

Submerged Family Experience from the 2016 VBS Preview Events



Adapted from the 2016 VBS Worship Rally and Recreation Guide

Opening Video

(available on the 2016 VBS Digital Pass)

SONG: SUBMERGED

SONG: YOU KNOW ME

(Jules enters from door)

Jules:

(To audience) Greetings, fellow submariners! My name is Jules, and I am on the crew of this submarine. I just received orders from our captain, Captain Ironheart, to survey the crew and make sure everything is ready for our voyage! We hope you've had fun so far here at VBS, *(Verne enters from door)* and... Oh! Hi Verne! This is my fellow submariner, Verne!

Verne:

(comically timid) I'm not so sure about this. A submarine doesn't really sound very safe to me.

Jules:

Are you kidding?! A submarine is among the most technologically advanced machines ever built! It's one of the most incredibly cool environments ever created!

Verne:

(sarcastically) Great. We'll be locked inside a 300 foot long, 30 foot wide capsule, submerged deep below the surface of the ocean, traveling silently underwater for months. But at least we'll be surrounded by technology!

Jules:

Don't let that get you down! This is going to be an amazing adventure! Captain Ironheart wouldn't have selected all of us *(motion to audience)* for his crew if we didn't have what it takes. Being a submariner requires a lot of skill and discipline. Plus, you have to be able to see things a little bit differently than everybody else.

Verne:

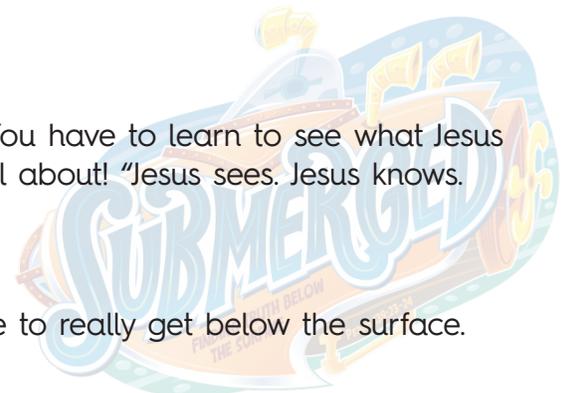
Well, good thing I brought my goggles! I can see under the water like no one else! Wait...that's not what you mean, is it?

Jules:

You have to learn to see more than just what's on the surface. You have to learn to see what Jesus sees...what's on the inside. That's what our motto on this sub is all about! "Jesus sees. Jesus knows. Jesus saves." Why don't we say it all together?

Verne:

I think I understand, but I think we need to say it a little bit more to really get below the surface. Plus, I haven't even met most of our crew out here!



Jules:

Well, this seems like the perfect time to play a little game, learn our motto, and get to know each other!

GAME #1: UNDER THE SURFACE

Jules:

Attention submariners! When I say go, a description of a person is going to appear on the screen. You have 20 seconds to move around the submarine and find someone who matches that description. When you find them, tell them your name, and tell them the motto!

Verne:

When you hear this sound (*SIREN*), freeze, and look at the screen for our next description! We'll have 3 categories, and then we'll all return to our seats!

Jules:

Everyone on your feet. This game will begin in 3, 2, 1!

CATEGORY 1: Find someone wearing a VBS shirt.

CATEGORY 2: Find someone with a beard or mustache.

CATEGORY 3: Find someone you've never met.



Verne:

Wow! That was so much fun! Everyone can return to their seats. I loved meeting all the submariners onboard our sub tonight. That was so much fun Jules, can we play another game to continue getting to know each other below the surface?

Jules:

Absolutely Verne! For this game, I think we need some extra friends up here on the control deck with us. If you see your name on the screens, please come up to the stage!

(3-4 NAMES ON THE SCREEN)

Verne:

While they're coming up, Captain Ironheart has sent us some awesome, never-before-seen videos showing how our VBS friends decide the VBS theme every year. Let's check it out!

KID CONSULTANTS VIDEO #1

Verne:

Poor James! I'm sure he'll find someone who loves his designs! Jules, what are you doing with those submariners?

Jules:

I'm getting them ready for our next game! It's called "Funny Fish Relay!"



GAME #2: FUNNY FISH RELAY

Jules:

Each of our players up here has a fishing pole with a magnet attached. They'll be fishing for all of these different color fish below. This is where we'll need the help of all of our submariners out there! (ASSIGN EACH SECTION OF THE AUDITORIUM A PLAYER TO WATCH) When your player catches a certain color fish, you have to do what is on the screen! IF your player catches a blue fish, you have to stand up and wiggle your arms like an octopus. If your player catches an orange fish, sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." If your player catches a white fish, jump in the air like a fish out of water. Once your player catches a fish, they must put it in their bucket. The first player that catches 4 fish will be our winner!

ON THE SCREEN:

Orange Fish: Stand up and wiggle your arms like an octopus.

Pink Fish: Sing Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Purple Fish: Jump Like a Fish Out of Water

Jules:

That was Sub-tacular, Submariners! Congratulations on catching the best fish. I also heard some beautiful singing voices out there. But remember, you don't have to be loud, or silly, or the best fish in the sea to be noticed by God. He sees you, and He knows the real you!

Verne:

That's such a great reminder as we keep diving below the surface, Jules! I have an idea for another game to help us dive deeper! I need some friends up here to help me out.

(5 NAMES ON THE SCREEN)

Jules:

While we're waiting on these guys to come up, let's see our next episode of "Kid Consultants" to see if they're any closer to finding the right VBS Designs!

