

# BOLD TRANSFORMATIONAL

*Faith*

Luther Crest Bible Camp | Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center

## Bold Transformational Faith Sunday School Guide Living Water | @The Lake

### INTRODUCTION:

#### Check-ins!

First, go around and share each other's names once again, just in case there are new faces in your group! Then, share some check-ins. This can go as following:

- Share your name, and how old you are/what grade you are in!
- What was your favorite part of last week?
- What was hard last week?
- What was something new you learned last week?

There are a couple different formats you can use. Here is some inspo!

#### *Lemon - Lotus - Lollipop*

Lemon is something sour (bad) that happened, lotus is something new you learned, lollipop was your sweet moment of the week!

#### *High - Low - Buffalo*

High point of the week, low point, and something cool you experienced!

#### *Mountain - Valley - Treetop*

Mountain is the high point of the week, valley is low point, treetop was a moment that pointed to God!

#### *Shoe - Hat - Backpack*

Shoe represents somewhere you went, hat represents a moment you'll remember, and a backpack was something you learned to take with you in the future!

### BOOK:

Open the conversation with Sunday Schoolers by talking about what they've learned about how rivers, lakes, and all water is full of life. Share that today's story also mentions the life within these waters; and a big gulp!

#### Jonah and the Whale!

Read the story of Jonah and the Whale in Jonah 1-3. You can also find this story in the SPARK Bible on Page 190!

Have campers make actions with their hands when they hear certain words or events. For example when they hear about water, have them make wave motions with their hands. When God gives a command, have them pretend to speak into a megaphone! When Jonah doesn't do what God says, have them cross their arms across their chest and shake their head "no". And, of course, when the big fish swallows up Jonah, have them make an engulfing motion with their hands!

This can be a lot to remember, so you can also have them act it out as you read! As they hear words or actions, tell them to act it all out in their own way!

Ask Sunday Schoolers the following questions:

- Why was God asking Jesus to go to Nineveh? (So that people would live in the way of God's love.)
- Why do you think that Jonah said "no"? (Let them guess the different answers!)
- Why do you think God chose to send a fish?

## LOOK:

### God made you special!

In this story, we learn that God is watching out and cares for each of us; and God needs our help sometimes to make sure that we are caring for others. We are called to care for each other, and think of others before ourselves!

Have Sunday Schoolers share some of the gifts and talents they have. Explain that sometimes, God wants us to use these gifts and talents to share God's love with others. This is why God made us all unique! God has made you the way you are for a special purpose. Just like God made Jonah for his purpose, to share the good news with the people of Nineveh!

### Rainbow Fish Story

Story is by Marcus Pfister

A long way out in the deep blue sea, there lived a fish. Not just an ordinary fish, but the most beautiful fish in the entire ocean! His scales were every shade of blue and green and purple, with sparkling silver scales among them.

The other fish were amazed at his beauty! They called him "Rainbow Fish". But the Rainbow Fish would just glide past, proud and silent, letting his scales shimmer.

One day, a little blue fish followed after him. "Rainbow Fish," he called, "wait for me! Please give me one of your shiny scales. They are so wonderful and you have so many!"

"You want me to give you one of my special scales? Who do you think you are? Get away from me," cried the Rainbow Fish. Shocked, the little blue fish swam away. He was so upset, he told all his friends what had happened. And from then on, no one would have anything to do with the Rainbow Fish. They turned away when he swam by.

What good were the dazzling, shimmering scales with no one to admire them? Now, he was the loneliest fish in the entire ocean. He decided to pour out his troubles to the starfish. The Rainbow Fish asked, "I really am beautiful. Why doesn't anybody like me?"

"I can't answer that for you, but if you go beyond the coral reef to a deep cave, you'll find the wise octopus. Maybe she can help you!" replied the starfish.

The Rainbow Fish found the cave! It was very dark inside and he couldn't see anything. Then suddenly, two eyes caught him in their glare and the octopus emerged from the darkness. "I have been waiting for you!" said the octopus with a deep voice. "The waves have told me your story. My advice is to give a glittering scale to each one of the other fish. You may no longer be the most beautiful fish in the sea, but you will discover how to be happy!"

"I can't," the Rainbow Fish started to say, but the octopus had already disappeared into a dark cloud of ink. "Give away my scales? My beautiful shining scales? Never! How could I ever be happy without them," the Rainbow Fish thought.

