

# One More



A Six Week Children's  
Church Curriculum

**RealFun**  
Curriculum

# One More the **BIG** idea

## Week One

→ EveryONE has a choice

What you need:

- Big Idea Slide

What it is : The Big Idea is used from beginning to end in the service. Each element of the service should be opened with "What's the Big Idea?" and allow the children to repeat it back. The more you use the big idea and more it is said by leaders and children, the greater the chance for the children to retain what they have learned in the service.

What you say & do: **Put up the Big Idea slide.** Today's Big Idea is EveryONE has a choice. Let's learn the Big Idea together right now. Yell out the Big Idea that is on the screen when I say you "What's the Big Idea?" Now here we go, What's the Big Idea? (kids respond) I can't hear you... (kids respond) Great job. Just now I asked you to yell out the Big Idea together. You had a choice to participate and be obedient or to just sit there, not participate and be disobedient. I am happy that most of you, if not all of you, were obedient. What would it have been like if all of you made the choice not to yell out the Big Idea. (kids respond). I would have felt pretty silly up here all by myself yelling the Big Idea. Just like the choice you made just now, there are choices everyday that we have to make. God created us with a free will. That means we can choose to obey God, we can choose to hold our breath, we can choose to jump, we can choose to run, **start running your words together saying these things faster and faster** we can choose to sleep, we can choose to eat cereal, we can choose to ..... You get the idea. God gives us a choice and today we are going to learn about someone who had to choose between two directions. Our Bible story today talks about what happened when this person made the wrong choice and in the same story we will learn what happened to this person when they changed their mind and made the right choice.

Refer back to the **BIG** idea often thru the service to remind the children what the lesson is about.





# One More Bible Story

Refer back to the BIG idea often thru the service to remind the children what the lesson is about.



## Week One

### Whale of a choice

What you need:

- Your Bible
- Slide with the four choices that Jonah made. Three good choices and one bad one.
  - Jonah's first choice: to disobey God and go to Tarshish (the wrong direction)
  - Jonah's second choice: to confess to those on the boat that he was running from God and was the reason for the storm
  - Jonah's third choice: to pray while he was in the belly of the fish
  - Jonah's fourth choice: to obey God and go to Ninevah

What it is : The Bible story is the “meat” of the service. Children need to know that God’s Word is full of stories that can be used in their everyday lives. It is the privilege of you as a ministry leader to show how these stories apply in a practical way to them in everyday life.

What you say & **do**: Our Bible Story today is called “Whale of a choice”. Today we are talking about how everyONE has a choice. Now let’s look and see exactly what happened in today’s story. The story today is found in the book of Jonah. I am going to read the story and we are going to try and find the choices that Jonah made. I will tell you right now that there are four choices that we will look at. It is going to be up to you to vote and to let me know if the choices he made were good choices or bad choices. Let’s get started. **Read Jonah 1:1-3.** Well here we are only three verses into our story and Jonah made his first choice. Raise your hand if you think this choice was a good choice. (kids respond) Okay, now raise your hand if you think this was a bad choice. (kids respond) That’s right this was a very bad choice. Jonah chose to disobey God and we all know that is a bad choice to make. **Read Jonah 1:4-17.** Okay here we are at Jonah’s second choice. He was on the boat and the storm was very bad and everyone was confused and in the middle of all this the sailors cast lots (kind of like rolling dice to see who goes first in a board game) and the lot fell on Jonah. The choice in this part is when Jonah chose to tell the sailors the truth about what he had done. Let’s vote good choice or bad choice. **Let the kids vote.** That is some votes for both sides. I don’t know about you but at first this looks like a bad choice to me, but as we read along we will find that this was a good choice for Jonah. **Read Jonah 2:1** Check this out, another choice right in the beginning of the next chapter. Jonah chose to pray to God instead of being digested. Good choice or bad choice. **Have the kids vote on this one.** That’s right this is a good choice no matter how you look at it! **Read 2:2-3:3** Here is the fourth choice that we will look at today. After Jonah landed on the beach smelling like the insides of a fish’s stomach, God called him again to go to Ninevah. This time Jonah obeyed God. Good choice or bad choice?? (kids respond) That’s right this was a very good choice. The story goes on to tell us how after Jonah preached in Ninevah the people of Ninevah repented and began to serve God. So we learn in this story that God gives everyONE a choice. We also learn from this story that listening to God the first time is so much easier than trying our own way. **Read 3:4 to 4:11** Wow Ninevah repented and Jonah got upset with God. Not cool! God taught Jonah a lesson with the plant that died though didn’t He? (kids respond) I know that I am thankful that God loves me even though I am a sinner. Just like he loved the people of Ninevah.

