

**World Hunger  
Campaign**

**FAMILY DEVOTIONAL**

# FISH FOR CHANGE

**20**  
YEARS OF  
**PETER  
FISH**



**WorldRenew**

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and iStockphoto

## DAY 1

## Fish for Change

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. They all ate and were satisfied.

(Luke 9:16-17a)

Hi. My name is Peter Fish and I'd like to tell you a little bit about myself. I think the first thing that you should know is that I'm not a person, and I'm also not a typical fish. I'm a bank shaped like a fish. This year, I'm turning 20! That's how many years have passed since I became part of World Renew's family.

Do you want to know how I got my name? A long time ago, Jesus told his disciple Peter to go fishing in the Sea of Galilee. He told Peter to take the first fish he caught and open its mouth. Jesus knew what Peter would find in the fish's mouth — a coin worth enough to pay the temple tax for Peter and Jesus (Matthew 17:24-27).

People who live around the Sea of Galilee love that story. That's why they refer to the fish as "St. Peter's Fish".

I love that story. It reminds me that God can use something small like me for his purposes. There are lots of other great fish stories in the Bible too. In one of my favourites, Jesus preached to 5,000 people and realized they were hungry. When he told his disciples to feed them, the disciples only had five loaves of bread and two fish. Do you think that would be enough to feed all those people?

The disciples were sure that it wasn't! But Jesus knew that it was! After giving thanks to God, he multiplied the loaves and the fish, and everyone had enough to eat. There were even leftovers!

In the next few days, you'll hear even more fish stories about how God is caring for people through World Renew and money collected in Peter

Fish banks like me. Come with me as I travel to different countries. You can use the map and stickers in this booklet to track our journey.

At your church, you may have received a Peter Fish bank. You can use it to save your money to help others. If you didn't receive a fish bank, don't worry. You can decorate a recycled can or other container with some of the stickers to save your gift-money for helping people in need.

Thanks for sharing. Thanks for caring. Thank God that he is using fish — like your Peter Fish bank — for change in his world.

## PRAYER

*Bread and fish — a meal for many because you are a God of plenty! Today and always, help us share so others know that you do care. In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*"Fish for Change" is the theme for this year's World Hunger Campaign. The theme has a double meaning. Change can mean money like coins, or it can mean making a difference. God is using money — often the coins, or change, given by kids like you — to bring about change in people's lives. Look for spare change around your house, in the couch, washing machine, coat pockets, under the beds, in the car, or any other place you can think of and put it into your Peter Fish bank.*

## DAY 2

# God Loves Girls and Boys

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

(Genesis 1:27-28)

Hi again! It's Peter Fish here. Today, I'm in Bangladesh. Can you find it on your map?

Bangladesh is a very interesting country. Its cities are some of the busiest in the world. In the capital, Dhaka, for example 14.6 million people live within just 125 square miles (325 kilometers). That makes for large crowds and a lot of noise everywhere you go. But Bangladesh also has large chunks of land where very few people live. These families live on small farms and need to use bicycles to travel to the nearest town because there are no roads for cars.

Whether they live in the city or the country, though, one thing is pretty common for people in Bangladesh – their girls are treated differently than boys. If you were a girl in Bangladesh, you might not get the chance to go to school, you would probably eat only after your father and brothers were finished eating, and you might not even be allowed to leave your home unless your father went with you.

That's not what God wanted when he made people. God loves both girls and boys. He wants all of his children to have a chance to grow and do well on his good earth. World Renew is working with moms and dads in Bangladesh to help them learn about the importance of treating girls fairly. They are also helping adult women go to school and learn skills that will help them develop the gifts that God has given them.

Lucky Prioty is a great example. She was a little girl just a while ago. Now she's 22-years-old and has a two-year-old child. She has had a chance to grow and do well because of kids like you who put money in your Peter Fish banks and give it to World Renew.

For a long time, Lucky Prioty struggled to feed her family and keep them healthy. Her life changed when she was invited to join a group of women supported by World Renew who are making their community a better place. She realized that being a woman didn't mean she couldn't learn about God's world and how to improve her life.

She learned ways to keep herself and her family healthy and that girls and women have rights, just like boys and men do. She learned how to become a leader and how to make sure she spent her money in ways that would be good for her family. And she learned how to sew and to teach others how to read and write.

Lucky Prioty plans to start a business and give jobs to girls. She doesn't want any girl to be left behind. And neither does God, who loves both girls and boys and wants them both to take care of his world.

## PRAYER

*Dear God, you created girls and boys. Let each to you bring joy! In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*Count all the girls and boys in your family and put 25 cents into your Peter Fish bank for each one. Talk about ways in which you have each been able to learn and grow and use your gifts of time, talents, and treasures to serve God and other people.*

## DAY 3

# The Gift of Helping

And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

—1 Corinthians 12:28

Hello again! Did you ever imagine that you'd be travelling the world with me, Peter Fish? Today, I'm in Cambodia. Look for it on your map. Can you find it?

Most of the people in Cambodia live on about two dollars a day. Later, ask your mom or dad or someone else who's older to show you two dollars and talk about what that amount of money can buy. They will probably tell you that two dollars doesn't buy very much food for a day for a whole family anywhere in the world.

Sometimes people are poor because they can't grow enough food or earn enough money to buy what they need. Other times, people may become poor partly because they don't know how to read, write or do basic math. When you can't read or write, you can't work at certain jobs or understand the instructions written on medicine bottles, guide books, or farm equipment. People might even try to cheat you out of money that you have earned because they know you can't do the math to understand the correct amount.

I'm so happy to say that money from Peter Fish banks all over North America has been used to help people learn to read, write and do math, which has helped them take steps away from being poor.

But if people are going to learn to read, they need a teacher, don't they? They need someone who can help them. The Bible teaches us that God himself helps us and that he also sends others to help us. That's what happened when he told Moses to

go to Egypt and set his people free. Moses didn't think he could speak well enough to talk to Pharaoh, so God said, "Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say" (Exodus 4:12). God also sent Moses' brother Aaron to help him.

God has been using a man named Dara in Cambodia to teach eight adults in his community how to read. They gather for two hours twice a week. First, Dara reads the Bible with them so they can learn about God, our Helper. Then he teaches them how to read and write, using a teacher's manual. The group also learns different ways that they can improve their lives. They learn about better ways to grow crops. They also learn about health, sanitation, and hygiene.

I really get excited when I realize that, after their classes are over, the eight adults go home and teach their children how to read and write, too. The adults have been helped, and now they are helping their children just like God and Aaron helped Moses in his need.

## PRAYER

*God, you are our Helper, strong and true. Shape us to be helpers, just like you. In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*How many people have helped you learn how to read and write and to do math? Put 10 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each one. Thank God for bringing these people into your life. Pray that God will use World Renew to bring many other teachers into the lives of children and adults who don't yet know how to read and write.*



## DAY 4

## A Ripple Effect

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

—James 1:27

It's a new day. Will you travel with me, to a new country? Honduras is a long way from Cambodia where we were yesterday. Can you find it on your map?

In Honduras, life can be difficult. Many people are farmers who live in the countryside. Since their homes are on steep mountainsides, it is challenging to grow food. Some communities also don't have clean water to drink and people might have to travel far to get to a doctor or a school.

But something wonderful is happening in Honduras. I call it the ripple effect. Have you ever seen a fish jump in a lake? When it lands, what happens? A circle of water — called a ripple — appears. First, there's one ripple in the water, and then another, and another, and on and on. That's called the ripple effect. If you drop a rock into a bucket of water you might see the same thing.

A small community in Honduras, called Togopala, has felt the ripple effect thanks to money raised through Peter Fish banks like me. Sixteen members of a small church received training on how to help their community. They became enthusiastic about bringing good changes to their neighbors and families. But they didn't know which steps to take next.

So, they did the most important thing. They prayed and asked God to show them the needs in their community and how they could get other people excited about helping, too. God pointed them to a poor widow whose house needed to be fixed.

The Christians gathered to repair the widow's house. God's love and grace

rippled out from that action. First, people in the community who weren't Christians noticed. They realized that the Christians had helped a widow who wasn't a Christian. It made them want to learn more about Jesus.

