

Session 1 Going Deeper

Worship Setting

Set up the front of the sanctuary using materials created during the opening session. Drape nets with either paper fish cutouts or other fish representations. Incorporate plants and greenery that create the setting of an ocean. Pass out red paper and cut out irregular shapes (resembling red algae) to be written on later in the service.

Centering Thoughts

The fifth chapter of the Gospel of Luke records the story of Jesus calling the first disciples. After an uneventful day of fishing, Peter and his companions were ready to call it a day. Jesus instructed Peter to “launch out into the deep and let down the nets for a catch.” Peter in his stubbornness informed Jesus that they had toiled all day with little success, but eventually Peter complied and a catch so large that the nets were about to break was the result. Jesus informed them that from now on the disciples would be fishers of people. In the story, going deeper not only involved hard work, it also involved some mystery, because the deep waters weren’t as secure as the shallow. As we explore the peace of Christ, we will also be challenged to go deeper to explore and discover things and ideas that press us, stretch us, and at times confound us. But the call is to go deeper, to seek what the peace of Christ means to us individually and as a faith community.

Praise Singing

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| “Jesus Is Calling” | HS 391 |
| “As the Deer” | NS 2 |
| “Rain Down” | R-8 |

Call ToWorship

If you lack wisdom, ask for it from God, who gives generously and ungrudgingly to all, and it will be given to you. But you must ask in faith, never doubting, for the doubter is like the surf tossed and driven by the wind. People like this must not expect to receive anything from God, for they are devious and erratic in all they do

—James 1: 5–7 The Inclusive New Testament

Song of Invitation: “Pour Down Thy Spirit from Above”

HS 165

Prayer of Invitation

Focus Moment

Share the book *Rainbow Fish and the Sea Monsters’ Cave* by Marcus Pfister (North-South Books, 2001), ISBN 0735815372.

Focus on the theme of exploration and discovery that Rainbow Fish encounters on his search for red algae for his friend the bumpy-backed fish. On the journey

Rainbow Fish goes to deep waters and discovers that the things that were “scary” actually aren’t.

Song of Peace: “O Christ, My Lord, Create in Me”

HS 174

Words of Affirmation/Spoken Word

See Centering Thoughts at the beginning of this service. Focus on the concept of going deeper into discipleship and exploring Christ’s peace (Luke 5:1–11).

Community Exploration

On the shapes (red algae) provided, write down brief statements of personal commitment exploring more deeply what the peace of Christ means to you. Collect these with the offering, and place them in the nets at the conclusion of the service to add to the worship setting.

Disciples’ Generous Response

Scripture: Doctrine and Covenants 162:7

Thanks-living

Ask someone to share a personal testimony of a time when generosity caused him/her to go deeper into discipleship.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Song of Reflection: “Let Us Breathe One Fervent Prayer”

HS 482

Benediction