# One More Foam Finger Feature

Refer back to the BIG idea often thru the service to remind the children what the lesson is about.



## Week One

### Gummy Worm

What you need:

- Several Gummy Worms

What it is : The Foam Finger Feature is the opportunity to bring an element into the service that peaks the curiosity of the kids. This element of the service will give your kids something to look forward to as it keeps them guessing how the Foam Finger Feature relates to the Bible Story or the lesson of the day.

What you say & do: **Take out the gummy worm from the Foam Finger Box.** Worms, worms, worms, **holding the gummy worm up in your hand** they are slimy, they are dirty and disgusting little creatures. **Hold up the worm and eat it in front of the kids.** What in the world could a worm have to do with our story or with our Big Idea. By the way What is the Big Idea? (kids respond) That's right, what could a worm teach us about choices? In our Bible story today there was a worm in the very end that helped teach Jonah a lesson. Remember...the worm ate the plant that gave Jonah shade. You could say that the worm was a shady character. The first thing I want you to see is how much God loves you and how important you are to Him. Let's look at some things that make the work useful.

1. Worms burrow through the earth creating air pockets for the plants to get more nutrients.
2. Worms secrete slime full of Nitrogen which is another healthy thing for plants

As you can see worms are useful animals. There are many other things that worms do to help the earth. However worms cannot choose whether or not they secrete slime or burrow through the earth. Worms do make choices everyday though... They choose to stay alive. You see God gives us choices and if we obey Him we will have a lot of fun being a part of His plan for us. Worms don't have eyes, ears, arms or legs. The only thing they have is a sensor to light. If a worm senses light it goes the other way. That is why you see them at night a lot. How many of you have seen worms a dried up on the street or sidewalk? Of course you have. This is what happens to the worms that don't make it underground in time. God gives us a sensor too. Like Jonah we know when we are disobeying. Jonah knew he was doing what was wrong because God's spirit was convicting him. This spirit, the Holy Spirit, is the one that tells us when to resist temptations and the one that reminds us when we make bad choices. We need to listen to God thru His Holy Spirit. Don't be a Jonah and get stuck in the belly of a great fish. For sure, don't be like the worm who got stuck on the sidewalk when the sun came up. Make good choices. Obey God's voice and see how wonderful God's plan for your life is by obeying Him every step of the way.



# One More

## Memory Verse

## Week One

Today I have given you the choice between  
life and death, blessings and curses  
now choose life.  
Deuteronomy 30:19

What you need:

- PPT Slide of Memory Verse
- Bulletin board that can be stood up in the class so the other children can see the activity
- Paper with bold font statements indicated above on one side and odd numbers 1 thru 7 on the back (every paper gets one number)
- Paper with regular font statements indicated above on one side and even numbers 2 thru 8 on the back (every paper gets one number)
- **Make sure the numbers are not in order or the activity will not work**

What it is : The memory verse and the activity is designed to do two things: 1. To give you the opportunity to tie the days lesson into Biblical truths, 2. To get the kids moving and learning at the same time. Take this portion of the service to ensure that the children will memorize the weeks verse and understand what it means to them.

## Memory Verse Activity

## Memory Verse Memory

What you say & do: Prepare the verse as indicated above in the “what you need” section ahead of time and have it with you. Say the memory verse and have the children repeat it as you go along. Do this a few times until you think the children have a good handle on it. Okay great job. I have in my hand the memory verse. It is written on several pieces of paper. Each piece of paper has a number on the back of it. In this activity we will test your memory. How many of you have played the game of Memory before? (kids respond) Cool, then you know that in the game of Memory you have to memorize what is on the front of each card when you flip it over and then try to match it up. Our activity today is called Memory Verse Memory and it will be a lot like that. I will choose two volunteers to go against each other in this activity to see who has the best memory. **Choose your two volunteers and have them come up on stage with you.** Now here are my volunteers and here are the rules.