Then another ripple — two families who worked on the widow's house had been fighting. As they worked together, God changed their hearts and they realized they needed to forgive each other and be friends again.

One more ripple — the people who worked on the project wanted to keep on helping others in their community who are in need. Now they are working together to fix other problems that the village faces.

In the Bible, Jesus teaches us that when we truly love him, we will show that by caring for widows and orphans. The people of Togopala have done exactly that!

## PRAYER

*Dear God, we are your sons and daughters. Take our actions, like jumping fish that ripple water, and spread ripples of goodness, for your glory, Father. In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*Count the ripple effects that happened in the lives of the people in Togopala. Put 25 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each one. Talk about how your actions have a ripple effect in the lives of others.*

## DAY 5

# Patiently Fishing for Change

(Jesus) called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered. He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!”

—John 21:5-7a

Today, we’re going to visit the country of Haiti. Check out your map to find it.

Five years ago, a terrible earthquake destroyed large parts of Haiti, which was already a very poor country. Buildings fell to the ground and many people died.

Thanks to money that people put into Peter Fish banks, World Renew was able to work in Haiti to help people recover from that earthquake. They provided food, tarps, latrines, wells, water filters, trauma counselling, goats, agricultural tools, business loans and new homes.

Today, Haitians still remember the earthquake. They are sad when they think about all the people and things that they lost that day. But they are glad about all that has been done to fix their country.

These changes didn’t happen the first day after the earthquake. It took several years for World Renew to do all of this programming. People have had to be patient.

It reminds me of when I’ve seen people fishing by a lake. They have fishing rods and bait on their hooks, but sometimes they have to stand for a long time before they catch a fish and can joyfully shout, “Got one!”

Jesus’ disciples knew that fishing takes patience. They had fished all night and not caught a single fish. Jesus saw their frustration. He called out to them from the shore and gave them instructions to throw their net on the right side of the boat. They obeyed and Jesus blessed them with a miraculous catch of fish. They recognized that he was the Lord!

Two Haitian men, Jean Fichet and Jean Louis Mevoir, know that fishing for change takes even more patience than trying to catch fish. Soon after the earthquake, they were selected to receive training from World Renew in how to care for animals that were sick.

World Renew said that they had to attend this training before their village could receive any goats. This meant that people had to wait before they could have their own goat to raise to help their families.

Just a few months ago, a sickness came to the animals in Fichet and Mevoir’s village. It was such a bad disease that animals in nearby villages were dying from it. In Fichet and Mevoir’s village, though, the animals didn’t die. Fichet and Mevoir were able to use their learning to treat the animals and stop the sickness from spreading. They learned that being patient for the goats was worth it!

God wants his children to be patient and wait for him to act in the time that He chooses. He has given us his Holy Spirit to help us do that. The Holy Spirit helps us grow in patience as we learn to follow God’s will.

## PRAYER

*Dear God, you heal and change, you renew and rearrange. Please help people to cope and give us patience and hope. In Jesus’ name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*The people in Jean Fichet and Jean Louis Mevoir’s village received goats to help them rebuild their lives after a terrible earthquake. Do you have any animals living in your house? Put \$1 in your Peter Fish bank for each pet that you have. If you don’t have a pet, look out a window and put 25 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each animal you see.*

## DAY 6

# It's Better to Receive a Hook than to be Handed a Fish

I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy.

—Psalm 140:12

Hi! Have you ever done something to earn money? Maybe you did chores around your house to earn an allowance. Or maybe you collected empty cans and bottles and were able to bring them back to the store to get a refund. How did it feel to be able to earn your own money? Did it feel any differently to you than when you received money from someone and you didn't have to work for it?

Today, I'm going to tell you about a friend of mine, named Janet, who lives in Uganda. Can you find it on your map?

Most people who live in Uganda are poor, especially when they live in the countryside. These families work long, hard hours to grow food and to have enough to eat and sell at the market. My friend Janet is one of them.

Janet and her husband David were farmers in Uganda who worked hard to support their families. Then, one day, they had to run away from their home because evil men were hurting many people in the country. They had to go far away from their home and lived in a tent for a long time.

Years later, they were able to leave the camp and return to Uganda. When they got there, World Renew used some of the money that children put into Peter Fish banks in order to give Janet's family a goat.

Janet and David have worked hard. Starting with only one goat from World Renew, they have increased their herd until they had six more goats. When they sold the goats, they used the money to buy two cows. Janet and David have also taken classes to learn how to be better farmers.

Janet recently told me something that's very important: "I have come to believe that it's better to get a hook

then it is to be handed a fish." Do you understand what she means?

If someone handed you a fish, you could eat it in one day. Then you would have to wait for someone to give you another fish so you could eat again. But if you received a fishing hook, you could tie it to a line and pole, and go fishing each day to feed yourself. That way you wouldn't have to wait for someone else to help you.

God cares about poor people. He doesn't want them to stay stuck in their poverty. The Bible teaches us that he "raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap" (Psalm 113:7). Think about sitting in the dust and in a pile of ashes. I don't think it would be very nice, do you? God doesn't want anyone stuck in a place like that. He wants to raise them up.

When Janet and David were in the displacement camp, they survived on what other people gave them. Thanks to a goat, some training, and their own hard work they don't have to do that anymore. They can work to grow their own food and earn their own money. Thanks be to God! Their life has changed completely!

## PRAYER

*Dear God, lift up the poor! Let all be fed! Yours is a world of abundant fish and bread! In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*Think about something you could do today to earn your own money. Maybe you could ask your parents to pay you to do a special job around your house. Or maybe you could make something that you could sell. Put the money you earn into your Peter Fish bank and give thanks to God that he is helping other people earn their own money, too.*



## WEEKEND ACTIVITY #1

# Celebrate Peter Fish

Peter Fish is 20-years-old. That's a reason to celebrate! For twenty years, God has changed people's lives though kids like you who have put money in your Peter Fish banks and given it to World Renew. This weekend, celebrate God's goodness!

### Host a Birthday Party for Peter Fish.

Invite your friends, family and neighbors to a birthday party for Peter Fish. Before they arrive, bake a cake that's shaped like a fish. If you don't have a fish-shaped mold, bake a round cake and decorate it with an icing picture of Peter Fish. Select a fish craft idea to do together. For ideas, check out [www.pinterest.com/explore/fish-crafts](http://www.pinterest.com/explore/fish-crafts). Make or buy a fish-shaped pinata and fill it with candy. Ask each of your guests to bring \$1.00 to put into your Peter Fish bank. Have fun!

**Where in the World is Peter Fish?** Take a photo of yourself with Peter Fish in your home, on your school bus, or some other fun location and then (with your parents' permission) e-mail it to [digital@worldrenew.net](mailto:digital@worldrenew.net) or post it at [www.facebook.com/worldrenew](http://www.facebook.com/worldrenew). World Renew staff from all over the world have taken pictures of themselves with Peter Fish banks. Visit [www.facebook.com/worldrenew](http://www.facebook.com/worldrenew) with your parents and check out all the photos.

**Fish for Change Prayer Line.** Hang up a line in your kitchen or other family room. Cut out fish-shaped pieces of poster board and use a hole punch to punch a hole in the top of each one. On the fish-shaped cut-outs, write the names of people you've read about in the devotions this week. With a paper clip, hang the fish-shaped cut-outs on the line. Pray and thank God for all the good changes he has brought about in these people's lives through money from Peter Fish banks like yours.

**Ocean Poster.** Draw an ocean scene on a blue poster board. Use different colors of construction paper to cut out the shapes of fish. On each fish, write a good change that someone you've read about in the devotion stories this past week has experienced because of money given to Peter Fish banks and World Renew. Glue the fish on the poster board. Watch your ocean scene develop as you read the devotions for the coming week and continue to add more fish with more good changes written on them.

