

53 THE LESSONS

Acknowledgment:

Thanks you to Earline Fewkes, , Robyn Voelckers, Christine Layton, for putting together these Family Home Evening lessons.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1) A Happy People | 34) Jesus Christ Will Come Again |
| 2) Abraham Covenants with the Lord | 35) Jonah and the People of Nineveh |
| 3) Ammons Example | 36) Joseph Holds to the Iron Rod |
| 4) Atonement | 37) Joseph Smith Asked Heavenly Father to Help Him |
| 5) Calling of the Twelve Apostles | 38) Joseph Smith Prophet of the Restoration |
| 6) Christmas in the Americas | 39) Josiah Believer in the Scriptures |
| 7) Christs Life on Earth | 40) Love at Home |
| 8) Covenants at the Waters of Mormon | 41) Moronis Words to Us |
| 9) Daniel Obeys the Lord | 42) Moses Teaches His People |
| 10) Enoch Builds Zion | 43) Mother |
| 11) Enos and the Power of Prayer | 44) Nephi Forgives |
| 12) Esther Saves Her People | 45) Nephi Obtains the Plates |
| 13) Member's of the Savior's Church | 46) Nephite Disciples Baptize |
| 14) Noah and other Prophets | 47) Nephites and Sacrament |
| 15) Temples and Ordinances | 48) Our Savior and Redeemer |
| 16) The Savior's Church, Then and Now | 49) Priesthood[1] |
| 17) Wise Man and Foolish Man | 50) Samuel the Lamanite |
| 18) Baptism | 51) Seek Guidance through Prayer |
| 19) Remembering Jesus Christ | 52) Special Witnesses |
| 20) Saul's Conversion | 53) The Lord Commands His People to Build Temples |
| 21) Ammon | |
| 22) Army of Helaman | |
| 23) Baptism of Jesus Christ | |
| 24) Brother of Jared | |
| 25) Creation | |
| 26) Follow the Prophet | |
| 27) Good Samaritan | |
| 28) Good Shepherd | |
| 29) Follow Righteous Leaders | |
| 30) His Servants the Prophets | |
| 31) Honest and Truthful at All Times | |
| 32) Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior | |
| 33) Jesus Christ Heals a Blind Man | |



**A Happy People:
How Will the Holy Ghost Help Me to Keep My Baptismal Covenant?
Family Home Evening Lesson**

Opening Sing: "Listen, Listen" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 107)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: 2 Nephi 32:5 - "If ye will enter in by the way, and receive the Holy Ghost, it will show unto you all things what ye should do."

Lesson: Tell the story, "A Happy People: How Will the Holy Ghost Help Me to Keep My Baptismal Covenant?" (*Friend*, June 2000), using the flannel board pictures.

After the Savior's visit, His disciples established His church under the new covenant in the land. "And as many as did come unto them, and did truly repent of their sins, were baptized in the name of Jesus; and they did also receive the Holy Ghost" (4 Nephi 1:1)

The Saints of that time kept their baptismal covenants and enjoyed peace and prosperity for almost two hundred years. Nephi, the son of one of the disciples, said: "Every man did deal justly one with another.

"And ... there were not rich and poor, bond and free, but they were all made free, and partakers of the heavenly gift.

...

"And they ... did walk after the commandments which they had received from their Lord and their God, continuing in fasting and prayer, and in meeting together oft both to pray and to hear the word of the Lord. ...

"And it came to pass that there was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people.

"And there were no envyings, nor strifes, nor tumults, ... nor lyings, nor murders, ... and surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God. ...

"And how blessed were they!" (4 Ne. 1:2-3, 12, 15-16, 18.)

We can each be blessed and happy in our own lives if we keep our baptismal covenants and follow the promptings of the Holy Ghost. Since we all make mistakes, the Holy Ghost will prompt us to repent. Eight-year-old Stacie Brook Peck of Payson, Utah, was taking part in a competition. A coach told her to tell the judges that she had sewn the letters on her costume herself, though she had not. She obeyed the coach but felt so bad about lying that she told her mom what had happened.

"Mom asked me if I wanted to find a judge and tell him about the lie. I thought about it a long time. I felt very sad and scared. I thought the judges would get mad at me. I thought my team would be mad because the judge would have to take points off our score. However, telling a lie felt so horrible that I said yes.

"We told my coach about my decision. She felt really bad that an eight-year-old girl had to remind her that honesty was more important than winning.

"My coach came with us. When we found a judge and told him about my lie, he said that he would do something about it. I never found out what the penalty was, but my team still won first place and I was glad of that. But mostly I was happy because I had made the right choice, even though it was very hard. I know that it was the Holy Ghost who helped me to choose the right. I also know that Heavenly Father has forgiven me, because whenever I think about what I did, instead of being embarrassed, I am happy that I chose the right. I feel good inside, and I want to always choose the right."

Activity: "Drop the Clothespin Into a Bottle"

Hold a clothespin next to your nose. Stand over a bottle, pitcher, or other container. Try to drop the clothespin into the bottle.

Closing Song: "The Still Small Voice" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 106)

Closing Prayer:



Nephite Saints being given the Holy Ghost



Happy Nephites meet together in worship



Happy Nephites working together



Modern girl confessing to contest judge



Nephite Saints being given the Holy Ghost



Happy Nephites meet together in worship



Happy Nephites working together



Modern girl confessing to contest judge

Abraham Covenants with the Lord

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Keep the Commandments” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 146)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Mosiah 18:10 - “Ye have entered into a covenant with him, that ye will serve him and keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit more abundantly upon you.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Abraham Covenants with the Lord,” (*Friend*, Aug. 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

Abraham was a man who tried to do all that the Lord asked of him. When he and Sarah, his wife, were quite old, they had a son, Isaac. He was very dear to them. One day the Lord told Abraham to travel to Moriah, build an altar there, and sacrifice his son.

Though Abraham loved his son very much, he had great faith in the Lord, and he took his son to Mount Moriah. There he built an altar and laid his son on it. He raised his knife and was just about to slay his son, when the angel of the Lord called to him out of heaven:

“Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me” (*Gen. 22:12*).

Because of his great faithfulness and obedience, the Lord made a covenant with Abraham. Through him and his descendents, all the nations of the earth would be blessed. His family would be as numerous as the sands of the sea. They would bear the holy priesthood and would take the gospel of salvation to all nations. When you become a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, you share in that Abrahamic covenant. If you obey the commandments and do all the Lord asks you to do, you will receive all the blessings promised to Father Abraham.

Activity: “Small Change”

Each player has three coins. You all put your hands behind your backs and select 0, 1, 2 or 3 coins in your right hand. Keeping your left hand behind your back, present the right hand, without revealing its contents.

The leader starts by estimating how many coins are hidden in total in all the hands presented. So if there are four players the total could be anywhere between 0 and 12. The leader calls out a number and play moves round to the right, each player calling out in turn. No number may be repeated.

Once everyone has selected a different number, the hands are revealed. The person who correctly guessed the total (if anyone did) drops out.

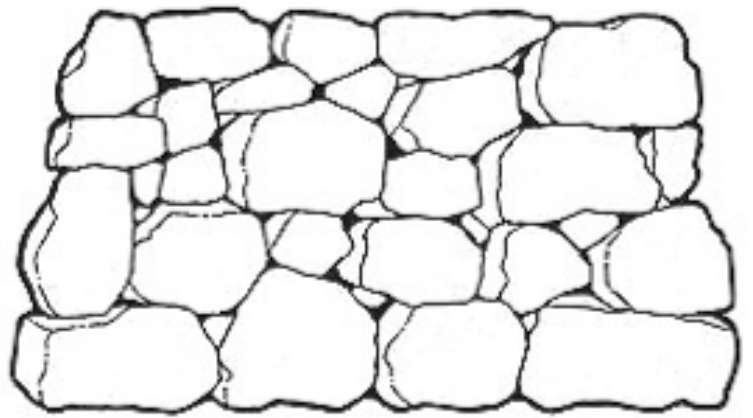
Play resumes, with the person to the left leading, until the ultimate loser is the last man in. It gets quite challenging when there are just two of you left and you’re trying to bluff your opponent.

Closing Song: “Choose the Right Way” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 160)

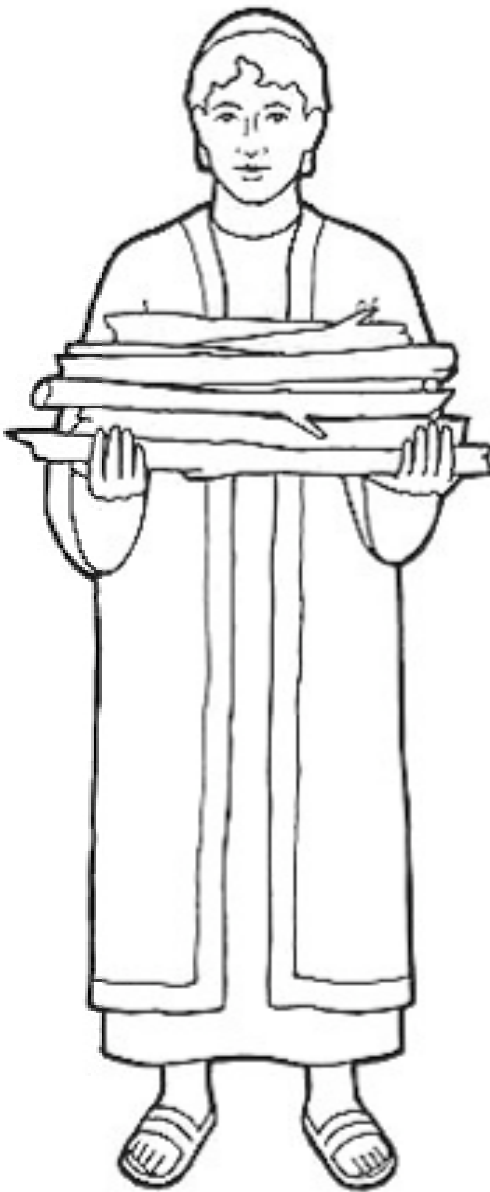
Closing Prayer:



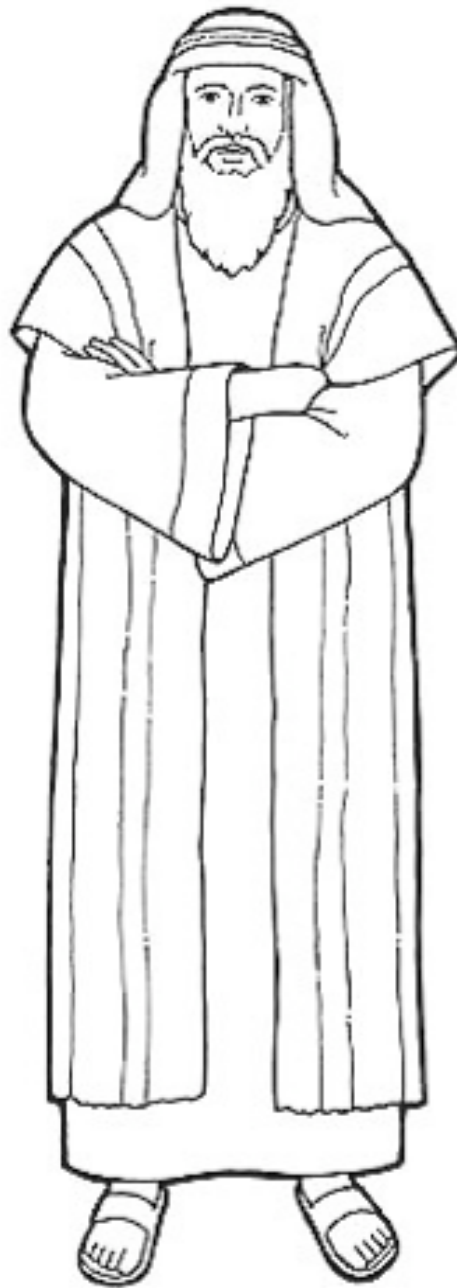
Knife



Altar



Isaac



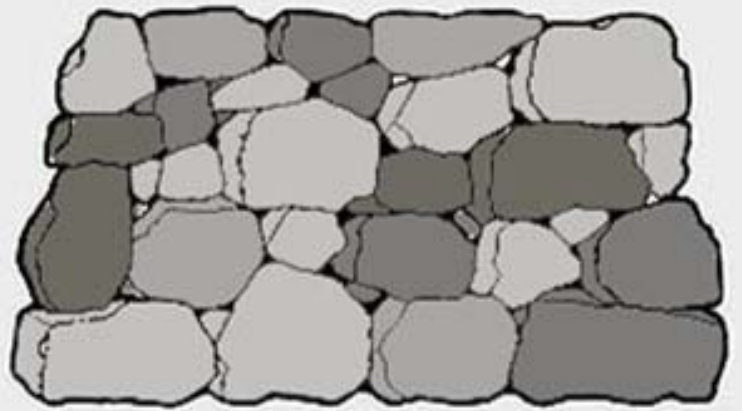
Abraham



Sarah



Knife



Altar



Isaac



Abraham



Sarah

Ammon's Example:
How Do I Show That I am Keeping My Baptismal Covenant?
Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "Dare to Do Right" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 158)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Matt 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Lesson: Tell the story, "Ammon's Example: How Do I Show That I am Keeping My Baptismal Covenant?" (*Friend*, Oct. 2000), using the flannel board pictures.