1. The paper will be hung on the bulletin board so you can only see the number.
2. You have to choose one number at a time and try to find the first one then the second one etc. If you don't choose the right one, you have to flip it over and the other kid gets a turn. Pay attention to try to remember which one is where and put it in the right order.
3. The verse will be on the screen to help you. When you find the first statement you may place it on the ground or table in order.
4. The kid with the most right first choices will win.

***Make more than one set if you want to do this activity multiple times.***



# One More Message Illustration

## Week One

### The Fisherman's Choice

What you need:

- This Illustration
- Your anointing

What it is : The message illustration portion of the service is an opportunity for you to teach as Jesus taught. Use this portion as a parable to open the hearts and minds of the kids as they learn the lesson of the day in a way that sticks.

**What you say & do:** Tell the story written out below. Plan on an altar call. When you tell a story help the children feel what it would have been like to be there in the story. Get creative. The story is a skeleton and you can fill in details as needed. I am going to tell you a story...it is a parable just like Jesus used to tell.

*Many years ago there was a very famous fisherman. People would come from miles in every direction just to have an opportunity to go out on a deep sea fishing trip with this fisherman. This fisherman had great instincts. He knew the ocean like the back of his hand. He had never been caught in a storm and was known for his successful and safe expeditions. On one foggy weekend a family of seven boarded his fishing boat. They were very excited about this trip. This was a very special trip, as on this trip the fisherman would have his son helping him on the high seas. The family that was with them was a nice family but it was obvious to the fisherman and his son that this family did not know Jesus and had not received Him as their savior. They thought about telling them and tried a few times to bring it up in conversation but had no success. The fishing boat shoved off...excitement was in the sea air as they made their way out to deep water. The fisherman's son was with the family beginning to teach them how to use the deep sea fishing equipment. The fisherman was at the helm steering his boat and praying for the family that they were taking out fishing that day. The family was a man with his wife, 4 sons and a little girl. As the fisherman prayed, he felt a burden for this family unlike anything he had ever felt before. He heard God speak to him in a still small voice. God said "Today you will show this family my love". The fisherman kept praying. Then he felt a peace come over him as he brought the boat to a halt in a primo fishing spot. Just before he went down to be with his son and the family, God reminded Him that the fisherman that he would be used to show God's love and then God assured him that they would all accept Him by the end of this trip. They spent several hours fishing and all was well until the fisherman saw a fog roll in. This fog was dark and had a hint of pink and the fisherman knew that was bad news. He ordered everyone to check their lifejackets and to get into a safe place...a storm was coming. His son hustled to get the fishing gear put away as the fisherman ran to the helm to steer the ship. In an instant they were being soaked by pouring rain and waves over 15 feet tall were tossing the fishing boat around like a rag doll. Just before the fisherman's son got all the gear secure he slipped. As he was slipping he reached to grab something and accidentally pulled the family's 6 year old son overboard.*

