

Discussion Guide to

Rainbow Shoes

ABOUT *RAINBOW SHOES* AND ITS MESSAGE:

As mentioned in the *Viewer Content* online, while never explicitly mentioned, **our current issues of gender identity (and what the Bible says about them) are a major subtext of the plot**, particularly in the depiction of “rainbow shoes” and a ghastly wish-come-true that leaves a gang of friends trapped in one another’s bodies.

While this is a controversy in some parts of the mainstream American church, it is *not* a controversy in the Word of God and for those who embrace His Word and His doctrines as divine (2 Timothy 3:16) and unchanging (Hebrews 13:8).

You Connection embraces the **biblical** view of sexuality, clearly outlined in Genesis 1, and the ungodly sexual conduct outlined in Romans 1:18-32, 1 Corinthians 5:1-8, 1 Corinthians 6: 9-11, Leviticus 18:22-25, as well as the Lord’s mandates for us in Romans 12:2, Romans 8:5-11, and Jesus Christ’s own words in Mark 7:21-23.

This is neither outdated or irrelevant Scripture, nor is it hateful and unloving. Romans 3:10 says “There is no one righteous, no, not one” and Romans 3:23 says “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” We are *all* sinners saved by the righteousness of Christ, but **ONLY** if “you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead”. (Romans 10:9)

While the film does not overtly reveal these subversive plot points, and can be viewed merely as a tale of temptation, some of these discussion questions are specifically designed to help address this often-confusing issue in a simple and biblical way.



Discussion Guide to

Rainbow Shoes

How is temptation like putting on a pair of “rainbow shoes”? In the story, the wearer cannot remove the shoes once her or she puts them on. How does this compare to our sin nature?

Why is it sometimes easy to give into evil temptation? What does Violet Cobalt think she will receive from her deal with the Peddler?

The Word of God describes the devil as “walking about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour”. How is the character of the Peddler similar to this?

Discuss the Peddler’s reaction to “the cross” or any mention of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Why does the Peddler (alias, the devil) react this way? What happened to the devil’s power, authority, and future after Jesus died on the cross for our sins?

Raz, Dazzle, Flash, and Sparkle have been “body swapped” by the Peddler, so that the male Raz is actually the female Dazzle trapped in Raz’s body (and the same with Flash and Sparkle). This could be a parallel to the current popularity of boys wanting to identify as girls or girls wanting to identify as boys. How does this line up with the fact that **God is our creator**, and **He** is the one who creates you exactly the way you are? Do you think it is rebellion to deny the way your Creator made you in exchange for “creating yourself in your own image”?



Discussion Guide to

Rainbow Shoes

Many people argue “if God loves me, why would he want to change me”? Read and discuss Romans 12:1-2 and 2 Corinthians 3:17-18. We don’t always know what’s best for us, but God does, and when you believe and trust in God, He will transform you more and more into *His* image. Why is trusting in God vital in understanding His love for us? Do you think it’s loving for God to allow a person to go on living a dangerous or destructive life? How is God’s transformation of our minds and hearts actually the *loving* solution?

Relativity- the belief that nothing matters and *any* truth is fine. How is it intellectually impossible to have multiple truths? How does “relativity” contradict God’s absolutes like John 14:6, Colossians 1:15-20, or 2 Timothy 3:16?

Some people say “my belief defines who I am”. While believing in Jesus is the initial step in receiving His salvation, it is not *your* belief that defines you. . .it is *Christ* who defines you! Colossians 1:12-13 says that God has “qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light; He has delivered us from the power of darkness,” and when you believe in Jesus, you discover that belief is a *reality* (read Romans 8:15-17).

Simply believing in your own reality doesn’t *make* it a reality. What is Violet’s belief when she first puts on the rainbow shoes? Does this belief end up bringing her the happiness she thinks?