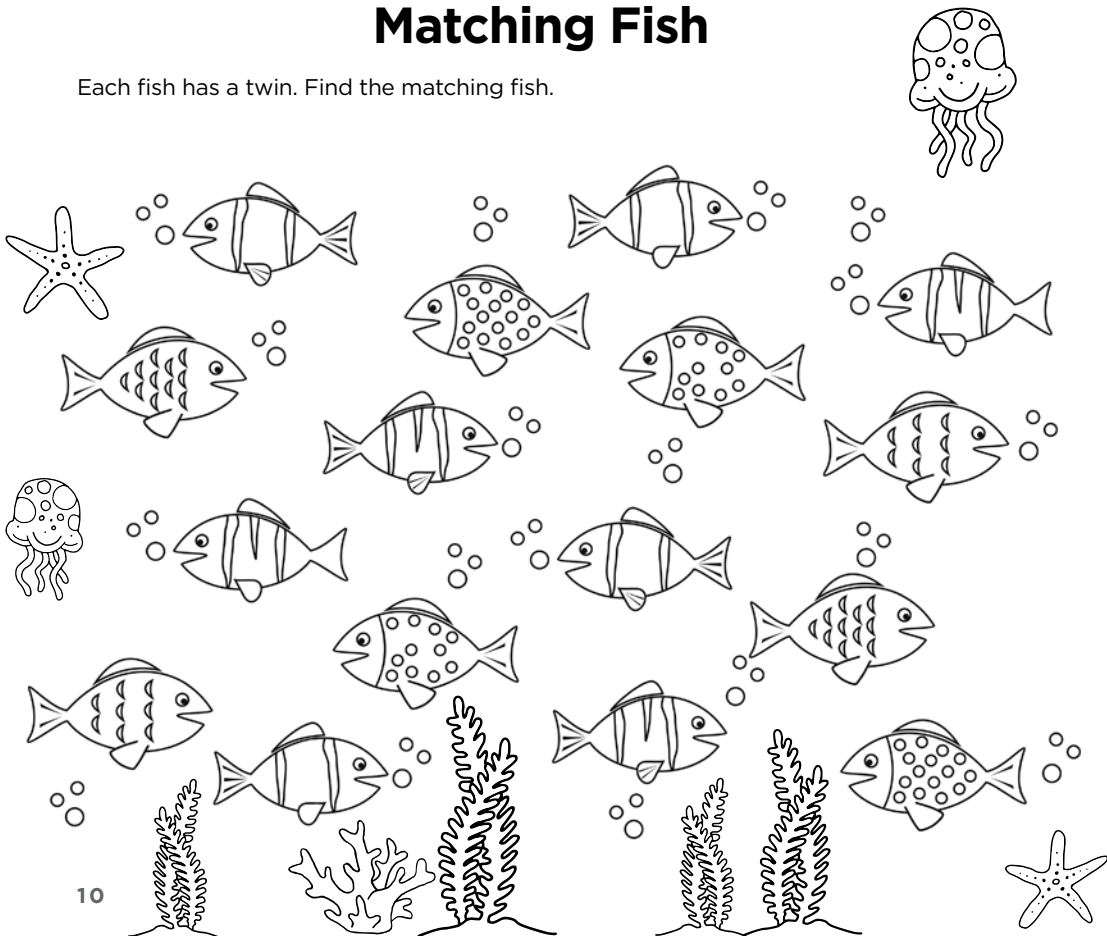
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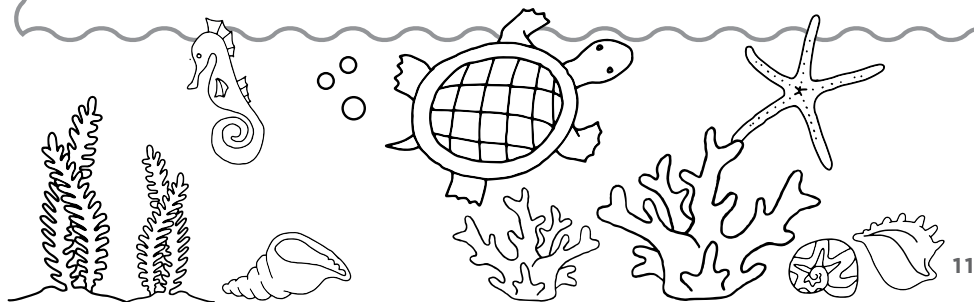
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Zambia

Each fish has a twin. Find the matching fish.



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## DAY 7

# Like a School of Fish

**The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord is enthroned as King forever.**

—Psalm 29:10

Hey! Peter Fish, here. I look forward to spending time with you again. Today, I'm visiting two countries that are neighbors, Mozambique and Malawi. Check out your map to find them.

Mozambique and Malawi are among the poorest nations in the world. Earlier this year, rain fell in both countries. Rain is a good thing. But too much rain causes flooding and that's what happened in Mozambique and Malawi. As much rain fell in one day as usually falls in a month. More than 100,000 people had to leave their homes. Houses were swept away and crops were destroyed. People were depending on those crops to feed themselves and their families for the next year.

Long ago, King David cried out to God in a flood of trouble, "Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in the miry depths, where there is no foothold. I have come into the deep waters; the floods engulf me" (Psalm 69:1-2).

God cared about David and heard his prayer. He cares about the people who live in Malawi and Mozambique, and hears their prayers, too. World Renew worked with other Christians in these countries to give families food, seeds, farming tools, tarps, small household items, mosquito nets, and supplies to clean the water so they could drink it.

When I think about these groups of people working together to help the victims of flooding, I'm reminded of a school of fish. Fish often travel together in large groups and swim in the same direction. Together, they are safer and more able to successfully find food.

In the same way, World Renew and Christians in Malawi and Mozambique are swimming in the same direction.

They have the same goal. They want to act like Jesus who had great compassion on people in need. They want to feed the hungry and care for the sick, just like Jesus taught us to. Working together has made them stronger, better able to help people to safety and to make sure they are fed and cared for.

One fish on its own is unprotected. One person by herself or himself can't accomplish very much. But a whole school of fish, swimming in the same direction, is safer and stronger. And a whole group of people with the same goal can fish for change and expect to see transformation.

## PRAYER

*Dear God, when waters flood the earth, bring about rebirth. Through loving hearts and helping hands, renew the lands. In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*Mozambique and Malawi experienced a great flood. Do you remember a flood that's mentioned in the Bible? If you need a reminder, read Genesis 6:9-22. Put 10 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each person who was saved from the flood. Talk about how God has taken care of you during difficult times.*

## DAY 8

# Fishing with Dreams and Catching Change

I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

—Isaiah 61:10

I'm ready and eager to visit Senegal with you today. Look for it on your map on the west coast of Africa.

In Senegal, many adults have only been to school for four or five years. That means that many of them can't read or write very well. While many Senegalese parents want their children to go to school, most kids will not finish their education because their parents don't have enough money to pay for it. With so many uneducated people, the entire nation suffers. It is hard to find work or create change. It can be difficult to dream of a better future.

But God has a dream for his people. Long ago, God spoke his dream through the prophet Isaiah. God's dream is this: that his good news would be shared with those who are poor, that people who are crying will be comforted, that people who are prisoners will be freed, and that people who are surrounded by sad songs will instead be filled with praise to God. (Paraphrase of Isaiah 61:1-3)

God's dream wasn't just a wishful thought. It's a dream that's coming true and it will keep on coming true.

God is using World Renew to help teenage girls in Senegal dare to have dreams for a better future. They belong to a group that discusses health and human rights. Most of them have never been to school, but a few have gone for a year or two. They know that their future will be hard. To earn some money, they might sell food at the market like

many women in their country. They will likely get married at a young age and they will probably be poor.

But some girls want more for their lives. They want to learn a trade and become a seamstress or a hairdresser.

World Renew is helping the girls make their dreams come true. Money from Peter Fish banks is being used to send some girls to the trade school. Fama is one of them. She was so happy that she was asked to go to the trade school. She knows that when her dream of becoming a seamstress comes true, she will be able to help her family.

It's as if Fama has gone fishing with her dreams and is expecting to catch changes — changes like a good job, self-respect, enough money to live on, the joy of taking care of her mother, and stepping out of poverty. What a great catch that will be!

## PRAYER

*Dear Lord, You give us dreams like mighty streams that grow and flow through our lives. Let each fulfilled dream become a mighty stream that grows and flows — a stream of thanks and praise to you. In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*Read Isaiah 61:1-3 and talk about all the ways in which people's lives will be changed through God's power. Put 25 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each one. Talk about dreams you might have for making God's world a better place for someone else. Pray and ask God to help you get started.*



## DAY 9

# A Whole Lot of Fish in the Lakes

For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

—Romans 8:19-21

Today, we're going to visit Zambia. Can you find it on your map?

