# **Disposition: Being Accountable and living with integrity**

## **Lesson:** Two

### Question/LO: Can you let yourself down? What can do Jewish people and Christians learn from the story of Jonah about running away from God?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Learning from experience | Ask pupils about things that people find difficult to own up to. It is helpful if the teacher can supply an example from their own experience. Can pupils think of experiences or stories of hiding the truth about doing the wrong things? They may choose to admit their own experience, or to fictionalise it! | n/a |
| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views | Tell the story of Jonah. Explain that this is a story important to Christians and Jewish people – and that there is a similar story in the Qur’an about the Prophet Yunus. In this story, Jonah found out what happened when he tried to run away from God.  Hot seating could be a way to explore the questions with pupils after stopping at different points in the story. Different pupils could take the role of Jonah after each section of the story:  1. After Jonah has got on the boat:  What had Jonah done wrong? Why was he running away? How did Jonah feel?  To all pupils: Have you ever not wanted to do a task?  2. After Jonah has been thrown into the sea:  What happened to the weather? Why didn’t Jonah ask God to help?  Why do you think that Jonah asked the soldiers to throw him into the sea?  What happened as a result?  3. After Jonah lands on the beach:  What would it have felt like inside the fish? What sort of things might have been going through Jonah’s mind? How was he saved? What did Jonah say to God?  Ask pupils to draw Jonah and add 2 thought bubbles next to him. In one they can write or draw what Jonah would like to do; in the other what he thinks he should do.  4. Continue the story to the end and then ask the following questions:  Did Jonah do what God had asked? What happened to the people of Nineveh?  How did Jonah react?  Discuss together:  Did Jonah let himself down? Was he able to run away from what he had done?  Why was he not able to escape the job he had been asked to do? What could Jonah have done instead of running away? Do you think that people can run away from God?  Explain that in the following lesson, the pupils will hear why this story is important to many Jewish families. | The Lion First Bible ISBN 0 7459 3849 3  Or another book of Bible stories for children eg Lion Storyteller Bible (Bob Hartman) ISBN 0 7459 3607 9  Or use <https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jonah-preschool/> and remember to download the story planner. The text is appropriate for KS1 and not only suitable for preschool  To conclude you may wish to watch together this sung animated version of the story of Jonah  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LsAcI4dXK48>  If you have space in the room, you may wish to have a water table. Pupils could play with a toy whale, boat, and figures. As they play, some children could use their own words to retell the story of “Jonah and the Big Fish”. |
| Learning from faith and non-religious world-views | Saying sorry is important when people have done something wrong. Did Jonah just say ‘sorry’? Was that all he did? What else did he do as well?  When I have done something for which I need to say sorry, is just saying ‘sorry’ enough?  Pupils could be asked to record (drawing or writing) a time when they showed they were sorry for something by doing more than just saying the solitary word. | n/a |
| Learning to discern | n/a | n/a |