After being converted to the gospel, Ammon, one of the sons of Mosiah, dedicated his life to missionary work among the Lamanites. When Ammon first went to the Lamanite city of Ishmael, he was captured and brought before the ruler of the land, King Lamoni. Ammon asked the king if he could live there. Lamoni was so impressed that he offered to let Ammon marry one of his daughters. Instead, Ammon chose to be a humble servant of the king.

As Ammon and other servants of King Lamoni tended his flocks, another group of Lamanites attacked them and scattered the sheep. The other servants knew that the king would be very angry and would perhaps even kill them for not keeping the flocks together. Ammon encouraged them to gather the sheep, which they did.

The attackers again came to scatter the flocks. Ammon saw this as an opportunity to gain favor with the other servants and with the king, and thereby have a chance to preach the gospel. He commanded the other servants to circle the flocks and protect them. Then, with the Lord's help, he fought off the attackers, "and they were not few in number" (Alma 17:37).

The other servants rushed to tell King Lamoni about Ammon's strength and power. Lamoni was astonished and asked, "Where is this man that has such great power?"

"And they said unto him: Behold, he is feeding thy horses. ..."

"Now when king Lamoni heard that Ammon was preparing his horses and his chariots he was more astonished, because of the faithfulness of Ammon, saying: Surely there has not been any servant among all my servants that has been so faithful as this man; for even he doth remember all my commandments to execute them." (Alma 18:8-10.)

Lamoni was so impressed by Ammon's example of strength and righteousness that he was willing to listen when Ammon began to teach him the gospel, which eventually led to the conversion of Lamoni and many of his people.

Like Ammon, eleven-year-old Katrina Dalton of Allen, Texas, has learned how to be a good example to those around her. One day while playing basketball at school, Katrina noticed that some of the kids in her class were saying mean things to a boy who is partially deaf. Katrina made sure that she was kind to him, and she became so concerned about him that she talked privately to the teacher to make her aware of the problem. The teacher was able to stop the bad behavior and later thanked Katrina.

Activity: "Paper Bag Game"

Everyone forms a circle with a paper bag in the middle (it should be open and standing up as if you are ready to put something in it.) The object of the game is to bend down and pick up the bag with your mouth - hands behind your back and one leg up in the air. If you fall or touch the floor with your hands - you are out. When everyone has attempted it, the bag is cut about an inch, and the remaining people continue to try to pick up the bag with their mouth. Continue this until only one person is left.

Closing Song: "I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 78)

Closing Prayer:



Ammon bound and standing before king



Ammon feeding a horse



Ammon raising his sword





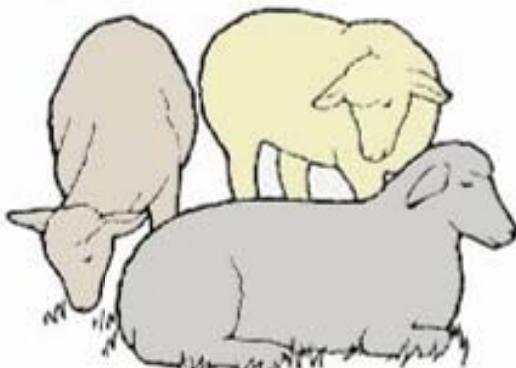
Ammon bound and standing before king



Ammon feeding a horse



Ammon raising his sword



The Atonement

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "He Sent His Son" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 34)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: D&C 49:5 - "For I am God, and have sent mine Only Begotten Son into the world for the redemption of the world."

Lesson: Tell the story from "Sharing Time: The Atonement," (by Laurel Rohlifing Friend, Mar. 1989), using the flannel board pictures.

When Paul H. Dunn of the First Quorum of the Seventy was eleven years old, baseball was an important part of his life. Paul's parents permitted his team to use their large backyard for a baseball diamond. It was completely fenced in, with an alley running along the outside. Beyond the alley was a large church with a beautiful stained glass window that faced the center-field fence.

One hot summer evening an exciting baseball game was in progress in the Dunn backyard. Paul came to bat late in the game and hit an outside pitch. It looked like it might be the best hit he had ever made! The ball cleared the center-field fence, crossed the alley, and then, to everyone's dismay, entered the church building through the large stained glass window some 260 feet away. It seemed to young Paul that the glass fell for hours. The players scattered in every direction.

When Paul got up the courage to return home, he discovered that his father had two visitors. They were both ministers from the neighboring church. To Paul's surprise, they seemed to know from which house the baseball had come. Paul admitted to the ministers that he had hit the ball that had broken the window and told them that he was very sorry. Paul's father put his arm around his son's shoulder, patted him on the head, and said, "This is a good boy." He, too, apologized for the mishap and asked how much it would cost to replace the stained glass window. They told him that it would be about \$500.

It was then that his father taught young Paul a great lesson. He asked the ministers if they understood the principle of Christ's atonement. They seemed a little puzzled. His father said, "In our Church, we believe that 'through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel'" (third article of faith). He explained that the atonement allows each of us to be forgiven of our sins if we repent. Jesus paid for all our sins when He suffered in the Garden of Gethsemane. As the only perfect person who ever lived on earth, He was the only one who could do this for us. We could not do it for ourselves. Without His sacrifice, we could never be forgiven of our sins and would not be able to live with Heavenly Father and Jesus again.

Paul's father pointed out that although Paul had broken a window, he could never pay for it himself. His allowance of 25¢ a week would never pay for a \$500 window. Taking his checkbook from his coat pocket, he wrote out a check for the amount needed and said, "As Paul's father, and because I love him, I will pay the price that he cannot."

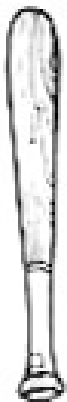
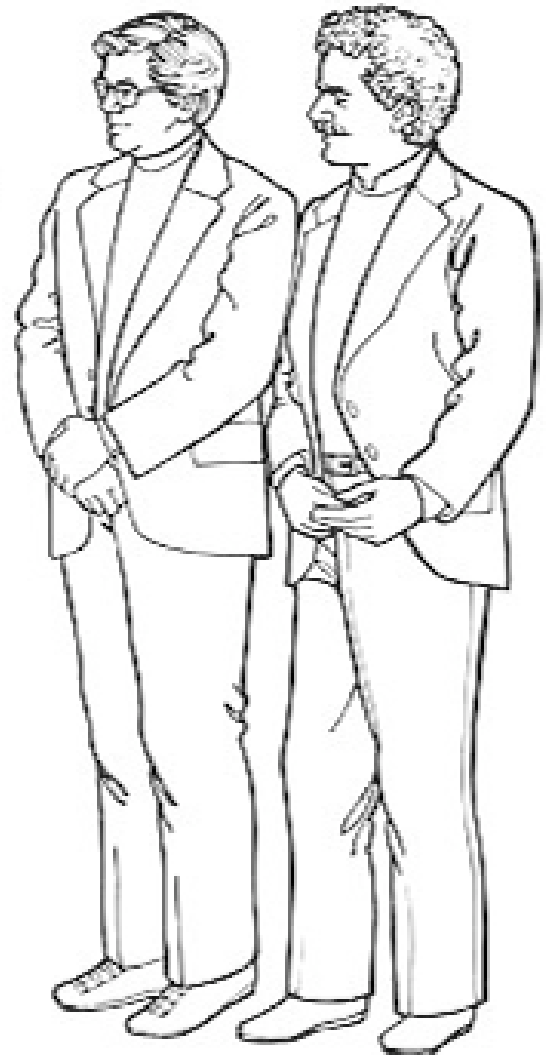
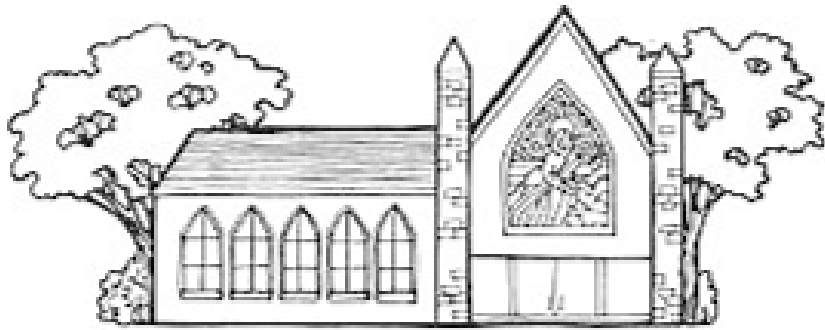
This experience helped Paul understand what Jesus did for us when He atoned for our sins. At this Easter time we can be thankful that Heavenly Father loved us enough to send His Son so that we can be forgiven when we do something wrong.

Activity: "Human Knot"

Have everyone stand in a circle. Have everyone reach into the circle and grab two hands belonging to two different people. Then, try to untangle yourselves. Or, have everyone join hands facing the center of a circle, except one person. That person is the doctor. While the doctor is out of the room, everyone steps over each other, twists, turns, and basically turns the circle into a knot. No matter what, they cannot let go of each other's hands. When the circle is a mangled knot, call, "Doctor! Doctor!" The doctor then comes in and tries to unravel the knot of people without unlinking any hands, to make them become a circle facing inward again.

Closing Song: "He Died That We Might Live Again" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 65)

Closing Prayer:



Calling of the Twelve Apostles

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 60)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Helaman 5:12 - “Remember that it is upon the rock of our Redeemer, who is Christ, the Son of God, that ye must build your foundation .”

Lesson: Tell the story “Calling of the Twelve Apostles,” (*Friend*, Sept. 1999), using the flannel board pictures.

During His life, the Savior had many followers who believed His teachings. These followers were called disciples. One day while in Galilee, He went “up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him.

“And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

“And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils” (Mark 3:13-15). This group of twelve disciples had been called and ordained to be Apostles.

“Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

“Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

“Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.” (Matt. 10:2-4.)

The word *apostle* means “one sent forth.” The Twelve Apostles had it revealed to them that Jesus is the Christ, the Redeemer and Savior of the world. They were sent forth into the world to bear testimony of Him. The members of the Quorum of the Twelve in the Church today have this same responsibility to be special witnesses of Jesus Christ.

Most of us will not be called to serve as “special witnesses” of Jesus Christ. However, the Holy Ghost can still reveal to each of us personally that Jesus is the Son of God and that His teachings are true. We share our knowledge of these truths by bearing our testimonies and by doing those things that are right.

