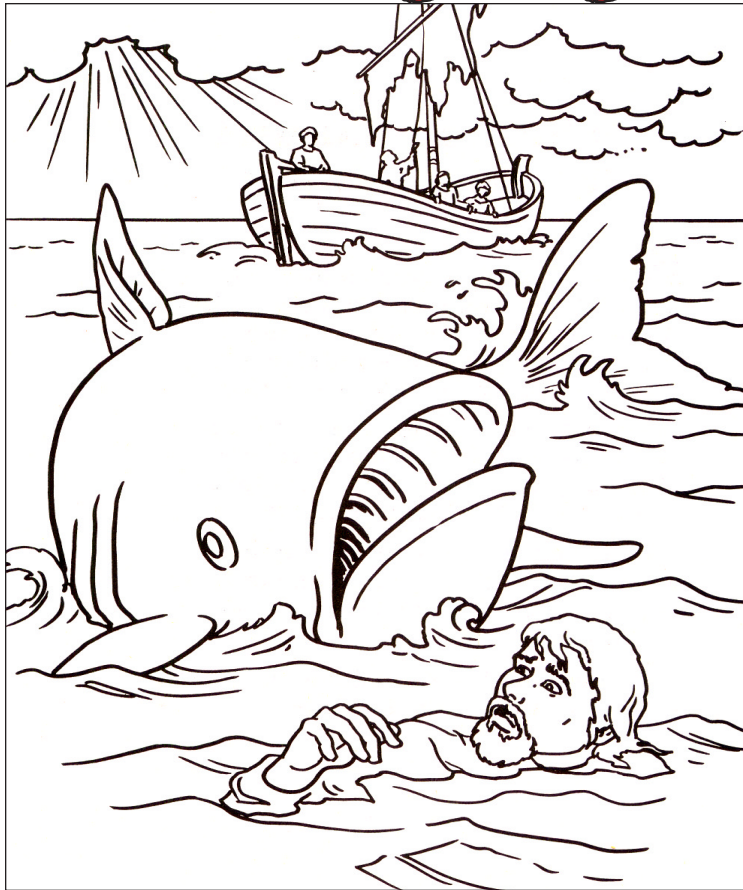


# Coloring Page



God caused a great fish to swallow Jonah. This saved him from drowning, but it captured him for God. He then repented and went to Ninevah to speak God's word to the people of the city.

**Parent's Initials:**



PK1

## The Bible

- Lesson Eleven -

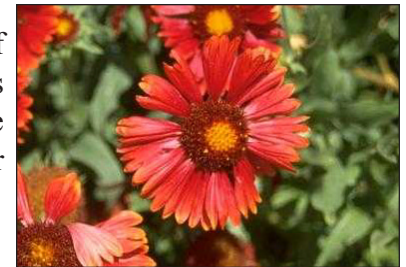
### The Bible

#### The Books of Prophecy (2)

##### I. Overview.

In this lesson we will consider the books in the Bible which are called the “Minor Prophets”. These books are not called the “Minor Prophets” because the writers were of lesser rank or their writings were of less importance. They are called the Minor Prophets because the books are of shorter length.

For one example, the book of Isaiah in the Major Prophets has sixty-six chapters, but the book of Obadiah in the Minor Prophets has only one chapter.



The books of the Minor Prophets are not less important, they are just shorter.

There are twelve books of the Minor Prophet. The names of the books are Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. We won't be looking at all of these books because there are too many to cover in one lesson. But we will look at some of the more important things written by the Minor Prophets.

##### II. Memory Verse.

“But you, O Bethlehem... from you shall come forth to Me He who is to be Ruler in Israel, and His goings forth are from ancient times.”

(Micah 5:2)

### III. Lesson.

#### The Book of Joel

The book of Joel has three chapters. Joel's name means "Jehovah is God" - what a wonderful name! Joel wrote his book of prophecy in Judah before Israel went into captivity. Because they were falling away from God, Joel warned the people about the coming judgment of God. But he also told them that if they would repent and turn back to God, that God would forgive them and they would receive His love and grace. Joel prophesied about the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on the believers on the day of Pentecost, which was the beginning of the church.



Jonah was thrown out onto dryland by the great fish.

#### The Book of Jonah

The book of Jonah contains the story of Jonah being sent by God to the evil city of Ninevah. In the beginning Jonah ran from God because he didn't want to speak for God in Ninevah. But Jonah was not able to get away from God and eventually ended up in the belly of a great fish for three days. Jonah repented and went to Ninevah where he spoke God's word. The people of Ninevah repented and God withheld His judgment. Jonah's experience is a picture of the death of Christ, since Jesus was in the "belly of the earth" for three days.

#### The Book of Micah

Micah is a book of seven chapters. Like Joel, Micah's name has an excellent meaning: "Who is like our God?" Micah was a prophet at the same time as Isaiah and may have known him. Micah was the prophet who foretold that Jesus would be born

in Bethlehem. It was the book of Micah that the scribes quoted when Herod wanted to know where the Christ would be born.

#### The Books of Haggai and Zechariah

The books of Haggai and Zechariah are often spoken of together. They both spoke during the time when Israel had been recovered back to Jerusalem and were rebuilding the house of God. Because they stopped the building before it was finished, Haggai and Zechariah came to correct them and encourage them to finish God's house. Because of their speaking the house of God, the Temple, was finished.

### --- Questions for Discussion ---

1. How many books of the minor prophets are there?  
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2. What are the meanings of the names "Joel" and "Micah"?  
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3. Who spoke of Jesus being born in Bethlehem?  
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4. When did Haggai and Zechariah prophesy ?  
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