Zambia is a beautiful part of God's good creation. It has the largest waterfall in the world and beautiful lakes that are home to more than 400 fresh water species.

Besides all the beauty in Zambia, there are many sad things happening. Many people don't have jobs so they can't earn enough money to feed their families. Often, the rains don't come so the land dries up and crops don't grow. Also, many people get sick and have trouble getting the medical attention they need.

Good things are happening in Zambia, too. World Renew has been using money from Peter Fish banks like yours to help people in a lot of different ways. Just as there are many different kinds of fish in Zambia's lakes, there are many different ways to fish for change in the lives of Zambians.

One way of fishing for change is to teach pregnant women how to stay healthy and how to keep their babies healthy once they are born. Another way is to teach people how to grow enough food to feed themselves and be able to find health care. One more way is to help farmers use improved seed, and learn better ways of turning over their soil and using manure or fertilizer.

In one part of Zambia, farmers have really noticed changes because of new ways of farming that they have adopted. One of them is Mrs. Kaunda, an elderly grandmother. She takes care of several

of her grandchildren whose parents have died. Before she learned from World Renew, there were many weeds in Mrs. Kaunda's crops. That meant that her grandchildren had to miss school in order to pull out the weeds so the crop would grow up healthy and plentiful.

World Renew taught Mrs. Kaunda how to use a special weed-killer that was safe for her family and wouldn't hurt the environment. During a weekend, when Mrs. Kaunda's eldest grandson didn't have to go to school, he helped her get rid of the weeds using this product.

Then, not only did Mrs. Kaunda's crop have a better chance of thriving, but her grandson didn't have to miss school to pull weeds up by hand.

Can you imagine a day when creation — now filled with weeds, and sickness, and poverty, and tears, and children who can't go to school for one reason or another — will be made completely new? God promises that the groaning and crying and pain and weeds and sadness won't have a place there. For now, we can see that day coming whenever God's healing, newness, and help are brought about in people's lives, like in the life of Mrs. Kaunda and her grandchildren.

## PRAYER

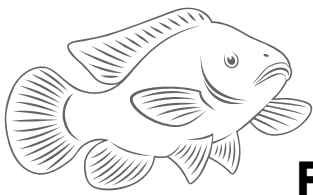
*Dear God, Creator of all fish in seas and lakes, author of every kind of change we can make, bless your world and make it new. All glory belongs to you! In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*Mrs. Kaunda's grandchildren realize that education is a precious gift. How many years have you attended school? Put 10 cents into your Peter Fish bank for each one. Talk about ways that your education has helped you.*



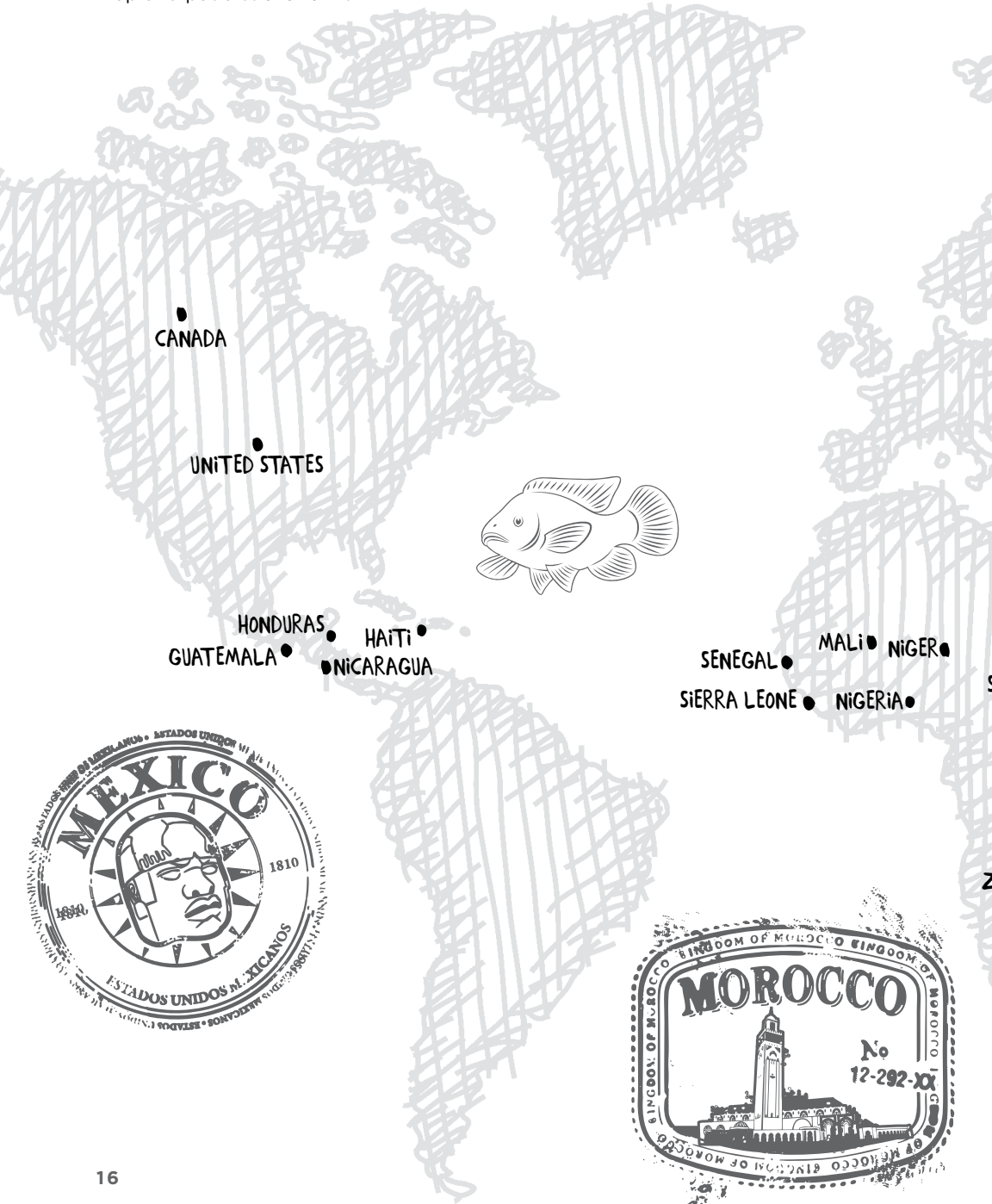


## ACTIVITY

## Follow the Peter Fish



Here is a look at our whole world. When you hear a story, find the country on the map and put a sticker on it.



CANADA

UNITED STATES

HONDURAS

GUATEMALA

HAITI

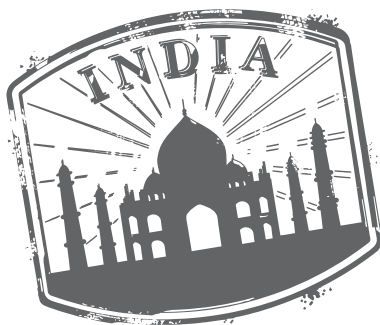
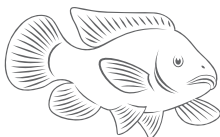
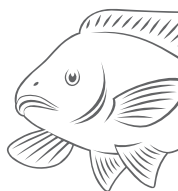
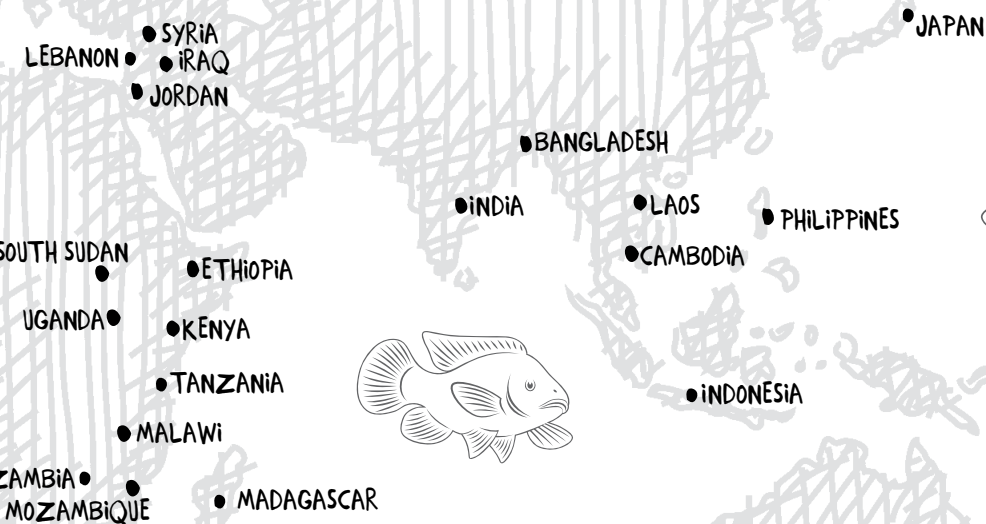
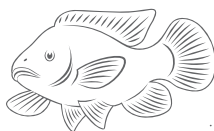
NICARAGUA