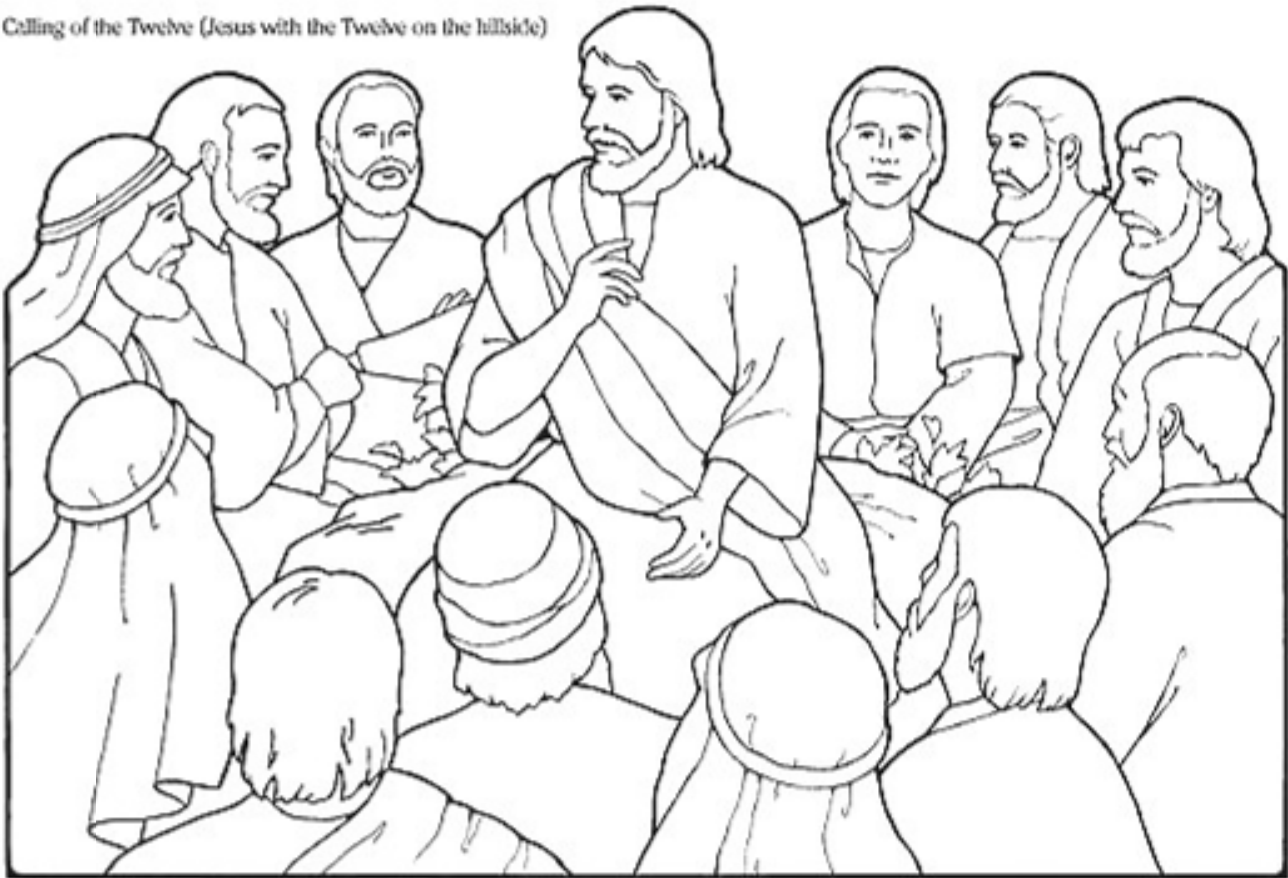
Activity: “Land, Water”

The leader stands in front of the rest of the family. When the leader says the word “land” the players jump forward. When they hear the word “water” they jump backward. Then the word “land” is changed to “bank”, “island”, “peninsula”, etc. The actions of the players must be the same as after the word “land.” The word water may be changed to “sea”, “lake”, “river”, etc. The player who makes the most mistakes is out and play resumes until there is one person left.

Closing Song: “I Know My Father Lives” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 5)

Closing Prayer:

Calling of the Twelve (Jesus with the Twelve on the hillside)



Peter and John healing a lame man



Philip testifying

Calling of the Twelve (Jesus with the Twelve on the hillside)



Peter and John healing a lame man



Philip testifying

Christmas in the Americas Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Away in the Manger” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 42)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Helaman 14:2 - “Then cometh the Son of God.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Christmas in the Americas” (*Friend*, December 1994) using the flannel board pictures.

1. The people in the land of Zarahemla had become very wicked. (See Hel. 13:1.)
2. A Lamanite prophet, Samuel, came and warned the people that if they did not they would be destroyed. (See Hel. 13:56.)
3. He told them that they could be forgiven of their sins, if they repented, because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ who would soon be born. (See Hel. 14:2, 13.)
4. Samuel prophesied that Jesus Christ would be born in five years, that on the night before His birth great lights would appear in the heavens, that there would be a day and a night and a day without darkness, and that a new star would appear—“such an one as ye never have beheld.” (See Hel. 14:3-6.)
5. Those who believed the words of Samuel and repented were baptized by Nephi, a righteous man who lived in the land of Zarahemla. (See Hel. 16:1.)
6. But many people in Zarahemla hardened their hearts and would not repent. (See Hel. 16:2.)
7. When it neared the time for Samuel’s prophecy to be fulfilled, the unrighteous people set a date, saying that if the signs hadn’t appeared by then, all those who believed the prophecies would be put to death. (See 3 Ne. 1:9.)
8. That day, Nephi, the son of the Nephi who had baptized many of the people, prayed to the Lord for them all day. (See 3 Ne. 1:2, 10-12.)
9. Nephi was promised by the Lord that the signs of His birth would be fulfilled that night. When the sun went down that evening, there was no darkness, and a new star appeared in the heavens. The righteous, and even many of the wicked, knew that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, would be born the following day. (See 3 Ne. 1:12-21.)
10. “And thus the ninety and second year did pass away, bringing glad tidings unto the people because of the signs which did come to pass, according to the words of the prophecy of all the holy prophets.” (See 3 Ne. 1:26.)

Activity: “Port and Starboard”

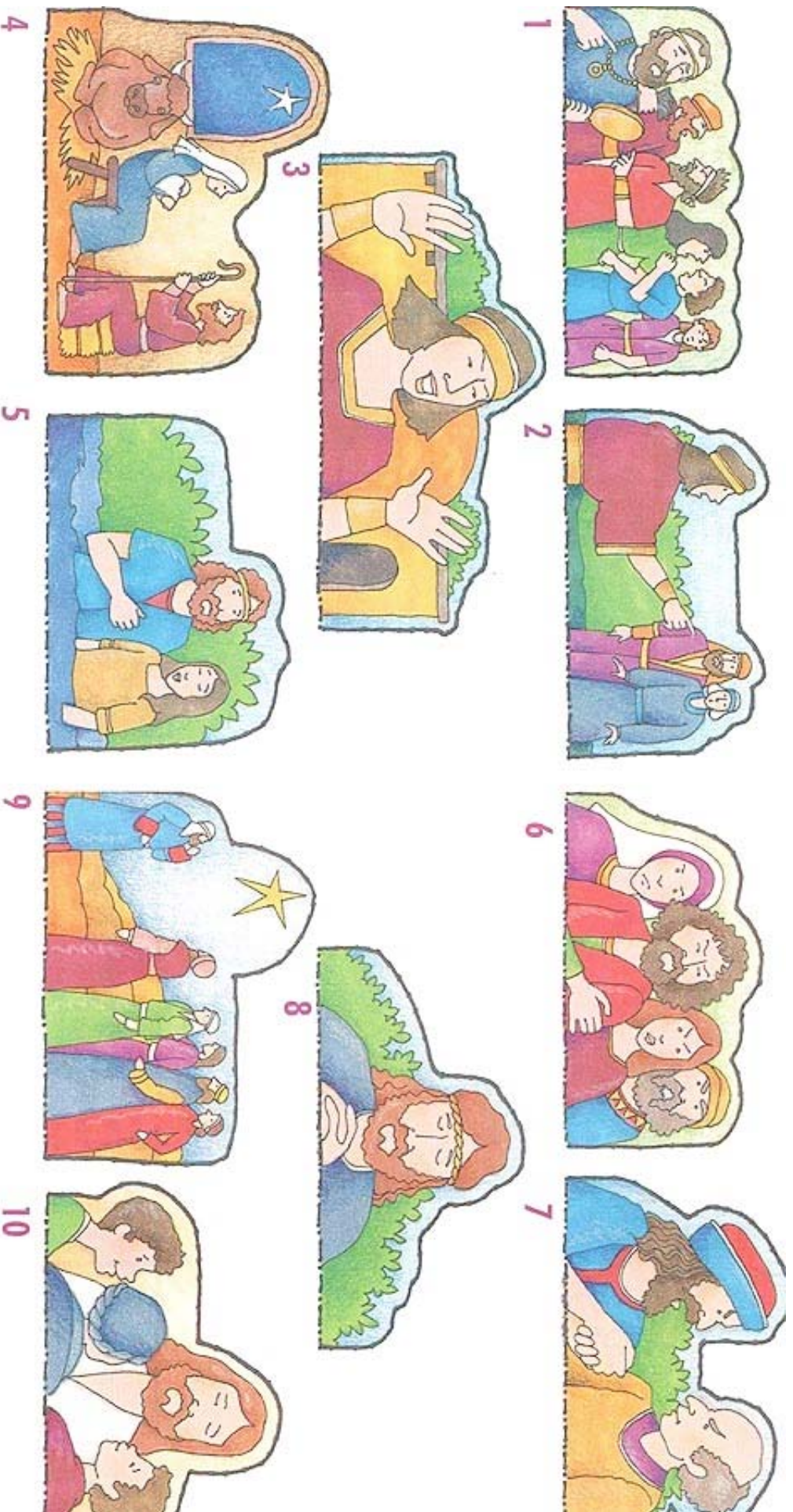
On the command (from the list below) the participants have to do the appropriate action. After a while, start removing the last player to comply, until only one remains.

- Port (run to one side of the room)
- Starboard (run to the other side)
- Submarines (lie on the floor)
- Captain’s Coming Aboard (stand to attention and salute)
- Hoist the mainsail (run on the spot - like climbing the rigging)
- Mess Deck (sit cross-legged on the floor - ready for lunch)
- Davey Jones (climb a tree, stand on a chair - anything so that you are not on the floor)

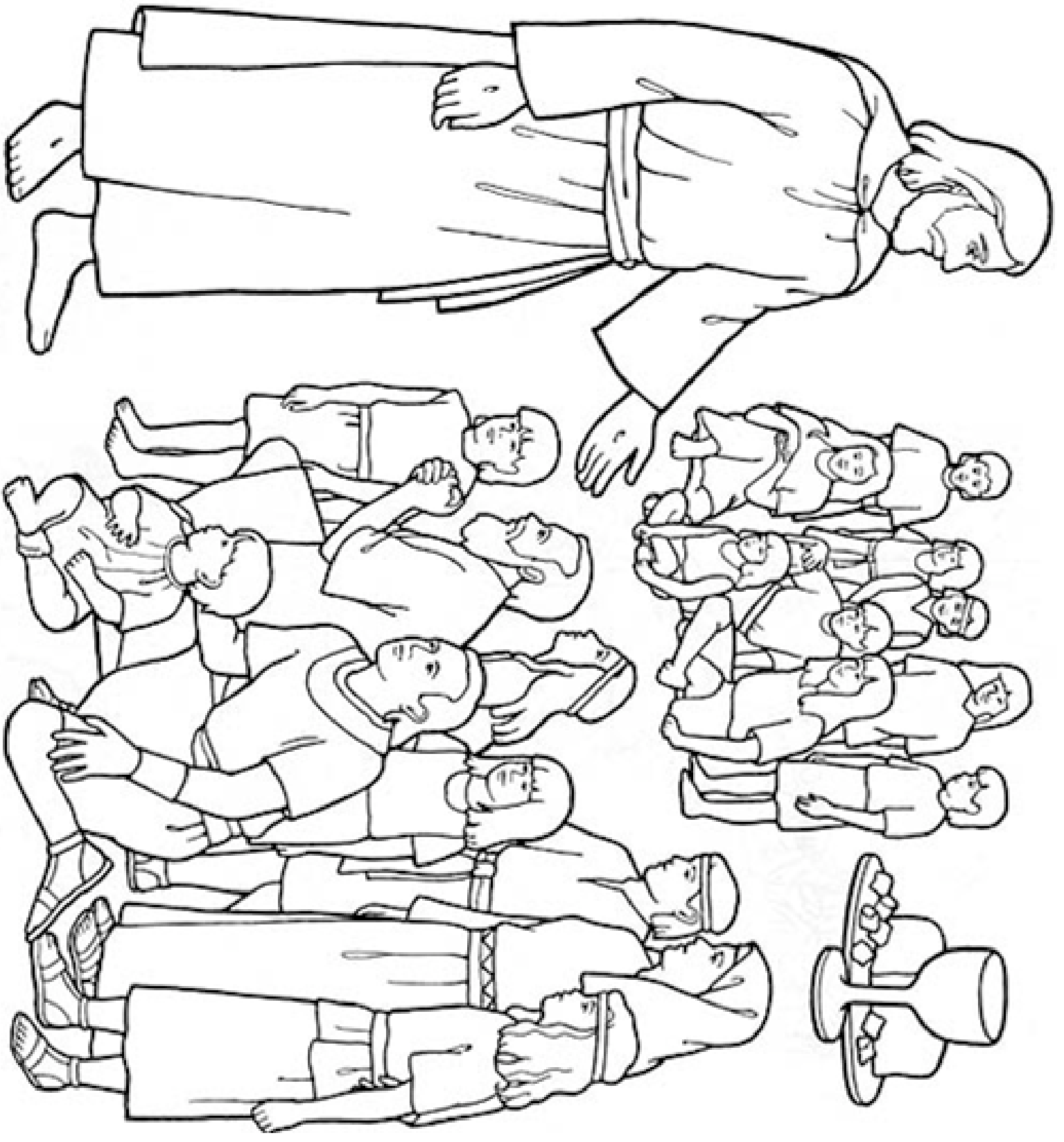
- Up Periscope (stand up straight and hold hands to eyes as if looking through binoculars)

