



SLKC 2024 POST-CAMP PARENT GUIDE

Dear parent,

Your child attended Student Life Kids Camp. They have spent hours—literally hours—studying God’s Word over the last four days. They have heard six sermons, participated in three Bible studies, read through the entire book of Jonah, and even practiced having their own quiet times. All week, they were met with the truth of God’s Word in many ways and through many people. We hope this guide will serve as a tool to give you a chance to further the conversation about God’s Word that they had at camp.

REVIEW

We hope your child can take their Bible Study Booklet and re-teach the material to you (you will have access to that material below). Be curious! Ask your kid to teach you what they learned at camp!

EXTEND

This is where we hope the truth they learned will get more deeply rooted in their hearts and minds through your intentional parenting efforts. To extend these truths, we have given you many questions to ask your kid about these truths. Some of these are one-time conversation questions to be asked after you all review the material. However, others of these questions are meant to come up repeatedly. They are intended to become regular questions in your parental discipling arsenal. For example, each night at the dinner table, we ask, “Does anyone have a way that they looked like Jesus today?” The kids know the question is coming every day. They have to answer it. And as a result, they live in light of that question. They begin to actively think about how to live and look like Jesus in certain situations. The hope is that these questions take the core Biblical truths they have learned at camp and deeply ingrained them in your kid’s everyday thinking, believing, and living.

SCHEDULE - 3 CONVERSATIONS

Your kids walked through the book of Jonah in 3 Bible study meetings.

Day 1 - Jonah 1

Day 2 - Jonah 1:17-2:10, along with 5 New Testament passages (Matthew 12:40 & Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9 (what many call the “Romans Road to Salvation”))

Day 3 - Jonah 3-4

Ideally, you would schedule 3 conversations with your kid, one conversation for each of these Bible study days. During each Bible study day, they wrote down some essential truths (they were fill-in-the-blanks) tailored for you to discuss with them. There is enough material for a good conversation from each Bible Study day. It might take a lot of work to do it all at once. We recommend that you plan 3 consecutive days of conversation, or 3 days out of one week, where you talk through these things with your kid.

Here’s the added benefit: if you were not already talking about the Bible one-on-one with your kid, this is a great way to make that a regular part of your parenting.



STRUCTURING THE CONVERSATIONS

Here's how we would recommend structuring those conversations:

1. Start by telling them that you want to know what they learned from the Bible. Tell them that you already know that they studied the whole book of Jonah, but tell them that you want them to teach you what they learned.
2. Don't get too far without sitting down and reading the passage(s) from the Bible. You read it, have them read it, or split it up, and each read some.
3. After you have read, prompt them to use their Bible Study Booklets to walk through the core truths. (You will want to do your best to know what that material is, which is included below in each day's summary.)
4. As they teach, ask the questions supplied below—or better still, ask your own personal questions! The questions are designed to do what we talked about above—to review the material (head) and, more importantly, to extend the material (heart).

DAY 1: LOST

STEP 1

Here are some key things you'll need to know before going into the conversion:

1. On the first day, the kids studied Jonah 1.
2. The main idea that they heard over and over that day was this: When we run from God, we make a shipwreck of our lives.

Here are the Bible Study teaching points that they wrote in their booklets:

1. Sin is **REJECTING** or **IGNORING** God.
2. Sin may feel good or right when we are in the moment, but it usually leads us to **UNHAPPINESS**.
3. Sin brings major consequences, both for us and for the people **AROUND** us.
4. God can **RESCUE** us from our sin.

STEP 2

Read Jonah 1:1-17 out loud together.

STEP 3

Now, you are going to get them to talk through those teaching points to you. As they teach through those points, ask the sub-point questions.

1. Sin is **REJECTING** or **IGNORING** God.
 - How exactly was Jonah rejecting or ignoring God?
 - Is Jonah's sin problem really any different than ours?
 - What ways did you write down in your booklet that you reject/ignore God?
2. Sin may feel good or right when we are in the moment, but it usually leads us to **UNHAPPINESS**.
 - Have you ever seen that happen in your life—when you sinned, and for a little bit, it was great, but after a while, things became not great really quickly?



- Can you give me an example of a time when you felt that way?

3. Sin brings major consequences, both for us and for the people **AROUND** us.

- How did Jonah's sin affect him?

- Who else did Jonah's sin affect? How did it affect them?

- Can you think of a sin in your life that has brought consequences to you and to other people around you?

4. God can **RESCUE** us from our sin.

- Who does God send to rescue Jonah?

- Who does God send to rescue us?

STEP 4

Pray together! Once you walk through all of this together, close in prayer. Start by saying that you will pray first, and your child will pray second. Pray in light of the passage: confess how we have rejected/ignored God in our sin. Thank God for His kindness to us, despite our sin against Him.

MOVING FORWARD

In light of this conversation, here are some questions to use regularly in discipling your kid through their sin.

1. How is what you are doing rejecting or ignoring God?
2. How is your action leading you to not BE or DO what God wants you to BE or DO?
3. How is your sin affecting you and the people around you?

DAY 2: FOUND

STEP 1

Here are some key things you'll need to know before going into the conversion:

1. On the first day, the kids studied Jonah 1:17-2:10, along with Matthew 12:40 & the Romans Road (3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9)
2. The main theme for that day was to focus on how, in Christ, we can move from being LOST to being FOUND, using the example of Jonah's rescue to compare it to how we have been rescued in Jesus.
3. The main idea that they heard over and over that day was this: When we turn to Christ as our Savior, we are rescued from death and given new life.

