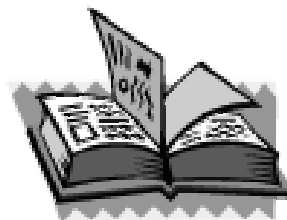


OBEY RIGHT AWAY

Read: Jonah



God gave Jonah an important job to do. He was told to tell the people who lived in the wicked city of Nineveh about the Lord. But Jonah didn't want to do it. He ran away and got on a ship that was sailing the other direction. God caused a huge storm on the sea and it scared the sailors so badly that they threw Jonah in the water because they knew he was disobeying God. That's when the giant fish swallowed Jonah. Can you imagine what that would have been like?

Jonah prayed to God while he was inside the fish and God saved him. Jonah finally obeyed God and went to Nineveh like he was told to do. When the people there heard about the Lord, they were sorry for being so wicked and they believed in God. It would have been better if Jonah had done the right thing at the beginning, wouldn't it? But God still used him to tell many people how to get to Heaven.

Life Application: When God asks us to do something, He is pleased when we do it right away. We show God we love Him by obeying Him. So the next time you know that God wants you to do something like be kind to your friend or listen to your mother, don't be like Jonah. Ask God to help you obey right away.

Prayer: Dear Lord. Sometimes it is hard for me to do what You want me to do. I know that if I ask You to help me obey, You will do it. Help me remember to pray the next time I am tempted to act like Jonah. Amen

Memory Verse: Obey everything that I have commanded.