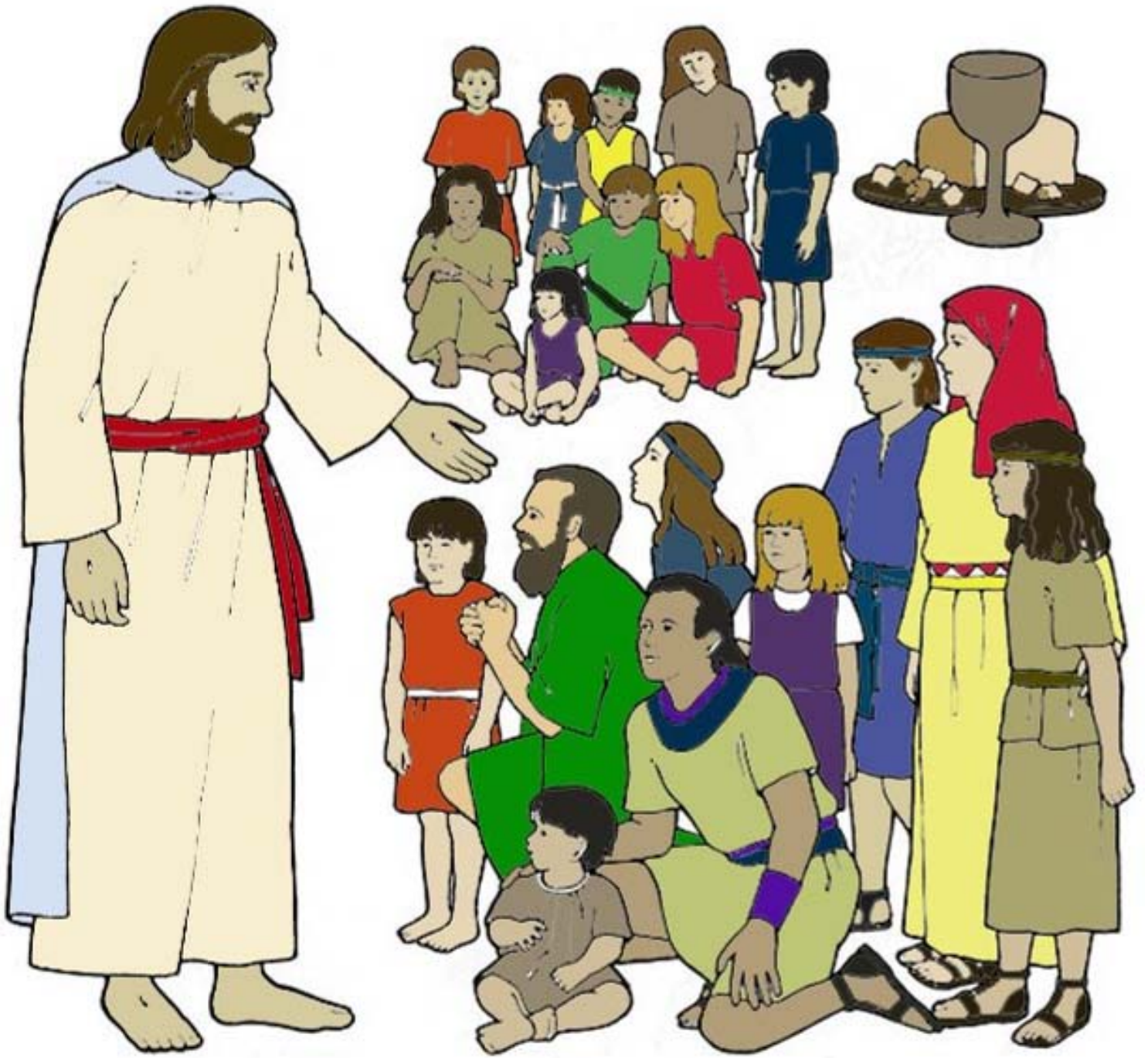
Closing Song: “Samuel Tells of the Baby Jesus” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 36)

Closing Prayer:



CHRISTMAS IN THE AMERICAS





Christ's Life on Earth Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 57)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Lesson: Tell the story, "Christ's Life on Earth," (*Friend*, Mar. 1999), using the flannel board pictures.

Heavenly Father promised us that He would send His Son, Jesus Christ, to the earth to teach us the gospel, to be our example, and to suffer and die for us so that we could return to Heavenly Father's presence. The day He was born was a day of great joy. It was in the early spring that Mary "brought forth her firstborn son [Jesus Christ], and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger. ...

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:7-11.) The promised Savior had come to earth at last!

We know that Jesus Christ "grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him" (Luke 2:40).

When He was twelve years old, Jesus taught at the temple in Jerusalem, and "all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers" (Luke 2:47).

Later he was baptized, although He had committed no sin. He did this as an example for us, for we too must be baptized. He organized His church and called twelve men to be His Apostles. He taught the gospel and performed many miracles because of His great love. And to complete His work on earth, He suffered and died for us.

As we read the scriptures and learn about His life, we will know that He was the Savior, that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is His church upon the earth, and that He loves us and wants us to follow His teachings and example so that we can return to live with Heavenly Father and Him again one day.

Activity: "Where's My Seat?"

The chairs are put in a line with their seats facing opposite sides - alternating. The leader of the game takes a long stick and walks round all the players, who are sitting on the chairs. Then he strikes the floor with the stick near one of the players. This player stands up and follows the leader.

The leader walks round the chairs, striking the stick near the players and soon he is followed by all of the players. The leader makes different movements as he walks and all the rest repeat them. Suddenly the leader strikes with the stick twice. This is a signal for the players to take their places again as soon as possible. The leader tries to take one of the places for himself. The player who doesn't manage to take a seat becomes the leader.

Closing Song: "Had I Been a Child" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 80)

Closing Prayer:



Star

Shepherds

Angel



Sheep



Jesus in manger

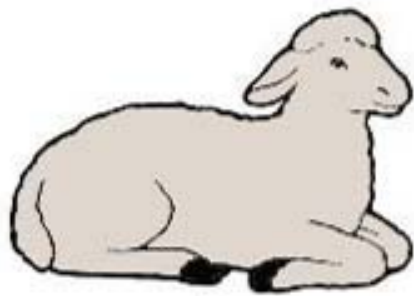


Mary and Joseph



Shepherds

Angel



Sheep



Jesus in manger



Mary and Joseph

**Covenants at the Waters of Mormon:
What Do I Promise Heavenly Father When I Am Baptized?
Family Home Evening Lesson**

Opening Song: “When I Am Baptized” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 103)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: D&C 20:77—“They are willing to take upon them the name of thy Son, and always remember him.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Covenants at the Waters of Mormon: What Do I Promise Heavenly Father When I Am Baptized?” (*Friend*, Apr. 2000), using the flannel board pictures.

When wicked King Noah condemned Abinadi to death, Alma, a repentant priest, pleaded for the prophet’s life. Furious, Noah tried to have Alma killed, too, but he fled into the wilderness and began teaching the gospel. Those who believed him went to hear him preach near a fountain of pure water in a place called Mormon.

One day Alma said to a large group of believers, “Behold, here are the waters of Mormon ... and now, as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another’s burdens, that they may be light;

“Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life—

“Now I say unto you, if this be the desire of your hearts, what have you against being baptized in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him, that ye will serve him and keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit more abundantly upon you?

“And now when the people had heard these words, they clapped their hands for joy, and exclaimed: This is the desire of our hearts.” (Mosiah 18:8-11.)

We, too, make the same covenants and can feel the same joy when we are baptized. Although she has not yet been baptized, six-year-old Macy Nelson of Gilbert, Arizona, is preparing to keep her covenant of comforting those who stand in need of comfort. She loved Grandma Lolly and Grandpa George very much and did lots of fun things with them. Grandpa George was her special buddy and was a “silly grandpa” who always made her laugh.

When he died in 1997, Macy cried. But then she looked up at her mommy and asked, “Who is going to take care of Grandma?”

“I don’t know,” her mommy replied.

Macy said, “I will.”

Grandma Lolly moved into Macy’s home, and she was happy to give Grandma her room. Macy continues to take care of Grandma with lots of hugs and kisses, and she thanks Heavenly Father that they are a “forever family.”

Activity: “Guess Who You Are”

The names of famous scriptural or church history characters are written on small cards, one on each card. One of the cards is pinned on the back of each player. By questions that can be answered yes or no, each family member is to guess the name on his back.

Closing Song: “Baptism” especially verse 3, (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 100)

Closing Prayer:



Alma pleading for Abinadi's life



Alma baptizing



Alma teaching — people clapping hands



Modern girl hugging her grandmother



Alma pleading for Abinadi's life



Alma baptizing



Alma teaching people clapping hands



Modern girl hugging her grandmother

Daniel Obeys the Lord

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Stand for the Right” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 159)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6 - “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Daniel Obeys the Lord,” (*Friend*, June 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

When King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon conquered the land of Judah, he brought back to his kingdom some of the well-favored children of Israel. Chosen were those who were without blemish, who were wise and well-educated. Among them were four young men—Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. The king told his servant to feed them rich foods and wines for three years, the same food he would eat himself, and then bring them before him.

Daniel and his friends had been taught to eat a more healthy diet, and he made a request of the king’s servant. “Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse [seeds, grains, vegetables] to eat, and water to drink.

“Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king’s meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.” (Dan. 1:12-13.)

The servant agreed. The Lord blessed the four young men for their faithfulness, and after ten days had passed, Daniel and his friends were fairer and healthier than those who ate the king’s meat.

You can be like Daniel in the scriptures. You, too, know what the Lord would have you eat and drink. You know what is not good for you (see Doctrine and Covenants 89). If a king, or a friend, or anyone else tempts you to try something that is harmful to your body, say no with the same courage shown by Daniel.

Activity: “Alphabet Groceries”

Begin the game by saying, “I went to the grocery store and bought apples.” Then ask the players to add to the list something bought at the grocery store that starts with the letter B such as “a brush”. The next player continues with the letter C and so forth all the way to Z. To make it more difficult, each person must list all the items in order before adding his new item.

