

DROP THE ATTITUDE

Bring it on.

MONDAY

Be ...

sensitive

So, here's the story ...

God said to His prophet Jonah, "Go to Ninevah. Tell them that I see the wrong things they are doing. Urge them to change their ways and do right."

But Jonah didn't want to go to that huge city full of evil people. He took off in the opposite direction. He went as far as he could on land and then hopped on a ship so he could go even farther. While he was on the ship, God stirred up a great storm. The sailors were afraid. They prayed to their false gods, which did them no good at all. They woke up Jonah, who was sleeping tucked down in the belly of the boat. They said, "Pray to your God so we won't die!" Jonah told them he was the cause of the disaster. He told them to throw him overboard into the sea. They did. He prayed for forgiveness for disobeying God. Right away the storm calmed down and a giant fish swallowed him whole. Jonah was stuck inside the fish for three days and nights. The fish spit Jonah out on dry land. Jonah went to Ninevah. He told the people God's message to stop doing evil and the people obeyed. Then Jonah got mad because he didn't want the people to be forgiven for the way they had been before. He wanted them to be judged harshly. God told Jonah that he didn't get to decide what happened to the people. God created the people and it was up to Him to do as He wished. Jonah wasn't friends with these people in the city so he didn't care what happened to them, but God loves all His people, and cares deeply about what happens to them.

Read the story for yourself in the Book of Jonah.

Take it to God

Every day this week, when you pray, ask God to show you ways you can help others.

Groovy, it's

TUESDAY

A.M.

Noon

P.M.

Eve

*Halfway there***WEDNESDAY****A.M.****Noon****P.M.****Eve***You wanna be ...***Reasonable?**

fair; just; wise;
sensible;
not excessive

*or***Opinionated?**

holding stubbornly
to one's own
perception; judging;
estimating

'Do all things with-
out murmuring and
disputing, that you
may become blameless
and harmless, children
of God without fault in
the midst of a crooked
and perverse genera-
tion, among whom you
shine as lights in the
world.'

**Philippians
2:14-15**

*Make a difference ...***Step up:**

Take control of your attitude. Act right on your own
without someone — like a parent, family member or a
teacher — having to force you or beg you. It's on you
to make the decision to be respectful and decent to
others.

Take it up a notch:

If someone else gives you attitude, don't get mad; try
to be patient with them. Show them what a good attitude
looks like. Maybe they just haven't figured out how to
act right. It could be they don't have positive influences
caring enough to show them — or give them courage
to try. That doesn't mean to let people bully you, but it
does mean you shouldn't join in being a troublemaker
just because others do it.

Poll your friends ...

If someone gets in your face, do you get into a fight with them?

Yes

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No

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**Jesus did lots of miracles while He was on the
earth. Read about one of them here:**

John 4:46-50

*Throw your hands up***THURSDAY****A.M.****Noon****P.M.****Eve**

FRIDAY*Finale*

Your attitude can make a big difference

**WEEKEND***Woodstock***A.M.**

Did you know where a bad attitude comes from? It comes from a selfish mindset. It happens when a person decides their way is the most important, and they don't care about how anyone else feels. If they don't like how things are going and they get frustrated about it, they behave badly — usually taking it out on everyone around them. No one wants to be around someone with a bad attitude. It can ruin a good time quicker than anything. Would you want to be the cause of misery for everyone? Would you want everyone to avoid you or find reasons to not hang around you because of how you

act? Behaving is not just a matter of you taking care of you. What you do also makes a difference to everyone around you, even when you may not see it. Remember, God had a special reason for Jonah to have a good attitude — not just so he could have a happy, trouble-free life. Jonah's obedience ended up affecting a whole city full of people who needed to be reminded that God loved them very much and that He cared about their future. In 3 John 1:11, it reads, "Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God."