KID CONSULTANTS VIDEO #2

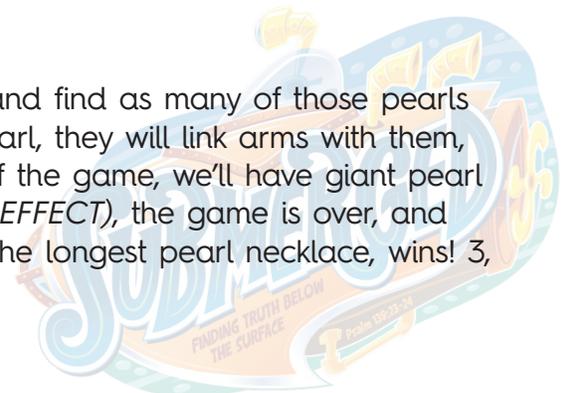
Verne:

Alright Submariners! Before we get started tonight, I gave a lot of "pearls" out to crew members seated in the audience.

GAME #3: HUNTING FOR PEARLS

Verne:

When we say go, our submariners up here will leave the stage and find as many of those pearls as they can in 2 minutes! When they find someone holding a pearl, they will link arms with them, and together, they will have to find the next pearl. By the end of the game, we'll have giant pearl necklaces running around the room! When you hear this (SIREN EFFECT), the game is over, and you all must come up to the front still connected. Whoever has the longest pearl necklace, wins! 3, 2, 1, go!



Jules:

Great job, Submariners! All of those pearls reminded me of bubbles, and our VBS Song “Bubblin’ Up.” Verne, I’ve got to go check on the Engine Room. Why don’t you lead our crew in a few VBS songs while I’m gone?

Verne:

Aye! Aye! Everyone get on your feet and join me!

SONG: BUBBLIN’ UP

OPTIONAL SONG: REMARKABLY MADE

(Verne enters carrying an inflatable dolphin pool float.)

Jules:

Why are you carrying around a dolphin?

Verne:

It’s a porpoise.

Jules:

Well I assumed it was on purpose or else you wouldn’t have it. Again, why are you carrying around a dolphin?

Verne:

I’m not. This is a porpoise.

Jules:

Okay, so why are you carrying around a porpoise?

Verne:

I’ve been looking for it. You were talking to me about how Jesus knows me, right? And that he has a porpoise for me, and I think I’ve found it!

(Jules puts palm to face in disbelief)

Jules:

I said “purpose,” not porpoise. Jesus has a PURPOSE for you. You know, a PLAN! In fact, we have talked about Jesus’s purpose and plan for you here at VBS.

Verne:

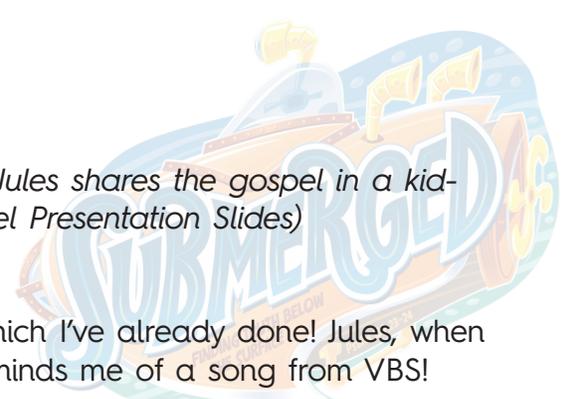
Oh yeah that’s right! We’ve talked about the Gospel!

Jules:

That’s right! Let’s take a look at the Gospel: God’s Plan for Me! *(Jules shares the gospel in a kid-friendly, age appropriate way as he/she goes through the Gospel Presentation Slides)*

Verne:

So Jesus’s plan is for me to trust Jesus as my Savior and Lord...which I’ve already done! Jules, when we know the Gospel, we can respond using the “ABC’s!” That reminds me of a song from VBS!



OPTIONAL SONG: ABC SUBMARINE

KID CONSULTANTS VIDEO #3

(Jules acts as if he/she is looking out of a porthole)

Jules:

Verne! Come take a look at this school of rainbow fish! They are named for their beautiful colors, and are a wonderful part of God's creation. Just like you, me, and all of our submariners here! YOU are his favorite creation!

Verne:

We are like super awesome rainbowfish! I have an idea, let's make this whole room look like a school of rainbow fish. (to audience) When you came in, you were given a balloon. We're going to give you 20 seconds to blow up the balloon as big as possible, but don't let it go! (20 seconds starts)

Jules:

Great job! Now, we want everyone on their feet! When we say go, you have 45 seconds to move around the room and try to find as many people with your color balloon as possible! When you find them, be sure to tell them your name and something interesting about yourself. (timer starts and audience moves)

GAME #4: A Mighty Current

Verne:

You all look great in your school of fish! I have a great idea! Since we have these balloons, let's recreate the recreation game, "A Mighty Current." Let's count down from "5", and when I get to "1", everyone let go of your balloon at once! Is everyone ready? Here we go! 5,4,3,2,1!

Jules:

Awesome job! Everyone start making your way back to your seats!

KID CONSULTANT VIDEO #4

Verne:

Those balloons looked so nautical! I learned during recreation that when we released the air in the balloons, the balloons could then blow around the entire room! It couldn't do it by itself. That is how it is with God's love. We cannot love on our own. God loves us first! And because He loves, us, we can love, too!

Jules:

Verne, I'm so proud of you! You've learned a whole lot on this voyage so far. In fact, I want to tell Captain Ironheart how much you've learned. I'll see you guys later! (Jules exits)

Verne:

(to audience) Thank you for all of your help! Did you have fun tonight? Me too! I think we should do this again sometime. How about next year? Great! We'll see you again next year! (Verne exits)

KID CONSULTANT VIDEO #5