Closing Song: “The Lord Gave Me a Temple” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 153)

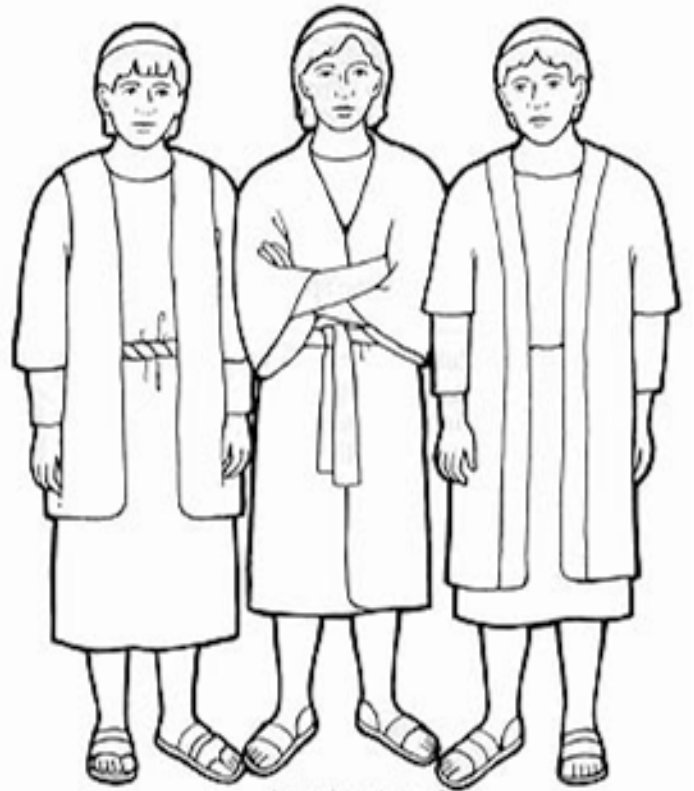
Closing Prayer:



The King's servant



Daniel



Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah



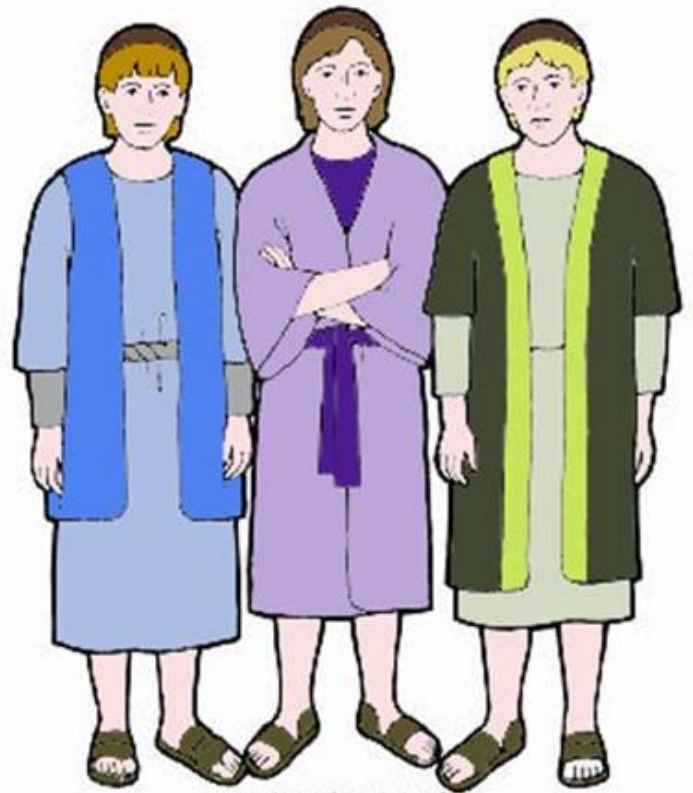
King Nebuchadnezzar



The King's servant



Daniel



Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah



King Nebuchadnezzar

Enoch Builds Zion

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “The Church of Jesus Christ” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 77)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Romans 1:16 - “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Enoch Builds Zion,” (*Friend*, Oct. 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

Enoch was traveling among the people when the Spirit of God came upon him and a voice from heaven spoke to him. He was told to preach the gospel of repentance to the people, to say, “Choose ye this day, to serve the Lord God who made you” (*Moses 6:33*).

But Enoch was afraid. He reminded the Lord that he had a hard time speaking and that the people hated him because of it. The Lord answered, “Open thy mouth, and it shall be filled, and I will give thee utterance. ... All they words will I justify; and the mountains shall flee before you, and the rivers shall turn from their course; and thou shalt abide in me, and I in you; therefore walk with me” (*Moses 6:32, 34*).

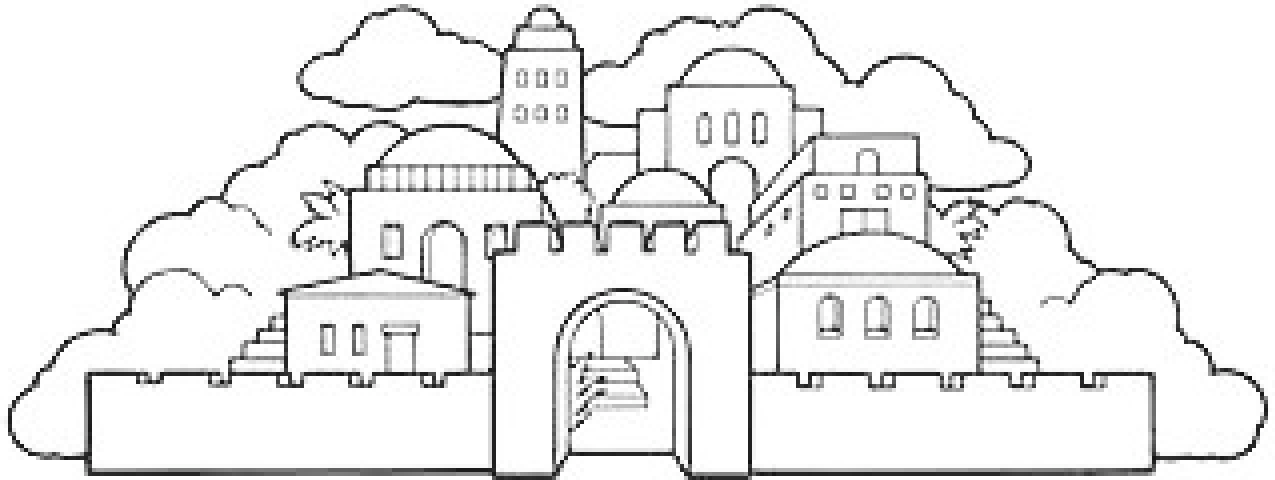
Believing the Lord would do as He promised, Enoch went among the people and taught them. So powerful was his teaching that the people trembled. So great was Enoch’s faith and the Lord’s blessing, that he “spake the word of the Lord, and the earth trembled, and the mountains fled, even according to his command; and the rivers of water were turned out of their course; and the roar of the lions was heard out of the wilderness; and all nations feared greatly, so powerful was the word of Enoch, and so great was the power of the language which God had given him” (*Moses 7:13*). Slowly the people came to believe his words and to act on them. And “the Lord came and dwelt with his people, and they dwelt in righteousness” (*Moses 7:16*). Their city was called Zion. Enoch found great joy in sharing the gospel with his people. We, too, can feel that joy when we obey the commandments and share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Activity: “Solo Sing”

Each family member selects a hymn and begins to sing it as the leader points to him. Each person in order must have a hymn ready to sing with no delay. Anyone who misses a beat or breaks the rhythm must sing a solo.

Closing Song: “I Want to Be a Missionary Now” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 168)

Closing Prayer:



Enoch



Enoch

Enos and the Power of Prayer: What Other Special Helps Has Heavenly Father Given Me to Help Me Keep My Baptismal Covenants?

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “A Child’s Prayer” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 12)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Psalms 119:105 - “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Enos and the Power of Prayer: What Other Special Helps Has Heavenly Father Given Me to Help Me Keep My Baptismal Covenants?” (*Friend*, Sept. 2000), using the flannel board pictures.

Enos had a righteous father who taught him about the power of prayer. One day while Enos was in the forest hunting, he began to feel bad about sins that he had committed. He felt an urge to pray.

“And my soul hungered; and I kneeled down before my Maker, and I cried unto him in mighty prayer and supplication for mine own soul” (Enos 1:4).

Enos had such a desire to receive forgiveness for his sins that he pleaded with the Lord all day and all night. At last, a voice came to him, saying, “Enos, thy sins are forgiven thee, and thou shalt be blessed” (Enos 1:5).

Even after Enos had received forgiveness for his sins, he remained on his knees, pleading with the Lord—not for himself now, but for the rest of the Nephites.

“And while I was thus struggling in the spirit, behold, the voice of the Lord came into my mind again, saying: I will visit thy brethren according to their diligence in keeping my commandments” (Enos 1:10).

Enos still continued to pray, this time for the Lamanites, the enemies of his people. Enos grew very close to Heavenly Father by his willingness to pour out his soul in prayer.

Like Enos, we can become closer to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ through our prayers. We, too, can be forgiven of our sins when we follow the necessary steps of repentance and ask Heavenly Father to forgive us.

Seven-year-old Craig Parker of Spanish Fork, Utah, gained a testimony of the role of prayer in the repentance process. One day while he was playing, he said a word that he knew was wrong. He felt very bad afterward. “In our home and at church I have learned about Jesus, and I know that He would not want me to say that word.”

Craig decided to kneel and pray for forgiveness. “I folded my arms and told Heavenly Father I was sorry for saying that word. I felt better after praying. I knew that Heavenly Father forgave me, and I have never said that word again.”

Activity: “Gum Game”

Place a big pack of gum, oven mitts, and a large knife and fork in the center of the circle. Roll two dice. If the number is seven, pick up the mitts, knife and fork and try to open the gum before the next person rolls 7 on the dice. See how many pieces of gum you can get in your mouth before the time is up. You could do this with any object in the middle (candy bars, Christmas presents, etc.).

Closing Song: “Search, Ponder, and Pray” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 109)

Closing Prayer:



Enos in the forest



Enos praying at night



Enos praying during the day



Boy praying



Enos in the forest



Enos praying at night



Esther Saves Her People

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “A Child’s Prayer” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 12)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: James 1:5 - “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Esther Saves Her People,” (*Friend*, Sept. 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

When King Ahasuerus of Persia was looking for a new queen, he asked that all the fair young women of the kingdom come to the palace. Mordecai, a Jew who served in the palace, brought his niece, Esther. She was beautiful, and “the king loved Esther above all the women” (Esth. 2:17). She became his new queen.

The king placed a man named Haman over all the princes in his kingdom and ordered all the servants to bow before Haman. Mordecai refused to bow. This angered Haman, and when he discovered that Mordecai was a Jew, he decided to destroy all of the Jews.

Haman told the king that there was a people in his land who would not obey the laws and who, therefore, should be destroyed. The king agreed and offered a reward to those who would kill the Jews.

Esther and Mordecai realized that to save their people, Esther would have to go before the king and plead for them. This was a dangerous thing to do, because no one was to go before the king without being called. Esther asked that her people fast and pray for three days for her.

The fasting and prayers of her people gave the queen the courage to do what she needed to do. When she told the king of the wickedness of Haman, the king had him destroyed instead of Esther and her people.

You, too, can pray to Father in Heaven for the strength to do those things that are good and great. He loves you and will listen to your prayers, just as He did to Queen Esther’s.

Activity: “Birds Have Feathers”

One player is the leader. The leader and all the others flap their arms like birds. The leader calls out the name of something with feathers. If a player flaps his wings on a calling that doesn’t have feathers, he is out. The leader flaps his wings on almost all things to confuse the group and calls as rapidly as possible. “Eagles have feathers, roosters have feathers, babies have feathers, etc.”

Closing Song: “Faith” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 96)

Closing Prayer:



Haman

Esther



Group of Jews praying



Mordecai

King Ahasuerus of Persia on his throne



Member's of the Savior's Church Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "The Church of Jesus Christ" (*Children's Songbook* p. 77)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: And they who were baptized in the name of Jesus were called the church of Christ (3 Ne. 26:21).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from "Members of the Savior's Church," *Friend*, Jan. 2003, 42) using the flannel board pictures.

Heavenly Father loves us and wants us to return to live with Him. As part of the plan of salvation, Jesus Christ came to earth to overcome death and to atone for our sins if we repent and obey the commandments. He also organized His church so that with the proper priesthood authority, members would have the ordinances they need to return to live with Heavenly Father.