Sat.**Noon****P.M.****Eve***Did you know?*

Jesus had plenty of reasons to get a bad attitude when He was living on earth. There were lots of people who treated Him badly and hated Him. There were even those who wanted to kill Him. But, guess what? He always behaved with self-control. That means He didn't go around making fun of people, picking fights or trying to stir up trouble.

He always did the right thing, even when it wasn't easy. He did that to show us that it can be done — and should be done.

Sun.

So, let's wrap it up



*Vicky's
view*

Jonah had a bad attitude toward the people from Ninevah. God wanted the city to have an opportunity to change their behavior — so He could rescue them from certain destruction. If they had chosen to stay on the dangerous path they were on, no one would've survived. That's what always happens when there's trouble that doesn't get stopped. Things just continue to get worse until there's nothing good left. God didn't want this for the people — even though they had been acting like jerks and had gotten a reputation of being horrible people. God knew it didn't have to stay that way, no matter what they had done in their past. The problem is, the only thing Jonah was focused on was all the mistakes they had made and the bad choices they had already made. He didn't care enough to hope that

they could change. He thought he knew better than their Creator (God) ... he wanted them to be wiped out completely, because they deserved it. Maybe they did, but that was up to God, not Jonah. Sometimes people can behave like they are rotten to the core, but God knows their hearts, and whether there is still hope for change. More importantly, He doesn't give up on them when things get annoying, challenging or hard. As it turned out, the people from Ninevah were not too far gone to be rescued. But, if Jonah had never gone to them and shared God's message to them, they probably wouldn't have been convinced or spurred to change their ways. They could've been lost forever. Jonah's disobedience was just as bad as that of the people from the evil city. Just like it's important for

everyone to make a constant effort to be good, like God teaches us to be, it's also important that we do what God says, because what we do affects everyone around us. We are an influence on them — whether it's good or bad. Would you want to be part of the reason someone got into really bad habits or bad behavior? Or would you want to be someone God can use to help others do better? In Romans 6: 23, in the Bible, God teaches, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." When you do good things, there are often rewards for it. There's also a negative reward — or cost — for bad things. That means when you choose to keep sinning — doing things you know are wrong — eventually a price must be paid for that behavior. God

is telling us that payment is death. He doesn't want that for us. He is always sending opportunities for us to change direction. Whether it's a parent trying to get us to act better, or a teacher trying to show us a positive way, or a friend who tries to steer you clear of trouble. It's up to you — and you alone — to pay attention to those warnings and start making the right choices. Death may not always mean physically dying — though someone who continually rejects God will eventually die without His salvation. Death in the short term could mean the loss of something or a relationship that means a lot to you. Any way you look at it, it's an easy guess which is the better way to go, though it can be hard to do on your own. That's why we need God's help.

Ponder this:

How many times have you had a really bad attitude this week?

Time to take charge of your life:

has been bugging me lately, bringing me down. What can I do to change that? Do I need help from someone else? Who?

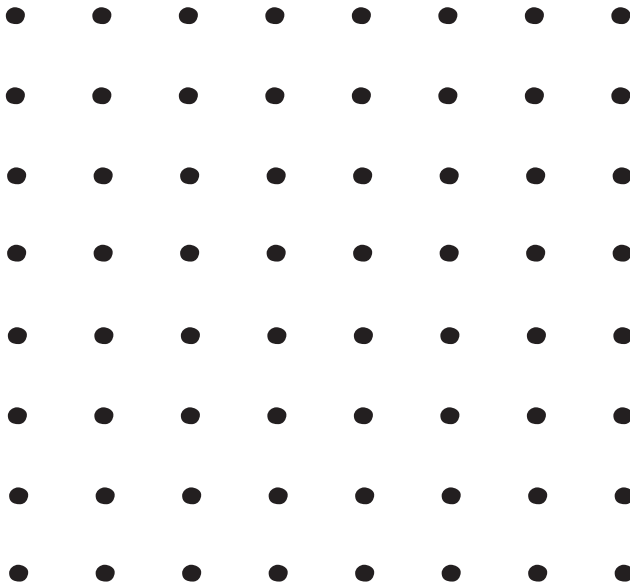
Something good that happened this week was:

Let's read:

Jonah

Claiming the promised land

To play, connect two adjacent (next to each other) dots. Take turns with your opponent. If you complete a square, you get another turn. The one with the most squares at the end of the game wins.