**Continued on next page.**





# One More

## Message Illustration Continued

## Week One

### The Fisherman's Choice Continued

*Instantly a wave separated the fisherman's son and the 6 year old boy. The 6 year old boy's father jumped in after him attempting to save his son. The father and his 6 year old son were beginning to be swallowed by the ocean. The fisherman's son was being swept in the other direction. The fisherman had a choice to make. Steer the ship and save his son or save the father of 5 children floating in the water with his 6 year old little boy. The fisherman jerked the ship toward his own son by instinct hoping that maybe he could do both. He could see his son waving his arm frantically and it broke his heart. The cries of the the man's wife and 4 other children were filling the fisherman's ears..."have mercy, have mercy please help my husband and our dad". The fisherman got a little closer to his son and saw something that surprised him. The fisherman thought that his son was waving his arms to try to get him to save him. But now he could see clearly that his son was waving him away from him. The fisherman's son was telling him to save the other person. Immediately the fisherman was reminded of the conversation that he had with God earlier. He knew he had to make his choice and he knew that there was no turning back. The fisherman felt a tear roll down his cheek as he whispered goodbye to his son. The fisherman jerked the wheel and headed toward the exhausted father trying desperately to hold his 6 year old's head above water. The fisherman pulled along side and helped the father and his 6 year old into the boat. He then ran back to the helm to go find his own son in the water. After a few minutes of searching he realized that was the last time he would ever see him. He also realized that his son would be in heaven waiting for him. He remembered how the Father in heaven had sent his only son for us and how know he must share God's love with the 7 other people that were on his boat. The fisherman plotted the course for home and took the boat out of the storm. He spent the rest of the way in sharing God's love with the family of seven that were on his boat that day. They all received the salvation that comes from Jesus and promised to share that love with everyone they met.*

This story was a parable. It was a story to help teach you a lesson. It is time for all of us to understand that it was not easy for the Father in heaven to watch Jesus die on the cross. The same way he sent Jonah to Ninevah, he also sent Jesus to the earth for me and you. Jesus died for us. Because God loves us. Now it is up to us to make a choice today to accept God's love. Who wants to make that choice. **Pray and have Altar time here.**



# One More Game Time

## Eat It! Good Suggestions

1. Good Candy
2. Little Debbie snacks
3. Chips

## Eat It! Bad Suggestions

1. Pickled egg or pigs feet
2. Baby food
3. Cauliflower

## Drink It! Good Suggestions

1. Sweet Tea
2. Juice box
3. Lemonade

## Drink It! Bad Suggestions

1. Unsweet Tea
2. Pickle Juice
3. Lemon Juice

## Wear It! Good Suggestions

1. Ball Cap
2. Bandana
3. Muscle Shirt

## Wear It! Bad Suggestions

1. Wig
2. Adult Diaper
3. A dress



# Week One

## Choices, Choices, Choices

What you need:

- Three simple signs (*Eat It!* - *Drink It!* - *Wear It!*) that can be taped to a table or propped up on the table near the game.
- Several “good” and several “bad” items for each category - see sidebar for suggestions
- Each category as listed above (eat it/drink it/ wear it) needs two paper bags. One bag should have the number one written on it and the other paper bag should have the number two written on it.
- Kids to play based on how many things you have

What it is : Game time is meant to be fun. Allow the kids to get loud as they cheer on their team for this part of your service.

What you say & **do**: Today’s game is called Choices, Choices, Choices. **Select your kids according to how many teams you wish to play.** Now that we have our contestants, we are going to get started. Listen closely to the rules and you kids in the audience cheer these guys on while they play.

1. Each sign in front of the bags represents what you have to do with the item you choose.
2. One bag will be something good and one bag will be something bad.
3. Choose wisely as you won’t know which is which until it is revealed...and then there is no backing out!
4. In the eat and drink it section of the game, it is required that you try whatever you choose. You DO NOT have to eat or drink it all.

Next team does the same thing and the team with the best time wins. **Have FUN!!!**

## Sample Set Up





# One More

Time: 5 min

Time: 5-10 min

Time: 10 min

Time: 10 min

Time: 10-15 min

Time: 5 min

Time: 10 min

Time: 10 min

Time: 10 min

Time: TBD

Time: As Needed



## Week One Schedule

Welcome and Opening Prayer

**the BIG idea:** EveryONE has a choice

**Bible Story:** Whale of a Choice

**Foam Finger Feature:** Gummy Worm

**Praise & Worship:** Insert your own praise and worship

**Offering and Visitors:** Take Offering and greet visitors

**Memory Verse:** Teach Memory Verse and do Memory Verse Activity

**Game Time:** Play the Game "Choices, Choices, Choices"

**Message Illustration:** Tell the story "The Fisherman's Choice"

**Prayer and Altar:** Use this time to allow the children to respond to what they have learned.

**Review Game:** Use Review Game provided in Week One.