The first ordinance needed is baptism. The Savior explained this to a man named Nicodemus one night. He told this ruler of the Jews, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God [The Church of Jesus Christ]" (John 3:5).

Before a person is baptized, he or she must have faith in Jesus Christ. He said, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

The person must also repent of his or her sins. Then, when he or she is baptized, his or her sins are washed away. John the Baptist, who held the Aaronic Priesthood, explained to those he baptized, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance" (Matt. 3:11).

When Jesus Christ came to him to be baptized, John did not understand, because he knew that the Savior was sinless. Jesus told him to do it "for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness" (Matt. 3:15). That is, by having John baptize Him, they were showing people how important the ordinance of baptism is.

When the Savior was baptized, Heavenly Father testified to the importance of baptism, too: "The heavens were opened, ... and lo a voice from heaven [said], This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:16-17).

But that is not all. After a person is baptized, he or she is confirmed a member of the Church and given the gift of the Holy Ghost. That is what Jesus meant when He told Nicodemus that a man must be born not only of water but of the Spirit.

The gift of the Holy Ghost is important in the plan of salvation because the Holy Ghost can help us have greater faith in Jesus Christ and guide us in making right choices so that we obey the commandments and repent when we need to. When we do those things—and obtain the further blessings of temple ordinances—thanks to the Atonement of Jesus Christ, we can live with Heavenly Father again.

Activity: "Acrostic Name Poem"

Write each family member's name on a separate piece of paper. Put the papers into a container. Have each family member draw another's name. With the letters in that person's name, create a poem. An acrostic poem is a poem that uses the letters of a word to begin each line vertically. Off of each vertical letter, another word or phrase is written that begins with the same letter. Each letter in the name is the beginning to a positive adjective or positive characteristic about that person. For example, if I drew the name "Jake", my poem may be:

Jack of all trades

Artistic

Kind

Engineer

A dictionary can be very helpful.

Closing Song: "Baptism" (*Children's Songbook* p. 100)

Closing Prayer:



Jesus Christ



Celestial Kingdom

9 Gift of the Holy Ghost

5 Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ

6 Repentance

10 Temple Ordinances

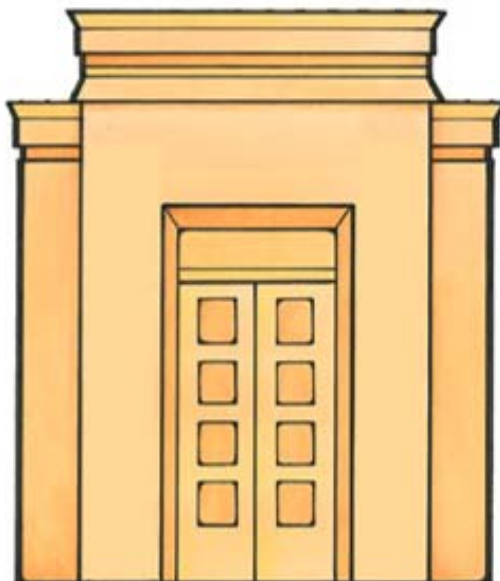
7 Baptism



Nicodemus

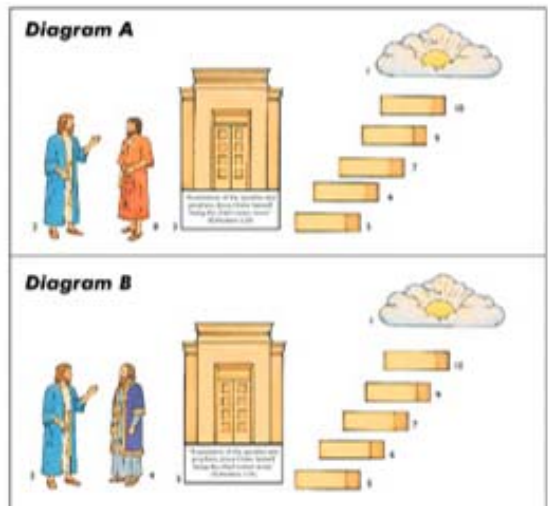


John the Baptist



"Foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Ephesians 2:20)

3



The Prophet Will Tell Us

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "Follow the Prophet" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 110)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets (Amos 3:7).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from "Sharing Time: The Prophet Will Tell Us," *Friend*, Nov. 2001, 30) using the flannel board pictures.

Can you think of someone you know who loves you very much? It might be your parents, your grandparents, or even a favorite Primary teacher. That person would always want you to know when something wonderful was going to happen. They would also warn you about things that might hurt you. Whenever we really love another person, we want them to be happy, to be safe, and to feel our love for him or her. Heavenly Father loves us very much. He wants us to know the things that we can do to be truly happy and safe in this life and to return to Him someday. One way He helps us know what to do is by calling prophets to speak and act for Him here on earth.

In the scriptures, we read the words of many prophets. They told the people of their times the things the Lord wanted them to know and do. Some people listened and were blessed. Others didn't, and their lives were not as happy. Noah, an Old Testament prophet, warned the people of his day to repent. Only his family listened and obeyed. Because they did, they were safe on the Ark when the floods came and destroyed everyone else.

Joseph, who was sold into Egypt by his brothers, told Pharaoh that Egypt should save food during the coming seven years, when food would grow in abundance, because in the seven years following them, there would be a famine. Pharaoh listened to Joseph, and all of Egypt had food to eat during the famine.

Abinadi, a Book of Mormon prophet, warned wicked King Noah and his people that they needed to repent of their sins. Alma listened and obeyed. He repented and helped others to learn the gospel as well. Their lives were happier because they listened to and followed the prophet. Those who didn't listen were destroyed or captured by their enemies.

Because of the great love Heavenly Father has for us, He has sent a prophet, President Gordon B. Hinckley, to teach and guide us today. Like the people in the scriptures, we, too, can choose whether or not to listen to his words and do the things he asks us to do. If we do listen and follow his counsel, we will be blessed. Our lives will be happier, we will be safer, and one day we will return to and live with Heavenly Father.

The Prophet Noah

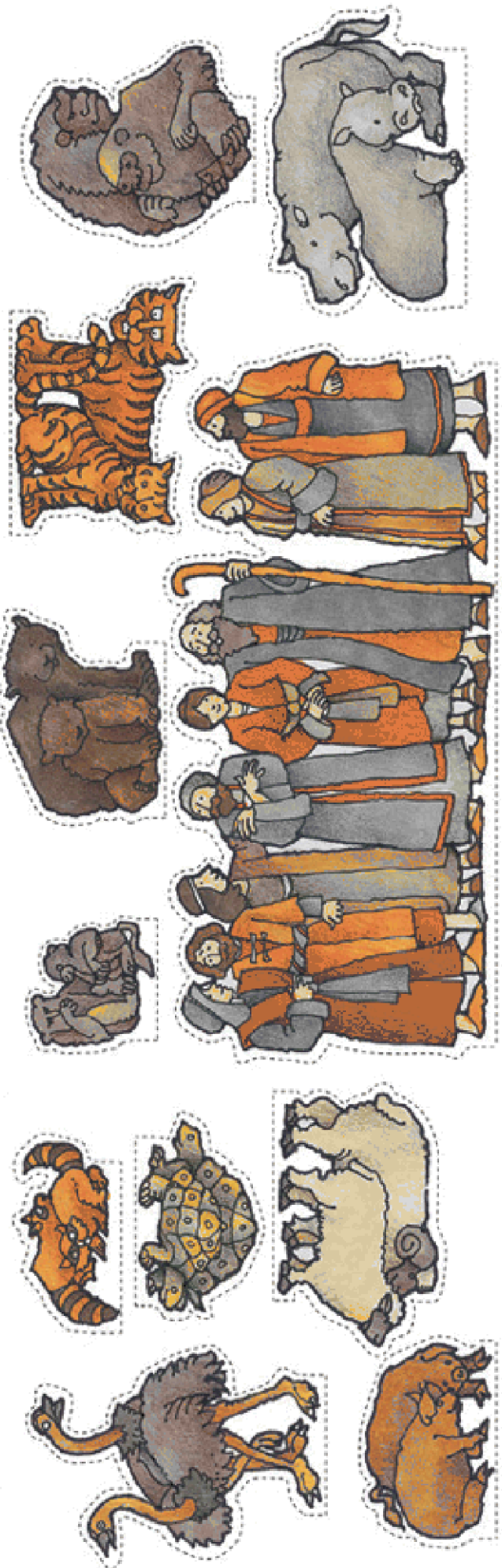
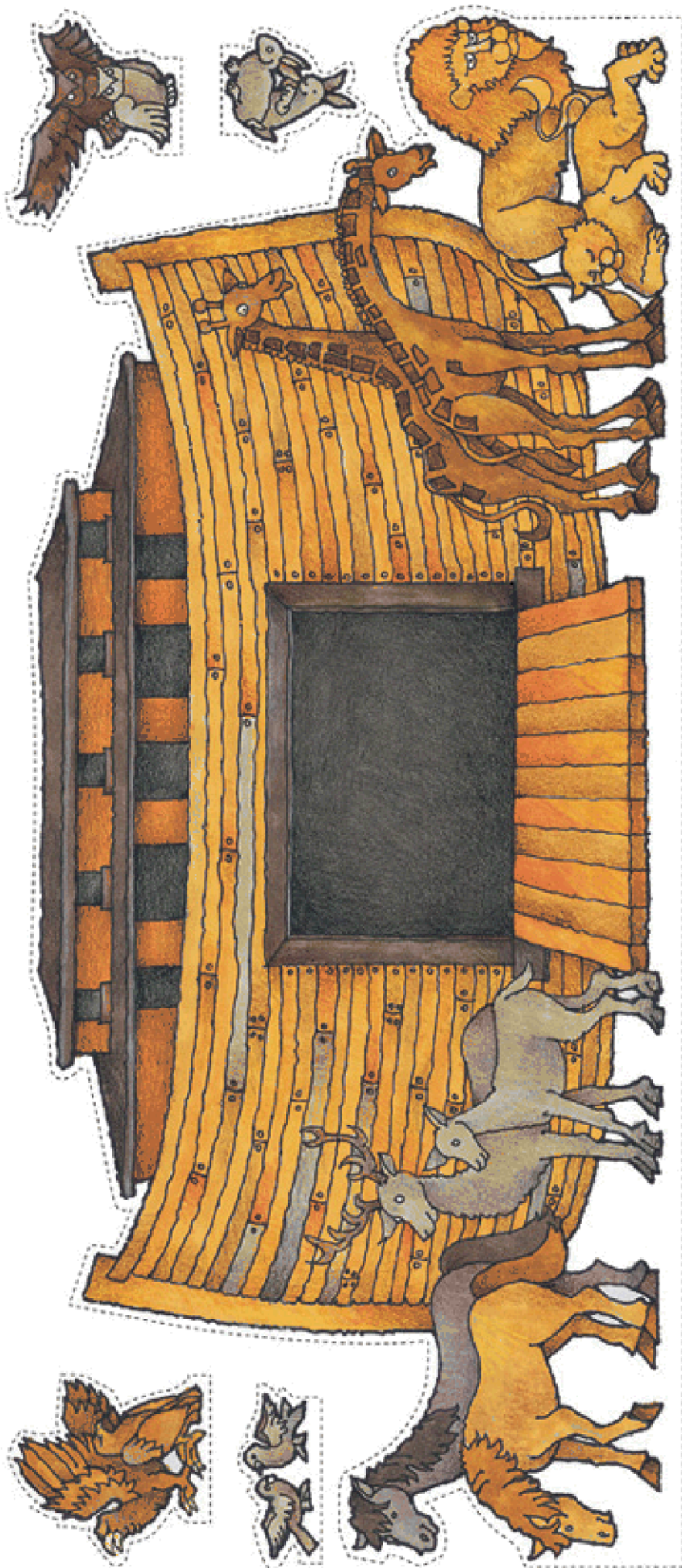
[Remove page 31 from the magazine and glue it onto a piece of heavy paper. When it is dry, cut out the figures along the broken lines and glue a piece of flannel or sandpaper to the back of each one. Using a flannel board, retell the story of Noah warning the people to repent, building the Ark, and gathering his family and the animals into the Ark. Explain that when the floods came to cleanse the earth, Noah, his family, and the animals were safe because they had followed the counsel of the prophet (see Gen. 6:9-7:10, Gen. 7:17-8:22; Moses 8:18, 23-24).]