Matthew 7:7

N	P	I	H	S	W	A	L	L	O	W	O
H	I	O	V	E	R	B	O	A	R	D	N
S	B	N	G	H	T	E	M	P	E	S	T
I	E	B	E	L	L	Y	N	E	E	L	F
H	A	A	I	V	P	E	R	I	S	H	I
S	P	L	K	C	A	P	Y	A	R	P	S
R	P	J	O	N	A	H	W	T	S	A	H
A	O	C	C	U	P	A	T	I	O	N	M
T	J	W	I	C	K	E	D	N	E	S	S

JONAH
NINEVAH
WICKEDNESS
TARSHISH
FLEE
JOPPA

SHIP
TEMPEST
MARINER
NO
OCCUPATION
SEA

PERISH
OVERBOARD
FISH
BELLY
SWALLOW
PRAY

You are ...
lovely

Wandering the wilderness

Make your way along the words to make a sentence.

Your journey will form one single path. You can only go north, south, east, or west and the path must NEVER cross over itself. Start at the northwest corner and finish at the south-east corner.

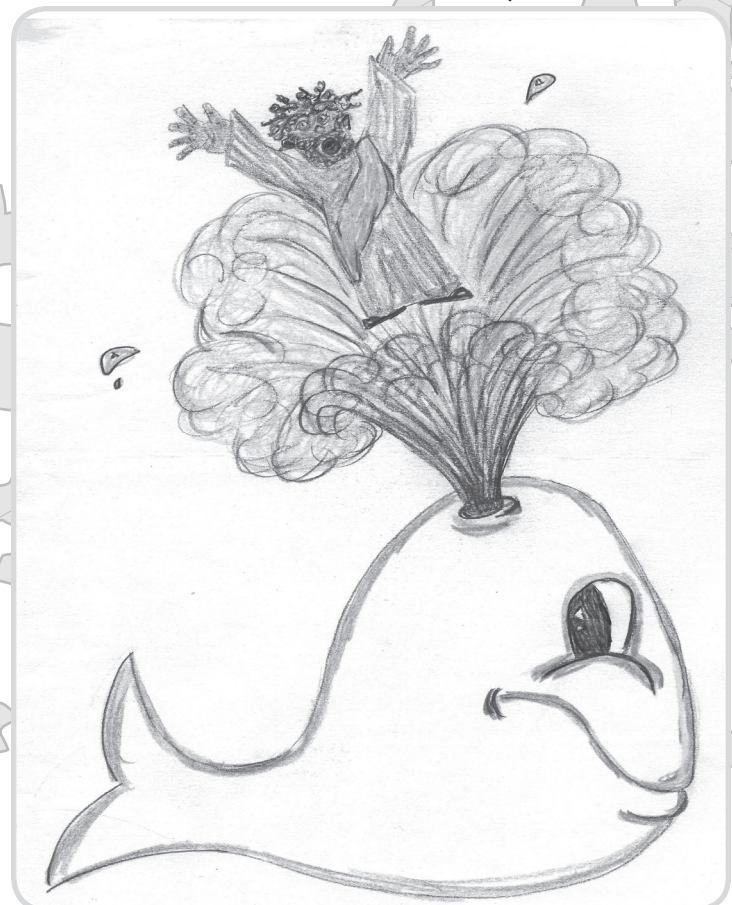
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O S E L R N
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answer on page 329

