



Life Shines in Darkness

Life Sunday 2025 Children's Message

Have you ever seen a rainbow? *[Await responses.]*

What's special about a rainbow? What does a rainbow do? *[Await responses.]*
Of course! A rainbow stretches over a long distance, it only happens once in a while, and everyone can see it shine with all the different colors.

Where do you usually see a rainbow? When does it come out? *[Await responses.]*
Right! We usually witness a rainbow across the sky, and it becomes visible—like the name says—as the sun is returning after a storm.

Do you know what makes a rainbow? *[Await responses.]*
You bet, light is what makes up a rainbow.

There's another word for rainbow in Greek.
That's the language that Jesus and His twelve disciples spoke.
Even though they lived in Galilee, their land used to belong to Greece before they came around,
so a lot of people at their time still knew how to talk Greek.
And the Greek language uses the word "iris" to say rainbow.
Some parents even now name their daughter Iris because it means a pretty rainbow.
In English, we call the part of your eye that has different colors the iris.
What color are your eyes? What color are your neighbor's eyes? *[Await responses.]*
So the eyes of different people can have a lot of different colors.

The Book of Revelation in the Bible describes what heaven looks like.
We don't usually see this invisible dimension where God lives all around us, but Jesus showed it to His apostle John, who wrote about it for us.
He says, "After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven!
And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.'
At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald."
Now, carnelian and emerald and jasper are kinds of expensive jewels.
This shows us the Lord God's royalty and majesty as our King, and our Savior Jesus sits on the almighty throne to reign over all creation.
But do you hear where the rainbow comes from?
It shines forth from His face like beams of light in every direction!
Our God, He gives His light to make the rainbow shine.



And He puts that light in every human being.
The Heavenly Father's love lights our eyes, yours and mine and each neighbor's too,
and His power colors all the irises of anyone who ever lives.
He has made humankind to reflect His glory.
He forms us inside our mothers with His own fingers, just like an artist.
His lets our lungs and muscles borrow from His breath of life to move and survive.
He even came among us and right alongside us as little baby Jesus in His mama's belly.
It doesn't matter what anybody looks like or how many birthdays anybody's had.
Whether we can clothe and clean and feed ourselves or not,
Jesus died to overcome our failures, and He returned to life so that our sins will go
away.
He will take care of us and every other person, even if no one else does.
That makes human lives—all of them—special and precious.
We get to receive our own life as a gift and treat our neighbor's life as most important
because God shines His light inside of each one.

May we pray? Dear Father in heaven, thank You for shining your light in all of our
lives.
Help us trust in how Jesus makes us more special and precious than rainbows.
And lead us to celebrate Your blessings with neighbors. Amen.