

GOD'S POWER IS FOR GOD'S PURPOSE

Family Devotion — Lesson 68

MEMORY VERSE — MATTHEW 12:40

“For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

- The scribes and Pharisees asked Jesus to show them a sign (a display of His power) to prove to them that He was the Son of God (Mt. 12:38). There had already been enough evidence given, but Jesus pointed them to Jonah as a sign. The story of Jonah was a foreshadowing (picture or type) of Jesus. Jesus had given plenty of signs that He was God in the flesh, but the greatest sign of all was His RESURRECTION!
- God’s power of resurrection (raising from the dead; coming back from the dead) has a great purpose:
 - Jonah’s Purpose
 - To give Jonah a second chance to obey.
 - To give Nineveh a chance to repent and be saved.
 - To give Jonah mercy in hope that Jonah would have mercy on Nineveh.
 - To give a scriptural foreshadowing of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.
 - Jesus’ Purpose
 - To give overwhelming proof that Jesus was God.
 - To give proof and assurance that our sins have been paid for and accepted by God.
 - To give hope that we too will be resurrected and receive a new body some day.
- The power of the resurrection is the same power that works in every believer (Rom. 8:11).
- The purpose of this power in us is so we can fulfill God’s will and be what God wants us to be.
- “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure” (Phil 2:13).

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- According to Matthew 28:19-20, what is the main purpose of the church? (The Great Commission)
- According to Matthew 28:18, where does the church get power? (Jesus)
- What can you do according to Philippians 4:13? (All things)

PRAYER TIME

- Ask God to help you carry out the Great Commission.
- Ask God to help you see His power and purpose in your life.

CHALLENGE

- Research the largest type of whale and find out how big it is.