SENEGAL

MALI • NIGER

SIERRA LEONE • NIGERIA









## DAY 10

# Shelter in the Storm

As they sailed, (Jesus) fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

—Luke 8:23-25

Hello! Today, I'm in the Philippines.

The Philippines is located along what is called the typhoon belt, an area that is struck by heavy rains and high winds during certain times of the year. Sometimes, during these storms, people die, houses are swept away, and crops are destroyed.

In November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan devastated areas of the Philippines. With money from Peter Fish banks, World Renew helped people construct stronger homes and buildings that could withstand the next storms.

That's why a year later, when Typhoon Hagupit made landfall and swept the islands with high winds and flooding rain, houses and other buildings that World Renew had constructed the year before weren't swept away. Many people whose houses collapsed were able to find safety inside the typhoon-resistant homes.

Mr. Von Bautista and his family were able to withstand the typhoon by remaining in the home that they had received from World Renew. Mr. Von Bautista was sure that the house wouldn't be swept away, and it wasn't!

After the storm had passed, Mrs. Von Bautista said, "We heard the wind whistling outside. We heard that the

wind was strong, but we felt safe inside the house because of the brick walls."

Jesus didn't promise his children that there will never be storms, either the one kind that are caused by high winds and lots of rain or the other kind where something sad or bad happens to us. But he does promise that he will give us shelter.

Through World Renew, Jesus gave the Von Bautista family shelter in a strong brick house during a typhoon. He also gives us refuge, a safe place to go, when we are scared, or sad, or when someone has made us angry or upset. He gives us shelter with our friends and families and church communities. Jesus is the perfect shelter. He will always keep us safe. We can count on him!

## PRAYER

*Dear Lord, we tremble at the winds and storms, for we are weak and small, but then we remember your great power! You are the Lord of all! You shelter us with goodness in every home and land, and we are filled with gladness! You hold all in your hand! In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*The Von Bautista family feels safer during storms because of the brick house they received from World Renew. Count every door and window in your house that keeps the rain out when there is a storm and put 5 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each one. Pray for people in your community and in the world who face storms and who don't have strong homes to live in.*

## DAY 11

# Swimming Upstream with Help from Friends

He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him.

—Psalm 40:2-3

Hi! Today, I'm in Lebanon, a country in the Middle East next to Syria. Check out your map to find it.

In Syria, different groups of people have been fighting for years. They use guns and other weapons and lots of innocent people get hurt in the crossfire. The people of Syria are tired of war and afraid of what will happen to them. Millions of these Syrians have fled their country with only the things that they can carry. Some have gone to Lebanon and some to other countries. Wherever they have gone, they are now called refugees.

Half of the people who have fled the country are children. They are living far away from their homes and are often crowded into small spaces or even tents with lots of other people.

The Syrian families who have fled to Lebanon feel like they are swimming upstream. I don't mean that they are swimming in a real stream of water like a fish. I'll tell you what I mean.

For fish, swimming upstream means pushing against a strong current and becoming exhausted with the effort. In some places, people have built fish ladders beside obstacles, such as dams, locks, or waterfalls, to help fish continue their journey upstream.

For people, swimming upstream means living through hard times and pushing forward through uncertainties. People who have to swim upstream for a long time can become discouraged, sad, and tired. They might feel like King David did when he talked about falling

into a slimy pit and into gooey mud that dragged him down.

I'm happy to tell you that God is using money from Peter Fish banks — like a useful ladder — to help Syrian refugees in Lebanon climb out of some of their problems. One of the families is made up of Fadia and Wissam and their four children, who are between one and six years of age.

Fadia is grateful for the one-room apartment that her family is living in. She is also thankful to World Renew for helping her to get mats for everyone to sleep on. She didn't have money to buy them. During Lebanon's winter storms, the family snuggled under blankets on the mats and were able to stay warm. Fadia and Wissam are so grateful to be in a place where their children are safe and where they don't hear gunfire and other noises of war.

Still, it is very hard for the family to live because there aren't many jobs for earning money and everything is very expensive. World Renew will continue to help people like Fadia and Wissam and their children. They hope that this family and many others like it will start to have reasons to sing songs of joy, just like King David did after God rescued him!

## PRAYER

*Dear Lord, no matter where we are, you are never off far. Make wars end, and until then, use us to send help to worldwide friends. In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*Fadia and Wissam and their family received mats to sleep on from World Renew. How many beds do you have in your house? Put 25 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each one.*

## DAY 12

# Becoming Like Little Children

And (Jesus) said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

—Matthew 18:3

Hi! Today I'm saying hello once more and then I'll be saying goodbye.

For years now, God has been allowing World Renew to fish for change. Any change that has happened is only because of his Holy Spirit's work. The Holy Spirit changes people's hearts and helps them to become like little children who depend on their parents, who want to please them, and who trust them to provide all they need. We depend on God, our Father. We want to please him. We trust him to provide all we need as we follow his command to care for people.

And we thank and praise him for all the amazing changes he has brought about:

- For Lucky Priorty in Bangladesh and Fama in Senegal, who fished with dreams and caught change.
- For Dara in Cambodia, who is using his gift of helping to teach adults how to read and write.
- For people in Honduras who fixed a widow's house and caused a ripple effect.
- For Jean Fichet and Jean Louis Mevoir who patiently fished for change in Haiti after a terrible earthquake and learned how to care for animals.
- For Janet and David in Uganda, who raised goats and earned their own income instead of receiving handouts, realizing that it's better to receive a hook than to be handed a fish.
- For Christians in Mozambique and Malawi who worked along with World Renew — like a school of fish, stronger together — after severe flooding.

- For Mrs. Kauda in Zambia who can now control her weeds by using a special product, allowing her grandchildren time to go to school.
- For the Von Bautista family in the Philippines who received a typhoon-resistant house from World Renew and were able to offer shelter to their neighbors during the next storm.
- And for providing supplies to Syrian refugees in Lebanon, who are swimming upstream through difficult times.

Now it's time to say goodbye. Thanks again for travelling with me. Wherever you go and whatever you do, keep on loving Jesus by fishing for change as you care about people in need

## PRAYER

*Dear God, thanks for all good change you've brought. Thanks for all new ways you've taught. Thanks that people are being fed. Thanks for homes and daily bread. Thanks for hope and life and joy. Bless every girl, woman, man and boy. In Jesus' name, amen.*



## PETER FISH GIVING SUGGESTION

*In the past few days, you've read about countries where change is being brought about through money from Peter Fish banks. How many countries did we visit? Put 25 cents in your Peter Fish banks for each one. Do you think these are the only countries where change needs to happen? Talk about other places in the world, including your own town or city, where real change needs to happen.*

## WEEKEND ACTIVITY #2

## Learning and Sharing

Each day, we can learn something new about God and how he is working in the world to bring about good changes in people's lives. Each day, we can also look for ways to share the good gifts that God has given to us. This weekend, learn and share by doing the following activities.