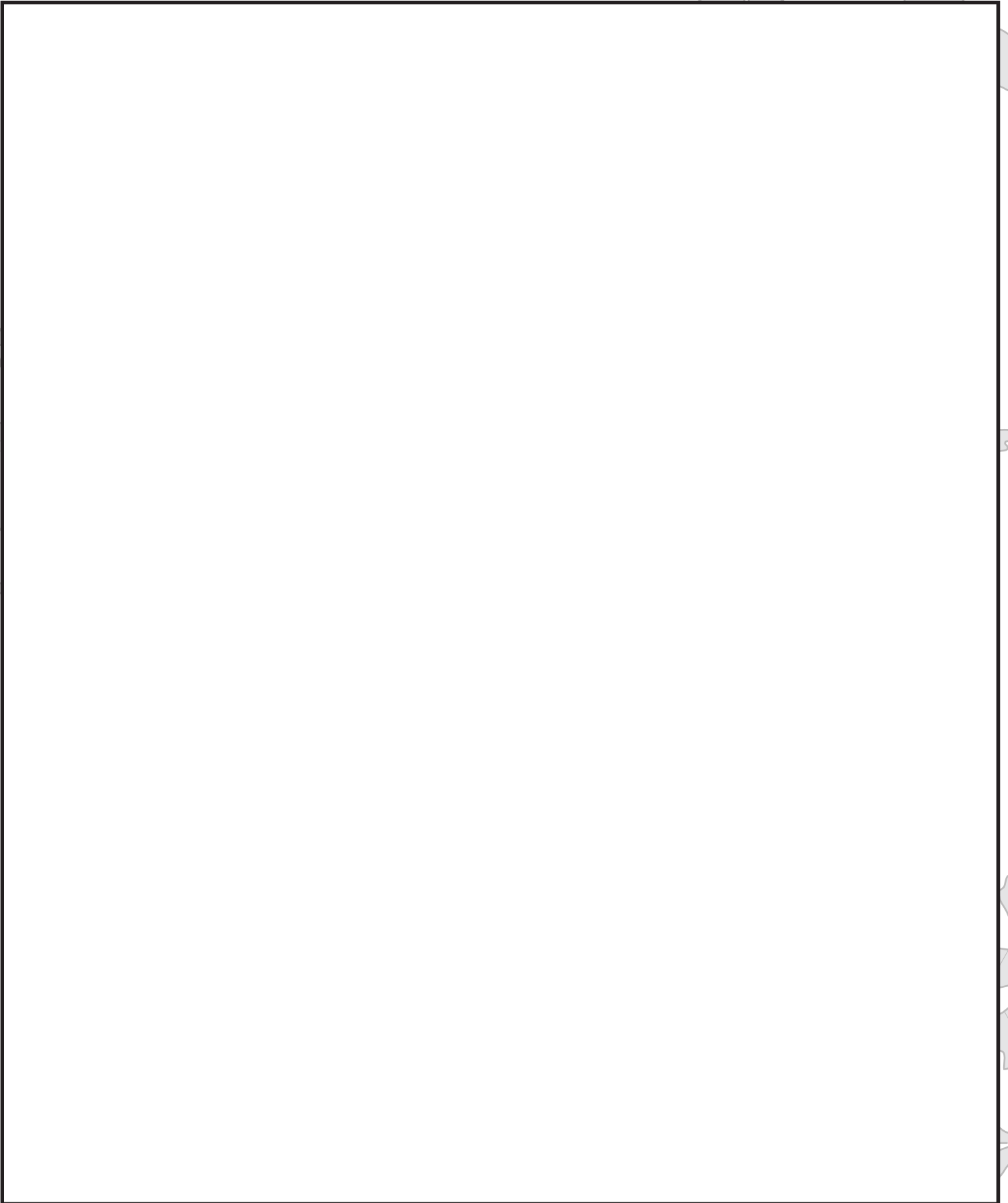
Delight

Artwork by Cassandra Misa



Design

Draw your own picture of Jonah and his story about going to Ninevah.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a drawing. The box occupies the majority of the page below the instruction. There are faint, stylized floral or star-like patterns in the corners of the page, outside the main drawing area.