

*But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.*

*Jonah 1:17 (NIV)*

## **Provided**

Now, that's a usage of that word that I would have never considered. **What word?** You "provided" a great fish to swallow Jonah. I hope that you never "provide" something like that for me. **Why is that?** I don't want to find myself living in the belly of a great big smelly fish. I don't want to see myself barfed up on a beach somewhere. **What did Jonah do?** Jonah listened to your instructions and then did the exact opposite of what you asked of Him. You asked him to go one way. He went the other. You asked him to do one thing. He did another. **Should I have let him go and do exactly the opposite of what I had asked of him? Would you like me to let you go and do what is not pleasing to me? Should I let you live a life that is in direct opposition to my will?** No, if I am headed in the wrong direction then I ask you to turn my life around. I don't want to live a life that is in direct opposition to your will. I want to live a life that is pleasing to you. I want to go where you guide me. I want to do what you ask of me. **Are you sure?** Yes, I am sure. **That's good.**

**What will you say and do if I ask you to do something that is difficult? What will you say and do if I ask you to do something that is unpleasant? What will you do if I ask you to do some that is foreign and unfamiliar? What will you do is if I ask you to do something that is embarrassing and unpopular? What will you say and do if I ask you to do something that is far beyond your gifts and talents and abilities and resources?** Those are all very tough questions. I don't have the answer to each one of them. I don't know what I would say and do in every case. It is my hope and prayer that I will always willingly and joyfully go and do whatever you ask of me. I don't want to rebel. I don't want to shrink back. I don't want to fall short. I want to know and do your will. I will tell you one thing. **What's that?** I give you permission to "provide" whatever I need to be able to go and do your will. I just hope and pray that I don't need a big smelly fish or a large kick in the pants so that I will readily go and do your will. **You can be sure of one thing.** What's that? **I will "provide" whatever you need to go and do what I ask of you.** That's good. **Yes, it is.**

*Lord, I know that I have not always obeyed you. I have not gone and done what you asked me to do for you. Forgive me. Help me now to follow and serve you. I will go wherever you guide me. I will do whatever you ask of me. Amen*

**Miracles** *To Swallow Jonah*

But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.

NIV Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Up Jonah*

And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

ESV Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Jonah*

Now the LORD had arranged for a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was inside the fish for three days and three nights.

NLT Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Jonah*

Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

NKJV Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Up Jonah*

But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

NRSV Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Jonah*

Then GOD assigned a huge fish to swallow Jonah. Jonah was in the fish's belly three days and nights.

MSG Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Up Jonah*

Now the Lord had prepared and appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

AMP Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Jonah*

Now the Lord had arranged for a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.

TLB Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Jonah*

And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.

NASB Jonah 1:17

**Miracles** *To Swallow Jonah*

The LORD caused a big fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.

NCV Jonah 1:17

# To Swallow Jonah

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Miracles** – Jonah 1:17

**In Context:** *Read Jonah 1*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights. Jonah 1:17 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

But the LORD | provided | a great fish | to swallow Jonah, | and Jonah | was inside | the fish | three days | and | three nights.  
Jonah 1:17 (NIV)

**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I know that I have not always obeyed you. I have not gone and done what you asked me to do for you. Forgive me. Help me now to follow and serve you. I will go wherever you guide me. I will do whatever you ask of me. Amen

**What It Means:**

***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What has God been calling you to go and do for Him?

**When have you wanted to run away from what the Lord was asking you to go and do for Him?**

Why have you actually run away from what the Lord asked you to do and do for Him?

**Why does what the Lord asks you to do for Him often involve difficulty and require significant effort?**

How has the Lord brought you back to do what He asked you to do for Him?

How has the Lord made you able to go and do what you thought you could not do for Him?

**How has your relationship with the Lord grown as you have gone and done what He asked of you?**

**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Say yes to the Lord and go and do all that He asks you to do for Him.

**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will give you all that you need to go and do whatever He asks of you.

**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how your relationship with the Lord has grown as you have obeyed Him.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