**Visit a Store that Sells Fishing Supplies and/or a Pet Store that Sells Fish.**

Look at all the different kinds of fishing supplies and the different ways people can catch fish. Consider all the different kinds of fish at the pet store. Talk about all the different ways we can fish for change and the different changes that result. If you can't think of any, look at the stories you've read in this booklet.

**Buy Cans of Fish for Your Local Food Bank.** In every city and town, including yours, people struggle because they

don't have enough to eat. They go to food banks to get the food they need, even as they hope that one day they won't have to go there anymore. Many food banks ask the community to donate cans of fish because fish are filled with protein. Ask your parents if you can go shopping for cans of fish. Drop them off at a food bank.

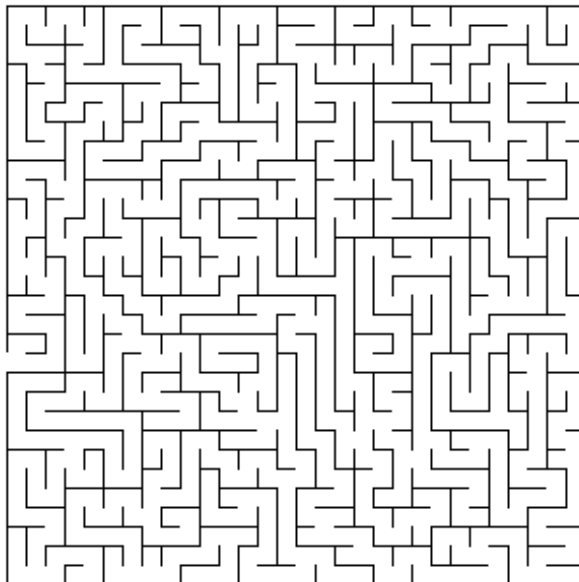
**Word Search.** Do the word search in this booklet. Learn the names of the countries in which World Renew serves. Remember to thank God for his amazing world and all the ways he is making it new.

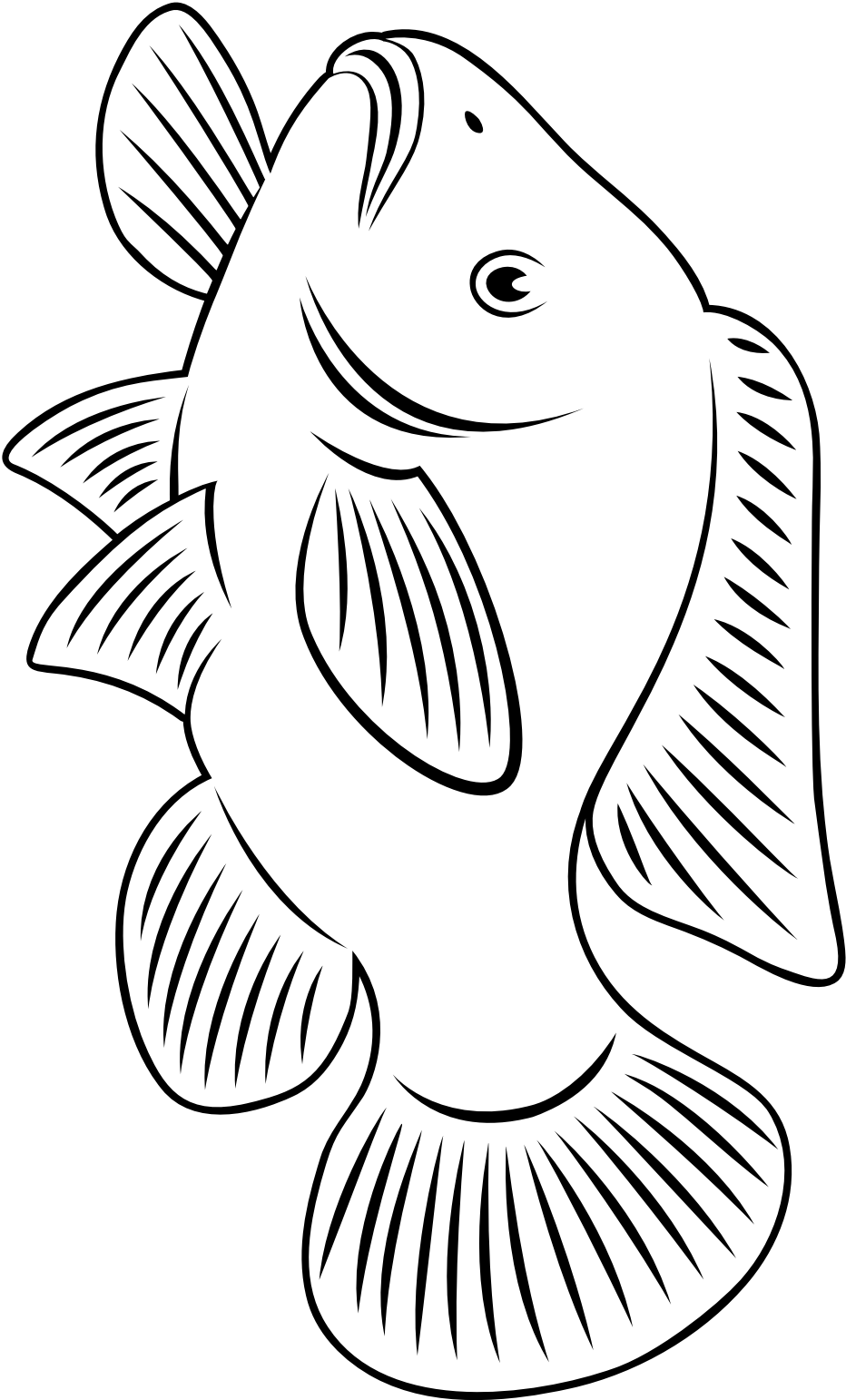
**Color the Picture.** Color the picture of Peter Fish on the next page. Hang it up to remind you to pray for all the people you've read about in the last two weeks in these devotions.

## Peter Fish Maze

Help Peter Fish to find the way to his friend's home.

**START**







## DAY 7

## We, like Fish

ROMANS 6:3-4

by Rev. Amanda Bakale

*"We, little fishes, after the image of our Ichthus, Jesus Christ, are born in the water, nor have we safety in any other way than by permanently abiding in water." — Tertullian*

Do you remember your baptism? If you were baptized as an adult, your baptism is probably one of the more memorable days of your life. If you were baptized as a baby, however, you probably don't remember it at all. Maybe you've seen the photos. Maybe you've even seen other family members baptized in the same white baptismal outfit you wore. But you have no memory of the event — no way of recalling that moment when you were held over that font with the minister pouring water over your forehead in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Whether you have a living memory or no memory at all, in the moment of your baptism you were born in water, marked by water, and claimed by God as God's own.

Our baptism liturgy says that, "In baptism God promises by grace alone to forgive our sins; to adopt us into the Body of Christ, the Church; to send the Holy Spirit daily to renew and cleanse us; and to resurrect us to eternal life."

What an amazing promise! And that baptism is not just one moment in the past that you may or may not remember. Baptism is an identity you live into. Paul declares in Romans 6 that by being baptized into the death of Christ, we are also raised to life in him — to walk in newness of life. The life of Christ.

Tertullian, a pastor from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, echoes Paul in the quote above, albeit with some imaginative reframing. We are little fishes, born in the waters of

baptism and made in the image of our Ichthus — our Fish — Jesus Christ. While it may seem odd to us to refer to Jesus as "our fish", Tertullian was drawing on a popular ancient symbol used by Christians in the first centuries after Jesus. As followers of ICHTHUS, we are little fishes. The water of baptism is our home, our identity, our calling. We cannot escape the water we swim in. In fact, Tertullian, extends the metaphor saying that our only safety is by "permanently abiding in water." We have no life outside of the water, outside of our calling as baptized followers of our Savior, our Ichthus.

And if baptism is not just a moment in the past, but an identity we live into each day, the question is not "Do you remember your baptism?" but instead, "How do you live your baptism?" Jesus followed his own baptism by claiming the words of Isaiah for himself: *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recover of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

If we are little fishes baptized into the life of this Christ, should we not also live out our baptism by following his example? Jesus reached out to those on the margins, loved the unlovable, restored relationships, and fed the hungry. How are you living out your baptism?

