

Use the following thoughts and questions to have one spiritual conversation. You can pick and choose, use them all or just allow the statement to be your guide. The emphasis shouldn't be about having all the answers, but simply having a conversation.

## **1. Opening Statement**

**Begin your conversation by asking about this statement:**

Jonah's story points to Jonah's disobedience to God, Jesus' obedience to God, and justification through Jesus' resurrection.

This statement is the biblical truth the student's study was built around. Each week there will be one statement that ties the whole study together. These would be great statements to remember together. The hope is that thoughts and ideas will stem from these statements. You can also begin by sharing a thought of your own that you learned during your study of the same lesson. Ask what thoughts were surprising as the study was taught.

## **2. Thought From the Study**

The story of Jonah shows God's undeserved grace and mercy to those who are undeserving. Both with Jonah and the Ninevites, God is slow to anger, abounding in loving kindness towards those who have sinned against Him. From this we witness the missionary heart of God, who is actively willing to pursue reconciliation with those who are running from, or have their back toward Him—so much so that He is willing to set aside His own glory by becoming one of us.

How was God merciful to Jonah, even as He disciplined him? How have you sensed God's mercy in His ongoing work in your life?

## **3. Quote for Discussion**

**Discuss this quote together. How does this change your understanding of a relationship with Jesus?**

"In sending Jonah as His messenger to sinful Ninevah, God showed grace and faithfulness. But centuries later, God sent another messenger to sinful mankind. Only this messenger went willingly and joyfully because He knew the heart of God. In fact, He was the heart of God." —Tullian Tchividjian

## **4. Conversation Questions**

**Use these questions to begin thinking through and applying the lessons to your family life:**

1. Why is it important for our family to understand the importance of obeying God?
2. How can obedience to God strengthen our family relationship?
3. How does our justification through the resurrection shape our family's ability to know God?
4. How does justification through the resurrection motivate our family to live on mission for God?