Suddenly, he felt a light touch of a fin. The little blue fish was back! He said, "Rainbow Fish, please don't be angry. I just wanted one little scale," the blue fish explained. The Rainbow Fish wavered. "Only one very very small shimmery scale? Well, maybe I wouldn't miss just one," he thought.

Carefully, the Rainbow Fish pulled out the smallest scale and gave it to the little fish. "Oh, thank you very much!" the little blue fish bubbled playfully as he tucked the shiny scale among his blue ones, happily.

A rather peculiar feeling came over the Rainbow Fish. For a long time, he watched the little fish swim back and forth with his new shimmery scale glittering in the water.

The little blue fish whizzed through the ocean with his scale flashing, so it didn't take long before the Rainbow Fish was surrounded by other fish. Everyone wanted a glittery scale! And the more he shared, the more delighted he became. When the water around him filled with glimmering scales, he, at last, felt at home among the other fish.

Finally, the Rainbow Fish had only one shining scale left. His most prized possessions had been given away, yet he was very happy! "Come on, Rainbow Fish! Come and play with us!" they called. "Here I come!" said the Rainbow Fish and happy as a splash, he swam off to join his friends.

When we think about this story, we see that the Rainbow Fish had a special gift, that was so much better when shared! When we share the gifts that God has given us, we do a lot of good things! When Jonah wasn't sharing when God needed him to, it didn't do him, or anyone else much good. However, when Jonah followed God's directions and used what God had given him, he saved the lives of many!

God made you with special gifts too! Some you may know, and some you may learn later too. Remember to share your gifts with others, and remember this story; great things happen when we share!

## TOOK:

**Materials:** Sunday schoolers will need paper, and markers!

Here is a fish that Sunday Schoolers were sent as a cut out- if they don't have it, invite them to create any COOL fish they want on the paper.

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/rainbow-fish-template?version=print>

For this activity Sunday Schoolers will spend a few minutes creating a fish or using the template on a blank piece of paper. Invite Sunday Schoolers to get as creative as they would like! Invite them to think about the story earlier about the Rainbow Fish and the story of Jonah. Once they have completed the fish, Sunday Schoolers will not fill the fish up with gifts that God has given them! Using different color markers, they can write in their gifts that they believe God gave them and makes them special! ( WHICH WE WILL ARE )

Once complete have Sunday Schoolers share their fish and gifts. Invite them to put in their room on their fridge etc to serve as a reminder of the many AWESOME gifts each one of us has!

## CLOSING PRAYER (OR, PRAY YOUR OWN PRAYER!)

Dear God,

Thank you for making each of us special. We know that your love for us is never ending, and just like Jonah and the Rainbow Fish, you made us special so that we could share your love with others in special ways! We are washed clean and forgiven children of God. We love you, and we thank you!

Amen!

## EXTRA TIME ACTIVITIES:

- **Online Charades!**
  - Privately message a volunteer with one of the following (or some of your own!) to act out and have the other participants guess what it is.
    - Tomato
    - Bear
    - Pizza
    - Camping
    - Making Hot Chocolate
    - Ice Skating
    - Ice Fishing
    - Going on a Hike
    - Making a snowman!
    - Baking cookies!
- **At-Home Scavenger Hunt!**
  - Announce something to look for for all participants. Here are some examples! First person to find an item that matches the description, wins.
    - Something blue
    - Something that beeps
    - A random sock, perhaps?
    - Something sticky

- A picture of a fun memory
- A hanger
- An animal (live or stuffed)
- A pair of shoes
- Something that starts with the letter P
- Something that makes music
- Something that goes on your head

- Minute Mysteries

- Q: There are two penguins canoeing in the desert. One says to the other, "Where's your paddle?", and the other responds "Sure does". Why?
  - A: The second penguin heard it as "wears your paddle", as in the sand wearing it down.
- Q: You are in a cabin with four walls all facing south. There is a bear outside. What color is the bear?
  - A: The cabin is at the tip of the North Pole. The bear is, of course, white.
- Q: You walk into a room with only one match. You must light a lantern, a gas stove, the pilot light of a water heater and a fire in a fireplace. What do you light first?
  - A: The match!