## DAY 6

## Ask and you will Receive

MATTHEW 7:7-12

by Kristen deRoo VanderBerg

all of our needs, so we can be generous with others and ensure that their needs are also met.

How, then, does this relate to our interactions with the world's poor. When someone ask us for a fish, how can we make sure we don't give them snakes? This has been a huge part of World Renew's fifty year history. As we've

come alongside people in need, we've worked hard to figure out the best way to help without causing dependency or additional problems. We still can't claim to have all the answers, but have learned a few key things.

In all we do, we try our best to make sure that we are treating everyone as an image bearer and child of God. We also try to ensure that in addition to providing people with "fish" (such as the food, water, and shelter they need to survive) we provide them with the training they need to continue having these needs met even after we're gone. We also remember that even when people are "taught to fish" they need access to the pond in order to provide for their families. That means that as we tackle poverty, we must also tackle systemic injustice that can prevent people from improving their lives in a sustainable way.

As you reflect today on our good and generous God who promises to answer when you ask, to be found when you seek, and to open the door live out this promise in your relationship to others in our world.

At first glance, today's passage can be a bit jarring. Jesus speaks at length about the wonderful and giving character of our Father in heaven — a Father who will give bread and fish, not stones and snakes, when his children call upon him. The passage then concludes with a seemingly random thought about loving others.

At the same time, we know that this sentence it isn't intended to be random because Jesus ties it to the first part by using the word, "so." This leaves us scratching our heads. What does treating others as I would like to be treated have to do with asking, seeking and knocking on the door of God's kingdom?

In order to answer this question, it is helpful to look back at the verses that precede it. In the whole Sermon on the Mount, Jesus has been giving his listeners a picture of what God is all about and how his followers should live. When we read chapters five and six, we learn that God is a different type of God than one might expect. God is a loving father who longs to give us the treasures of our heart. He is a God who wants us not to worry, but to place our trust in Him to provide. What's more, he doesn't require lofty prayers, public fasting, or other ritual sacrifices.

Instead, what our loving God asks of us is be merciful, to be peacemakers, to love our enemies, and give to the needy. This is how He wants us to serve Him. In other words, when we put God and His kingdom first, all of our other relationships and actions fall into place. Because God first loved us, we can live out that love by sharing with others. Because God doesn't judge us for our shortcomings, we can live out this grace by being gracious to others. Because God is a generous God who provides for

## DAY 5

## All Ate and Were Satisfied

LUKE 9: 10-17

by Kristen deRoo VanderBerg

Jesus and his closest friends, it really wasn't enough for any more than that. But Jesus doesn't think that way. He does see limits to how our blessings can be shared. Instead, he took the little that people had to offer and multiplied it so that everyone could have enough.

My favorite part of this passage is verse 17. Luke tells us that "all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketsful of broken pieces that were left over."

It doesn't say that Jesus fed the crowds and let his disciples go hungry. Nor does it say that Jesus, himself, abstained from eating so that others would have enough. It says that everyone ate together and not only did they all eat, but they all had enough to be satisfied. The same holds true when we work for change in our world. When we consider the colossal challenges of our world, it would be easy to just shrug our shoulders and give up. When we look at our own lives, in fact, we can probably see enough problems and expenses to use up the precious resources of time and money that we have available.

When we remember that our God is a God of abundance and power, however, our viewpoint changes. When we give of what we have and entrust it to God for building up His Kingdom, he promises to multiply it so that others will be helped and we, too, will be satisfied.

What a mighty God we serve!

One of my favorite parts of holiday meals is taking a look at the table before anyone begins to eat. I love to see the feast laid out — the turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable sides, apple sauce, rolls, salads — not to mention the place settings and centerpiece. There is something rather joyous in looking at such a feast and knowing that all who are gathered around that table will soon be able to dig in.

The story in Luke 9 talks about a different kind of feast. Not only is it not laid out on an extended dining table, but most of the guests weren't even invited. Jesus and his disciples had tried to leave the crowds behind to find some solitude, but they were found out. Soon, five thousand strangers were clamoring for more from Jesus.

Jesus responded to these unexpected guests with more grace than I would have. He not only welcomes them, but he goes on to share his teachings and to heal those who were hurting. Recognizing that these crowds were also hungry, he asked his disciples to feed them.

That's where the feast gets tricky. While our holiday tables may be laden with food that family members have slaved for hours over in the kitchen, the meal for the crowds at Bethsaida was sparse. In fact, for all five thousand people there were only five loaves of bread and two fish.

There was no way that this would be enough to go around. I can imagine the disciples thinking to themselves that it was time to send these unexpected guests back home. After all, Jesus had been more than gracious to already speak to them and heal them. If the crowds were sent away, those five loaves and two fish could be eaten by

## DAY 4

## When We Fail

JOHN 21:1-14

by Rev. Shannon Jamal-Holleman

Read today's Bible passage and picture what it might be like if you were there. Peter resolves to go fishing. Six friends follow him, but despite their best efforts and years of fishing expertise, nothing happens. When Jesus appears, he calls out to them but the disciples fail to recognize him. Then, Jesus points them to a big haul. When they obey, Jesus provides. It is only after this divine provision of fish that the disciples recognize Jesus. Peter throws on his clothes and lunges toward Jesus in heartfelt excitement. The others follow. Jesus asks them to bring some fish. Peter obeys and Jesus invites them to breakfast with him. The disciples knew that he was Lord. Jesus provided. This story could so easily be one of our own. Can you see yourself in it? Perhaps you recognize in yourself some of Peter's resolve when he sets out to go fishing? Maybe you catch glimpses of our own failings in the way that the disciples fail to recognize Jesus even when he calls out to them? Or perhaps Peter's enthusiastic lunging toward Jesus once he finally recognizes him is what hits home for you?

As followers of Christ, our relationship with him can often follow this pattern — resolve, failure, Jesus' invitation, obedience, provision. Being God's people on God's mission can frequently make us feel like we are out of control. Just when we feel like we have wrapped our minds around how to help others, when we think we know what we are doing, we fail. And this failure hurts. Despite our best efforts and all of our own skills and knowledge, we have come up short. This even holds true for an organization like World Renew. Sometimes over the past 50 years,

despite World Renew's best efforts, projects have failed. In Sierra Leone, for example, World Renew and Christian Reformed World Missions spent years in the early 1980's building up the local church and starting community projects only to have much of the progress wiped out by civil war. In other cases, disaster, AIDS, and corruption have caused huge setbacks despite all of World Renew's efforts. But the amazing gift of life in Christ is that it isn't about what we do as much as what God does. We are called to faithfulness to God, nothing more and nothing less. Our failures remind us that God is God and we are not. We are not in control, but God is. Jesus invites us to follow, to be fed by him, to receive what he has prepared in advance for us to do. As we seek to be God's people on God's mission, we must always remember that when we come up with nothing, God will provide something. This provision won't usually look like we think it should, but following Christ has never been what hits home for you?

## DAY 3

## The Least of These

MATTHEW 4:18-22

by Kristen deRoo VanderBerg

Despite being the King of Kings and the true Son of God, Jesus did not associate himself with the crème de la crème of society. In fact, his closest friends were tax collectors, sinners, and prostitutes.

Today's story is another great example of that. When Jesus is ready to begin his ministry, he doesn't ask the priests or teachers of the law to be his disciples, he asks fishermen — blue collar workers who weren't afraid of a hard day's work and were used to being sweaty and smelly.

While we may think of fishing as a relaxing hobby to be done dockside or from the seat of a comfortable boat, fishing in Jesus' day involved long days of physical labor. Peter, Andrew, James and John would spend their days tossing weighted fish nets into the water and then hauling those nets in hoping for a catch.

If they were fishing in deep waters, two boats would work as a team. Men in each boat would stretch out a net between them and then row vigorously in a circle, each boat going in an opposite direction. When the boats completed the circle, the fish would be trapped in the net. Then the men would heave on ropes attached to the corners of the nets and pull in their catch.

In shallower waters, a team of fishermen would take one end of a net and head out from shore. Then they would circle back to shore, trapping the fish in the net. Men on the beach would haul in the catch and sort them on the shore.