Activity:

Play a game about how we can sustain members in their callings. In a bag, place the titles of various Church callings, such as Primary teacher, music leader, Scoutmaster, Achievement Day leader. Have a child draw a title from the bag; then ask all the children how many ways they can support the person in that calling. Tell the children we also sustain our prophet, President Hinckley, by our actions. Have them list ways in which we can sustain him and choose one thing they will do during the coming week to sustain him.

Closing Song: "Nephi's Courage" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 120)

Closing Prayer:



Temples and Ordinances
Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "I Love to See the Temple" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 95)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Let this house be built unto my name, that I may reveal mine ordinances therein unto my people (D&C 124:40).

Lesson: Give the following lesson (from "Sharing Time: Temples and Ordinances," *Friend*, Mar. 1993, 12) using the flannel board pictures.

What is an ordinance? The word has special meaning when we use it in the Church. An ordinance is a sacred ceremony that has a spiritual meaning. When we participate in an ordinance, we often make covenants or promises to obey Heavenly Father's commandments.

Look at the pictures illustrated and see if you can identify the ordinances.

Sacrament

Baptism

Blessing a baby

Celestial Marriage

Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost

Baptism for the dead

Sealing

Some ordinances are called saving ordinances. These ordinances are necessary for salvation. Jesus described two saving ordinances when He said, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5). Being born of water means being baptized, and being born of the Spirit means receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost. Other ordinances of salvation and exaltation are sealings and celestial marriage. (See D&C 131:1-2.)

Some ordinances are performed only in holy temples. Some of these ordinances include baptism for the dead, celestial marriage, and sealings.

There are many other ordinances performed in the Church, such as partaking of the sacrament and the blessing of babies.

How grateful we should be for all the ordinances we have. We are particularly blessed to live in a time when we have holy temples upon the face of the earth and are able to receive the blessings of temples ordinances. Without temples those ordinances would not be available for us or for our loved ones who have died. Because of temples, all people who have lived upon this earth can have ordinances of salvation and exaltation performed in their behalf.

When an ordinance is performed, we make a covenant, or promise, with Heavenly Father. [Generally discuss some of the covenants that the children may one day be blessed to make in the temple: morality, obeying the commandments, sharing with others, sacrificing, and being like Jesus.]

Ordinances always include covenants. [Have children pair each ordinance with covenants that are made when the ordinance is performed.]

Ordinance

Sacrament (See Moro. 4; Moro. 5; D&C 20:77-79.)

Covenant

Always remember Jesus

Take His name upon you

Keep His commandments

Ordinance

Baptism (See Mosiah 18:8-10.)

Covenant

Serve the Lord

Keep His commandments

Take His name upon you

Bear one another's burdens

Mourn with those who mourn

Comfort those in need

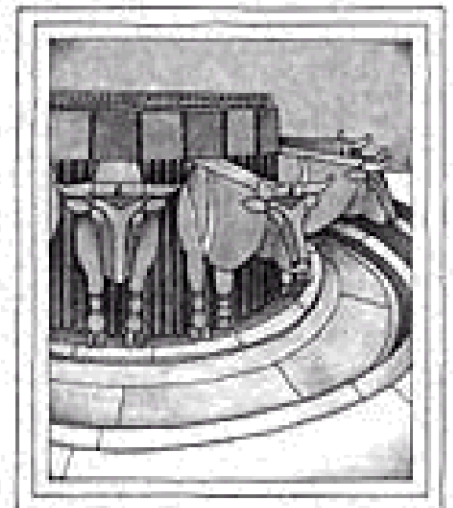
Stand as a witness of God

Activity: "Applaud the Truth."

Start by choosing a leader. The leader stands and faces everyone in the room. The leader now makes a statement about something simple. The leader needs to make sure that the statement is unquestionably either true or false. For example, a true statement would be, "Ducks quack." A false statement would be, "Dogs moo." The leader applauds as soon as he has made the statement, whether it's true or false. All the other players must immediately applaud along with him if the statement is true, but not if it's false. Any player who applauds a false statement, or fails to immediately applaud a true statement, is out of the game until a new round starts with a new leader. The last person eliminated is the new leader.

Closing Song: "Families Can Be Together Forever" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 188)

Closing Prayer:



The Savior's Church, Then and Now

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "I'm Trying to Be like Jesus" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 78)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: For thus shall my church be called in the last days, even The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (D&C 115:4).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from "The Savior's Church, Then and Now," *Friend*, Feb. 2003, 38) using the flannel board pictures.

When Jesus Christ was living on the earth, He organized His church with Apostles and prophets. He also called other priesthood officers, including Seventies. When He restored His church through the Prophet Joseph Smith, it had the same foundation of Apostles and prophets. He declared that we are to follow the prophet, because it is the prophet who teaches us what He, the Lord, wants us to know and do (see D&C 1:38). Each time that He organized His church, the Lord called the prophets and the Apostles and the Seventies to go to all the world to preach His gospel (see Mark 16:15; Luke 10:1; D&C 107:23, 25).

What are some of the teachings of the gospel of Jesus Christ? The Savior Himself showed us by His example as well as by His words. He healed the sick. He was a peacemaker. He was baptized. He prayed. He loved everyone. He testified of Heavenly Father and the plan of salvation. He always chose the right, doing what Heavenly Father wanted Him to do.

He taught that we should study the scriptures, help people, comfort those who are sad, honor our parents, be peacemakers, pray often, have faith and testify of Him and Heavenly Father, be baptized, love everyone, obey the commandments.

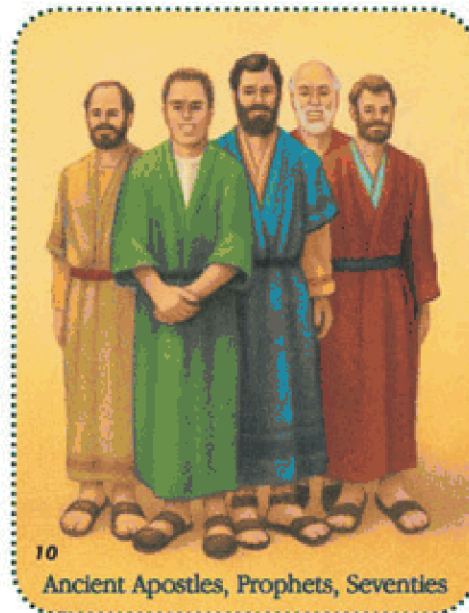
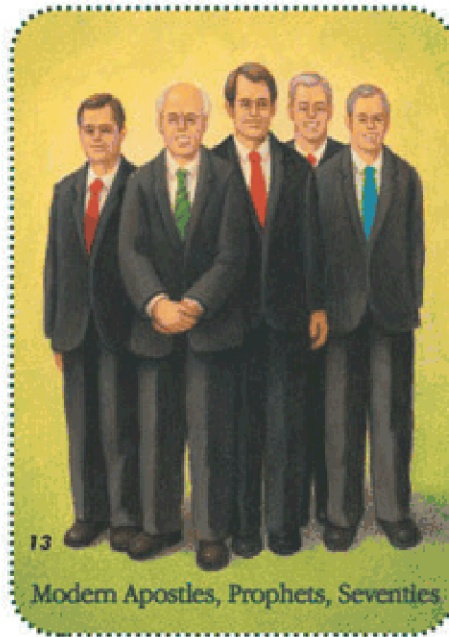
As members of His church today, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we promise to follow Him by doing these things.

Activity:

Prepare a tray with twenty miscellaneous objects on it. To begin the game, bring the tray and set it down in front of everyone for one minute, then remove the tray from the room. Each person then writes down as many objects as they can remember. The winner is the player who has correctly remembered the most items on the tray. You can also play the game as a team. After the tray is removed, out loud, see if the whole family can remember all twenty items on the tray.

Closing Song: "Jesus Once Was a Little Child" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 55)

Closing Prayer:



The Wise Man and the Foolish Man

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “The Wise Man and the Foolish Man” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 281)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Faith, if it hath not works, is dead. ... I will shew thee my faith by my works. (James 2:17-18).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “The Wise Man and the Foolish Man,” *Friend*, July 1999, 47) using the flannel board pictures.

While He was in Galilee, Jesus Christ gave the Sermon on the Mount. In it, he taught His disciples the Beatitudes and to be a good example to the world. He taught them that it was wrong to be angry with or hate anyone, even their enemies. Not only should His disciples do what is right, but their thoughts should be righteous, too. He taught the principles of prayer, forgiveness, and seeking “first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness” (Matt. 6:33).

Jesus said that to live with Him in the kingdom of heaven, His disciples needed to learn the gospel and to live it. He explained: “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

“And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

“And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

“And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.” (Matt. 7:24-27.)

We have many opportunities to learn the gospel of Jesus Christ. We can show that we have faith that the gospel is true by choosing the right each day. If we do, we will be like the wise man—building our lives upon the solid foundation of the gospel and preparing ourselves to live again with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.

Activity: “It seems like...”

The person in charge of the activity (the leader) collects 10 objects from around the house and puts them on a tray in another room. All of the players need to be blindfolded before the tray is brought into the room with the players. The players need to be seated near each other. The leader then passes all ten objects around from player to player till each has had a chance to quickly feel each object. No talking is permitted. The leader then leaves the room with the objects and returns with paper and pencils. The blindfolds are removed, and the players are given three minutes to list all ten objects. The winner is the player who correctly identified and remembered the greatest number of objects.

Closing Song: “Choose the Right Way” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 160)

Closing Prayer:



