



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 5: No Escape

Suggested Week of Use: October 2, 2022

Core Passage: Jonah 1:15—2:10

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### News Story Summary

A family in Ohio found something unusual hiding in their first-story bathroom—a wild coyote.

Last month, a family in Butler County (located just north of the Cincinnati) was awake early one morning, getting ready for a family trip. Around 5 a.m., local police responded to a call from the home after the father found the coyote hiding behind the toilet.

The family suspects the coyote got into the house through a door that had been left open as they packed their car for the trip. Apparently, the animal had been in its hiding place even while the family used that bathroom throughout the morning. They just never realized it.

The coyote was safely extracted from the bathroom and released unharmed.

For more about this story, search “Ohio family finds coyote in bathroom.”

### Focus Attention

To replace the opening activity under Focus Attention, explain that the group will be going on a quick treasure hunt. Share that before they arrived, you hid a small object (marble, piece of gum, quarter, or something similar) somewhere in the room. Allow individuals to search for the object. Award a small prize to the person who finds it.

*Ask: How many of you played hide and seek as a child? What did you think was a perfect place to hide?* Discuss responses. Tell the story of the family in Ohio who found the coyote hiding in their bathroom. (You may also be able to find footage of this story on the Internet.) *Ask: Why do you think the coyote hid in the bathroom?* Explain that today’s Bible study will discuss a hiding game in which the main character really couldn’t stay hidden. Open in prayer.

### Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the activity under Summarize and Challenge, recall the story of the coyote in the bathroom. *Ask: Do you think the coyote wanted to be found? Why? Do you think people want to be found by God? Explain.* Encourage adults to think about how God’s omnipresence—His presence everywhere at all times—affected Jonah’s experience, as well as our own. *Ask: How can His presence be a comfort in our lives? How can it make us nervous?* Challenge the class to think about their own relationship with God and ways they might be trying to hide from God. Then close in prayer.