In both situations, it was a group effort that required a lot of persistence and didn't always result in very many fish or much income. Yet, these were the people that Jesus called to join him in “fishing for people.”

While they didn't have much experience preaching, teaching, or healing, they did know what it was like to work together for a common goal. They also knew how to work hard and to survive on very little. Jesus took them as they were and promised to “make them” into what was needed for His kingdom — fishers of men.

I think we can learn a lot from this story. Sometimes, we can feel like the lowly fisherman. In the face of global poverty and injustice, we might wonder what we have to offer. Fortunately for us, Jesus is the master at accepting who we are and helping us to become what he can make us.

World Renew sees this happen every day in communities in poverty. In many remote villages, people have spent years thinking that they had nothing to offer. They may be uneducated, underemployed, and lacking in leadership experience.

Over time, however, many of these men and women come to realize that they have a great deal to give — a knowledge of the local environment, a passion for making things better, a willingness to work hard. Time and time again, we've seen people tap in to these inner strengths and grow into true community leaders. They become model farmers, community health workers, literacy trainers, and more.

In the same way, God can use the time, skills and talents that you have to offer for his greater purposes. When we entrust ourselves to him, he will “make us” into what he needs.



## DAY 2

## Trusting God's Way

MATTHEW 17:24-27

by Rev. Kate Kooyman

This strange little story is the inspiration for what has become the World Renew Peter Fish campaign. Whenever one family drops a few coins in a plastic fish bank, claiming that it will impact world hunger, I wonder if we don't think and feel a bit like Peter. This is too small. It will never make the impact that we need to change something as huge as global poverty. My spare change can't possibly make a dent. I'm sure there's a better way than this. But that's the thing about God's providence — it doesn't follow our rules. It's not always efficient or systematic. But it's always miraculous. It's enough. And it's on time.

These riches in life — these spare coins, jobs, homes, full bellies, healthy children, right to vote — they are not ours. Everything comes from God. Whether it's a treasure in the mouth of one fish, caught by chance, or if it's a net full caught through years of practice and sweat, all of it is a gift from God.

Thomas Long, in his commentary on Matthew, puts it this way, "When we put aside any thought that we have earned this and deserved that, when we think about our lives as children of the heavenly King, then we see that pulling wonderful unmerited gifts from the endless bounty of God's merciful sea is the way everything comes to us — everything, every day."

I may be able to come up with a faster way, but when God asks me to throw a line in the water, I hope I listen. I want to notice those unmerited gifts. I want to put my coin in the bank, trusting that God can turn it into a wildly unexpected treasure for someone he loves.

I have a five-year old who needs to be to school on time every morning. This is a huge challenge for me as a perpetually late person. Most mornings I'm just pulling up to the curb as his classroom door is closing. The morning "circle time" has already begun. Next to my son's locker is Lucy's locker. Often on the days when we are running late, I find Lucy still at her locker slowly removing her winter boots the way five-year olds do. Lucy does it herself while her mom watches. She hangs her coat on her own. Even if she's still working on it when we hustle in, Lucy does it herself. Some parents, like Lucy's, are committed to inspiring independence in their children by allowing them to complete their own tasks, to the detriment of schedules and deadlines. I'm inspired by this, but have a hard time living it out. After all, my way is faster. My son stands there as I shed his jacket and boots and ram his indoor shoes on. I stuff things in the locker and say, "Go, go, go." I do it quickly and efficiently. We have a goal to get in the classroom, and my way is faster. In today's Bible reading, we see much the same thing. Peter was a fisherman, but he was not a hook-and-line fisherman. He fished with nets. His way was more efficient and led to bigger catches. If the goal was to catch enough fish to pay the temple tax, then using a hook and line was not the right approach. Peter knew a better way — don't catch one fish, catch them all. And yet that wasn't what Jesus was asking. Jesus had something else in mind — not expediency or high-yield. Providence. God would use just one fish to meet the whole need.

## DAY 1

## Introduction

For more than two decades, individuals, families and churches have been using plastic fish banks to help them think about their world and commit themselves to a response to poverty. This week, we will celebrate Peter Fish's birthday by learning what fish can teach us about God and our roles in this world.

Fish have long been part of our Christian identity. The Greek word for fish, ἰχθύς (ichthys), was even used as a symbol in the early Christian church. Each letter of the word *Ichthys* stood for a word in a sentence that explained what our faith was all about: Ἰησοῦς Χριστός, Θεοῦ Υἱός, Σωτήρ or in English, "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior."

At the time that the fish symbol came to prominence for Christians, the church was persecuted. Fish were used by Greeks, Romans and other pagans as a symbol for fertility and a variety of things. It was therefore the perfect secret symbol for persecuted believers since it could be used without attracting unwanted attention.

According to one ancient story, when a Christian met a stranger on the road, the Christian would draw one arc of the simple fish outline in the dirt. If the stranger drew the other arc, both believers would know that they were safe to talk about their faith.

Despite its humble origins, the simple story that the acronym tells continues to be the most powerful story we'll ever hear. God's Son has become our Savior.

This story also changes every other story. When we are confronted with injustice, disaster, violence and poverty this story gives us hope: Salvation is coming and has already come. We don't have to feel defeated. We don't have to feel daunted. We can find

confidence in Christ's victory and begin to work together as God's children to build his kingdom on earth.

In the coming week as you see your Peter Fish bank sitting on your counter or glimpse the fish on the front of this booklet, remind yourself of ICTHUS – Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior — and find power to work for change.

# “Peter Fish Giving Suggestions”

without adequate electricity. Count how many lights are in your home and put 25 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each one.

## DAY 5

One of the key targets that World Renew works towards in communities is “food security.” When someone is food secure it means that they consistently have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. To help families attain this goal, World Renew and its partners teach farmers how to grow more and a greater variety of crops, they teach parents about proper nutrition, and they help small business owners increase their incomes. Take a look in your fridge and put a dollar in your Peter Fish for each fresh vegetable or fruit you find.

## DAY 6

When World Renew helps communities tackle the injustices they face, we often focus on teaching people their rights and helping them work together as an entire community to advocate for the changes they need. This might mean forming a farmers’ cooperative to advocate for fair prices or petitioning the elected representatives for improved infrastructure in impoverished areas. Take a minute to think about the people who have been elected to represent you in your local, state/province, or federal government. Pray for them and put 25 cents in your Peter Fish for each one.

## DAY 7

As World Renew works with partner churches around the world, it reminds church leaders that they are called not only to preach the Good News to others with their words, but to also extend the Good News by actively seeking justice and mercifully loving those in need right in their own communities. Think about your own baptism and the great promise that that day symbolized. Put one dollar in your Peter Fish for each person who was baptized in your family. Then pray and ask God to show you how you can live out your baptism by loving others.

Below are short statements about World Renew’s programs and a suggestion for how you can give thanks for your blessings and share with those in need. Following each day’s reflection, check this list for that day’s giving suggestion, and put your donation into your Peter Fish bank or use the stickers in this booklet to turn a recycled can or container into a bank.

## DAY 1

Find power in ICTHUS - Jesus Christ, our Savior - today. Put \$1 in your Peter Fish bank to jump start your work in fighting global poverty.

## DAY 2

Take a minute to “fish for change” in your house today. Look in your coat pockets, the bottom of your purse, the washing machine, your car and under your couch cushions. Put the spare change you find into your Peter Fish bank and pray that God will multiply it for His purposes.

## DAY 3

World Renew works in some of the world’s poorest countries to help those in need. It does this by partnering with 78 local churches and church organizations. As it builds up local Christian leaders, World Renew provides an opportunity for Christ’s light to shine and for communities to improve for the long term. Without peeking in a phone book or online listing, try to think of how many churches there are in your hometown. Put 10 cents in your Peter Fish bank for each one. Then look it up to see how many you missed.

## DAY 4

More than 774 million adults in our world cannot read or write. In Africa alone the literacy rate for the entire continent is less than 60 percent. World Renew and its partners work to provide adult literacy classes so that men and women can learn to read and write. Since most of these adults must also work full-time to support their families, the classes are held late in the day after their regular work is done. Kerosene lanterns are a key to success in remote communities



# FISH FOR CHANGE