- At first, this might seem like a left turn from Jonah's story. But when Jesus shows up, He tells us in Matthew 12 that the whole point of the Jonah story was to connect how Jonah spent 3 days in the heart of a fish to how Jesus would spend 3 days in the heart of the earth. Just as Jonah was brought from what felt like a certain death in the sea back to life, Jesus was brought from actual death back to life through the resurrection.

Here are the Bible Study teaching points that they wrote in their booklets:

1. I have **SINNED** against God by disobeying Him.
2. We deserve **PUNISHMENT** for our sins.
3. But God loves me so much that Jesus died **IN MY PLACE** on the cross
4. If I **TRUST** in what Jesus did for me, then I will be saved.



STEP 2

The structure of this conversation will need to be different. You will actually get to the book of Jonah last. Starting with Matthew 12:40 and the Romans Road verses will make Jonah more straightforward. So, together, look up and read each of these verses.

- Matthew 12:40; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Romans 5:8; Romans 10:9

STEP 3

Now, you will get them to talk to you about those teaching points. As they teach through those points, ask the sub-point questions.

1. I have **SINNED** against God by disobeying Him.

- Do you agree that you have disobeyed God's commands in your life?

2. We deserve **PUNISHMENT** for our sins.

- Do you understand what the punishment for your sins requires?

3. But God loves me so much that Jesus died **IN MY PLACE** on the cross.

- How does this make you feel when you think about Jesus choosing to take the punishment for your sins for you?
- If Jesus was punished for your sins, what does that mean for your eternity (what happens to you after you die)?

4. If I **TRUST** in what Jesus did for me, then I will be saved.

- What does it mean to trust in Jesus?
- Is there anything that you have to do to trust in Jesus to be your Savior?
- How should our lives begin to change if we trust in Jesus?
- Do you want to trust in Jesus for salvation?

STEP 4

Now, you may be thinking, what about Jonah? We're getting there. Turn now and read Jonah 1:17-2:10.

After you read that, ask your child: What is Jonah doing in Jonah 2:1-9? The answer is that Jonah is praising God for rescuing him. Jonah was lost and as good as dead in that sea. We are lost and dead in our sins. But God sent a rescuer to Jonah—a fish. And so much better than that, God sent a rescuer to us—His Son, Jesus.

STEP 5

Pray and thank God for the salvation given to us in Christ. Offer God lots of praise, just as Jonah did in Jonah 2. Parent, you go first, and then ask your kid to pray second.

MOVING FORWARD

In light of this conversation, here is a question to use regularly in discipling your kid through understanding their salvation:

- Are you trusting in Jesus Christ's death and resurrection for your eternal salvation?



DAY 3: HOMEWARD

STEP 1

Here's some key things you'll need to know before going into the conversion:

1. On the first day, the kids studied Jonah 3-4.
2. The main theme for that day was to focus on our journey **HOMEWARD**, and how as those who have been saved by Jesus and are on our way to eternity with Him, we now join with God in His mission to the world to rescue other sinners from everywhere.
3. The main idea that they heard over and over that day was this: When we know Jesus as our Savior, we join in his mission to the world on our journey homeward.

Here are the Bible Study teaching points that they wrote in their booklets:

1. The Ninevites were very **EVIL**.
2. The **ISRAELITES** were also doing lots of evil too.
3. The Ninevites **BELIEVED** God.
4. The Ninevites **REPENTED** of their sins.
5. Any time sinners truly turn from sin to God for mercy, they can **EXPECT** to receive it.
6. We are to **LOVE** all sinners in the way that God does.
7. That love means that we must **GO** and **TELL** them to turn from their sin and to trust in Jesus.

STEP 2

Read Jonah 3-4 out loud together. As you read, know that when the kids studied this, they were told to note all the unexpected turns in the story because there are many things that we probably wouldn't expect to happen if this were the first time we heard the story.

STEP 3

Now, you will get them to talk to you about those teaching points. As they teach through those points, ask the sub-point questions.

1. The Ninevites were very **EVIL**.
 - How do we know that they were evil?
 - Do you think their evilness is why Jonah didn't want to go there?
 - Do you get the impression that Jonah disliked the people of Nineveh?
2. The **ISRAELITES** were also doing lots of evil too.
 - Do you think Jonah would have rather been sent to preach to Israel—his own people—since they were doing evil too?
 - Why do you think God sent Jonah to Nineveh then?
3. The Ninevites **BELIEVED** God.
 - How long was Jonah's message to these people?
 - If they responded with only such a brief message, do you think that means their response was genuine?



4. The Ninevites **REPENTED** of their sins.

- What is repentance?
- How did the Ninevites show their repentance?

5. Any time sinners truly turn from sin to God for mercy, they can **EXPECT** to receive it.

- How does this make you feel about God?

6. We are to **LOVE** all sinners in the way that God does.

- Jonah had a hard time loving the people of Nineveh. Are there any people that you have a hard time loving?

7. That love means that we must **GO** and **TELL** them to turn from their sin and to trust in Jesus.

- What is the most important thing we can do to show love to another person?
- Who is someone that we can go and tell about Jesus?
- Who can we pray for to hear about Jesus?
- How can we give to help send people to tell others about Jesus?

STEP 4

Once you walk through all of this together, close in prayer. Start by saying that you will pray first, and your child will pray second. And pray in light of the passage: Pray that we would love our neighbors enough to tell them about Jesus. Pray that we would go where God tells us to go so we can tell. Pray for missionaries who have been sent and are being supported by your church.

MOVING FORWARD

In light of this conversation, here are some questions to use regularly in discipling your kid through their sin:

- Does your heart toward that person look like God's heart for that person?
- What is the most important thing that we can do for that person?