to do.

# Explore

## Teaching:

### Time Stops for video:

- **Box 1: 0:50** Ok so you have 1 minute to draw your favourite part, 1,2,3 quick draw!
- **Box 2: 1:12** Ok so you have 1 minute to draw your favourite part, 1,2,3 quick draw!
- **Box 3: 1:34** Ok so you have 1 minute to draw your favourite part, 1,2,3 quick draw!
- **Box 4: 1:50** This time draw what emotion you think Jonah is feeling, 1,2,3 quick draw!
- **Box 5: 2:09** This time draw or write what you think might happen. 1,2,3 quick draw!
- **Box 6: 2:42** Draw about what you learned from this story. 1,2,3 quick draw!

# Recap + Reflect

## What + WOW!

Ask the group what stood out to them today or something that made them think WOW!

## Recap:

- God gave Jonah an important Job
- Jonah was too scared to do it and ran away
- Jonah learned to trust God and ask him for help

## Leader:

Jonah didn't want to do what God asked, but God helped him be brave. When Jonah trusted God, he found the strength to do hard things—and God can help us too.

## Memory verse:

Look up Philippians 4:13 CEV

"Christ {Jesus} gives me the strength to face anything"

Ask a confident reader to read it aloud.

## Final question to reflect:

### Ask:

"What's one thing you can learn from this story about Jonah."

### Close in prayer:

Use a tennis ball or inflatable beach ball and as you roll it to a child say:

"I pray \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name), that God will give you strength this week to do hard things."

That child can then roll the ball and pass the same prayer onto another child in the group. Continue until everyone has had a turn. Have a leader finish off with a prayer for all the children.

# Notes + Follow up

1

2

3

4

5

6



# FAITH IN ACTION

YOU'RE THE ONE GOD NEEDS - DISCIPLESHIP



Sharing something that is important to you can be difficult at times; you might feel scared or worried about what you have to say and how the people you are talking to might react. Jonah had those same struggles about sharing the message that God wanted him to communicate. These things may seem really hard to do but if we remember our verse from Philippians 4:13 "Christ gives me the strength to face anything" God will help us to achieve it.



At church:



Talk to your Big Bud or a church/ corps leader  
Ask: *Has God ever asked them to do something really hard that you didn't want to do? What did you do, and what helped you to achieve it?*




LIVE IT OUT!



At home:

Have a time to chat about if anyone in the family is facing a tricky time and how might the family help them.



Get creative:

Create your favourite scene from the story of Jonah out of Lego.