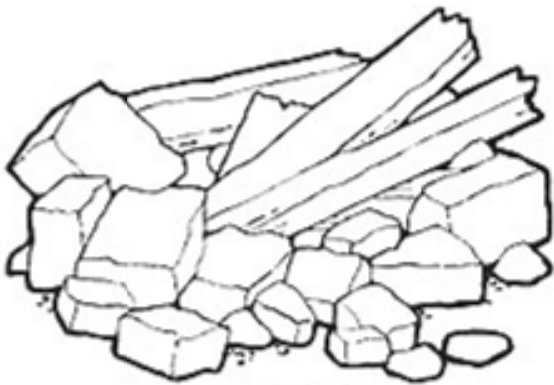
House



Wise man



Foolish man



Fallen house



Storm: Rain, wind, floods



Rock hill



Sand hill



House



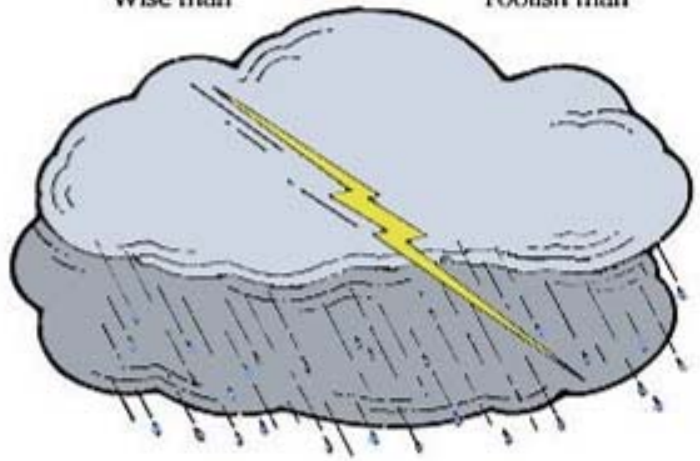
Wise man



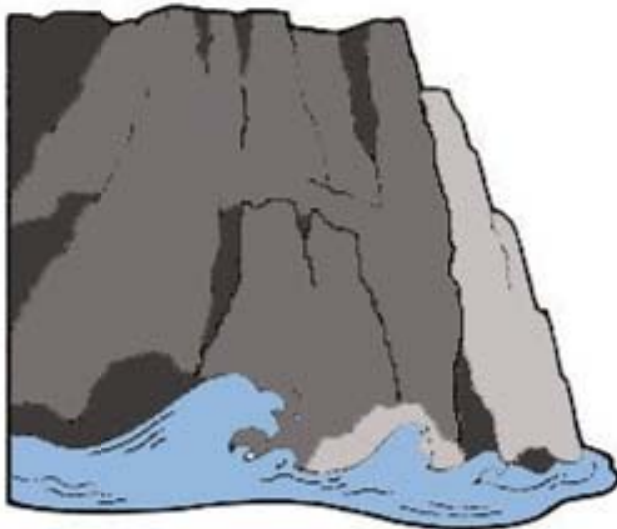
Foolish man



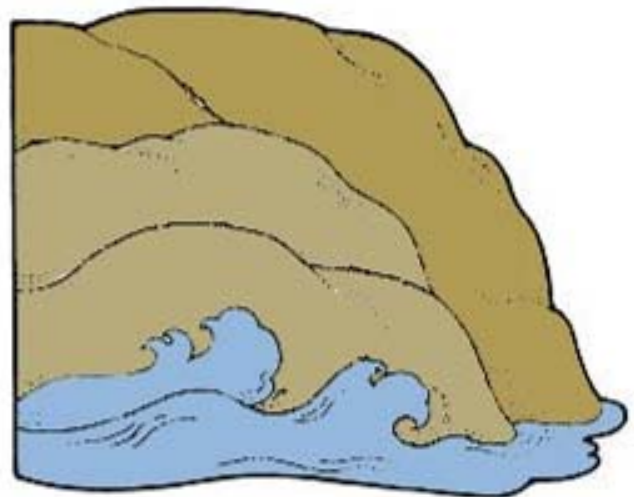
Fallen house



Storm: Rain, wind, floods



Rock hill



Sand hill

The Resurrected Christ Teaches About Baptism:
What Happens When I Am Baptized?
Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “When I Am Baptized” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 103)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: And now, because of the covenant which ye have made ye shall be called the children of Christ, his sons, and his daughters (Mosiah 5:7).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “The Resurrected Christ Teaches About Baptism: What Happens When I Am Baptized?” *Friend*, Mar. 2000, p. 39) using the flannel board pictures.

When the resurrected Savior visited the Nephites, one of the first things He taught them was the fullness of the gospel. (They had had only the law of Moses before Jesus came to them with the new covenant.) He called Nephi, the grandson of Helaman, forward and gave him the authority to baptize and do other ordinances in the gospel. He called others and gave them the same power. (See 3 Ne. 11:18, 21-22.)

Then Jesus said, “Whoso repenteth of his sins through your words, and desireth to be baptized in my name, on this wise shall ye baptize them—Behold, ye shall go down and stand in the water, and in my name shall ye baptize them.

“And now behold, these are the words which ye shall say, calling them by name, saying:

“Having authority given me of Jesus Christ, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

“And then shall ye immerse them in the water, and come forth again out of the water.” (3 Ne. 11:23-26.)

In 1830, the baptismal prayer was revealed again to Joseph Smith. In keeping with this revelation, the prayer now begins, “Having been commissioned of Jesus Christ, ...” (D&C 20:73).

People today are baptized in the same way and by the same authority that was given to Nephi and others so long ago. Those being baptized must be at least eight years old, they are immersed in the water, and they receive a remission of their sins. Soon afterward, they are confirmed members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. They are on the path toward eternal life.

Eight-year-old Jared Nephi Arvidson of Raymond Terrace, New South Wales, Australia, loves to read about his namesakes in the Book of Mormon. When he was baptized, two of his nonmember teachers from school came and were very impressed with the special night.

Activity: “Keep a Straight Face”

Choose someone to be “it.” The challenge for this person is to make the others laugh, or at least crack a smile. This person must go from player to player and tell a ridiculous problem. Each player must then provide a semi-sensible solution to the problem without smiling, laughing, grinning, or showing any signs of amusement. “It” has two tries (can tell two problems) to make each player not keep a straight face. Players must also keep a straight face when “it” tells the other players these same two problems. Anyone who can keep a straight face during both rounds is a winner. Here are a couple examples of ridiculous problems: My roast chicken just flew out the window. My sister wants to be a frog when she grows up.

Closing Song: “I Like My Birthdays” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 104)

Closing Prayer:



Jesus teaching the Nephites



Jesus giving power to baptize to the Nephite disciples

Modern boy
greeting two of his
nonmember
schoolteachers



Modern
boy being
baptized





Jesus teaching the Nephites



Jesus giving power to baptize to the Nephite disciples

Modern boy greeting two of his nonmember schoolteachers



Modern boy being baptized



Remembering Jesus Christ Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “To Think about Jesus” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 71)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: If ye love me, keep my commandments (John 14:15).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “Remembering Jesus Christ,” *Friend*, June 1999, 10) using the flannel board pictures.

Jesus Christ and His disciples went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. This was a special time for the Jewish people to remember when they were in Egypt and the angel of death had “passed over” the children of Israel and killed only the firstborn of the Egyptians. Pharaoh had then finally allowed Moses and his people to leave (see Ex. 12:21-39).

As the time came near to prepare the feast of unleavened bread (a feast associated with Passover, when the children of Israel didn’t have time to wait for bread to rise), the disciples asked Jesus, “Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover?” (Matt. 26:17).

The Savior answered, “When ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in.

“And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?”

“And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready.” (Luke 22:10-12.)

When Jesus Christ and His disciples gathered together and began to eat, He told them that one of them would betray Him. Alarmed, each of them asked, “Lord, is it I?” He told them that it would be the one who ate out of the same dish with Him. When Judas asked if it was him, the Savior said, “Thou hast said.” (See Matt. 26:21-25.)

The Savior knew that the time for His atoning sacrifice and death was near. To help His disciples always remember Him, He introduced the sacrament:

“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is in remembrance of my body which I give a ransom for you.

“And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

“For this is in remembrance of my blood of the new testament, which is shed for as many as shall believe on my name, for the remission of their sins.

“And I give unto you a commandment, that ye shall observe to do the things which ye have seen me do, and bear record of me even unto the end.” (Matt. 26:26, including footnote b; Matt. 26:27; JST, Matt. 26:24-25, page 804, LDS Appendix.)

Just as the disciples of old partook of the sacrament, we, too, can partake of the sacrament in church each Sunday. The sacrament prayers tell us that if we always remember Jesus Christ and keep His commandments, we will always have His Spirit with us.

Activity:

Take a piece of string or yarn long enough to make a large circle, thread it through two empty spools, and tie the ends together. Have the children stand in a circle and hold on to the yarn. As the music is played, the children move the spools along the yarn. When the music stops, the two children who are holding the spools tell one way they can prepare for the time when Jesus comes again, or one way they’ve kept the commandments that day.

Closing Song: “The Sacrament” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 72)

Closing Prayer:



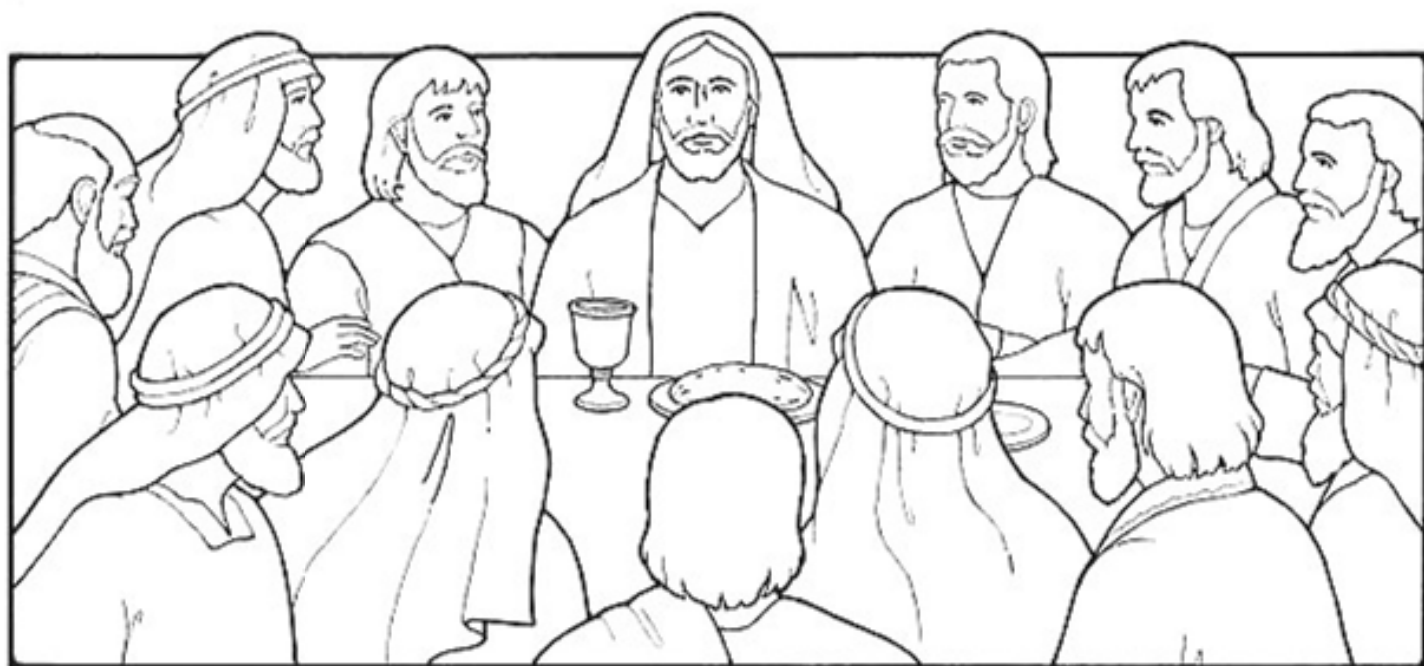
Man with a pitcher of water



Sacrament cup



Unleavened bread



Jesus Christ with the Twelve Apostles



Man with a pitcher of water



Sacrament cup



Unleavened bread



Jesus Christ with the Twelve Apostles

Saul's Conversion

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "A Child's Prayer" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 12)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him (James 1:5).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from "Saul's Conversion," *Friend*, Nov. 1999, 39) using the flannel board pictures.

At the time of Christ, Saul was born in Tarsus, a coastal city now located in Turkey. He was a Jew, and as he grew older, he diligently studied the scriptures. After the Savior's death, Saul, with the permission of the Jewish leaders, began to persecute and jail Christians. He believed that they were teaching false doctrine and leading many Jews away from the truth. Saul also received permission from the high priest in Jerusalem to go to the city of Damascus, 130 miles (208 k) away, and arrest anyone teaching about Jesus Christ in the synagogues there.

"And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

"And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

"And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. ...

"And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do." (Acts 9:3-6.)

Saul arose and found that he was blind. Those traveling with Saul led him to Damascus and to the home of a man named Judas. For three days Saul remained there, not eating or drinking. He prayed for help in understanding what the Lord wanted him to do.

Meanwhile, a Christian named Ananias received a vision that he should find Saul and give him a priesthood blessing to restore his sight. Knowing that Saul had persecuted and jailed many Saints in Jerusalem, Ananias was afraid, but the Lord assured him that Saul had changed.

Ananias found Saul and gave him the blessing. "He received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

...

"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God." (Acts 9:18, 20.)

Because Saul prayed to know the Lord's will and was obedient after being blinded, his sight was restored and he learned and accepted the gospel of Jesus Christ. He was known from then on as Paul, and he dedicated his life to teaching and testifying of the Savior and His gospel.

Activity: "Coffeepot"

In this game, the word "coffeepot" is substituted for an action, and "It" has to guess what the action is by asking questions. The person who is chosen to be "It" first leaves the room. The other players then decide what the action will be. (for example: walk the dog, do the dishes, brushing teeth, swimming) Please make sure the action is a fairly common action, and not something like fly to the moon. When an action is agreed upon "It" comes back in the room and can ask questions of those in the room. "It" asks questions like these: Do men coffeepot more often than women? Do you coffeepot? Do you coffeepot at home? Do you coffeepot everyday? Do you coffeepot in a special place? Do you need special equipment to coffeepot?

Closing Song: "Search, Ponder, and Pray" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 109)

Closing Prayer:



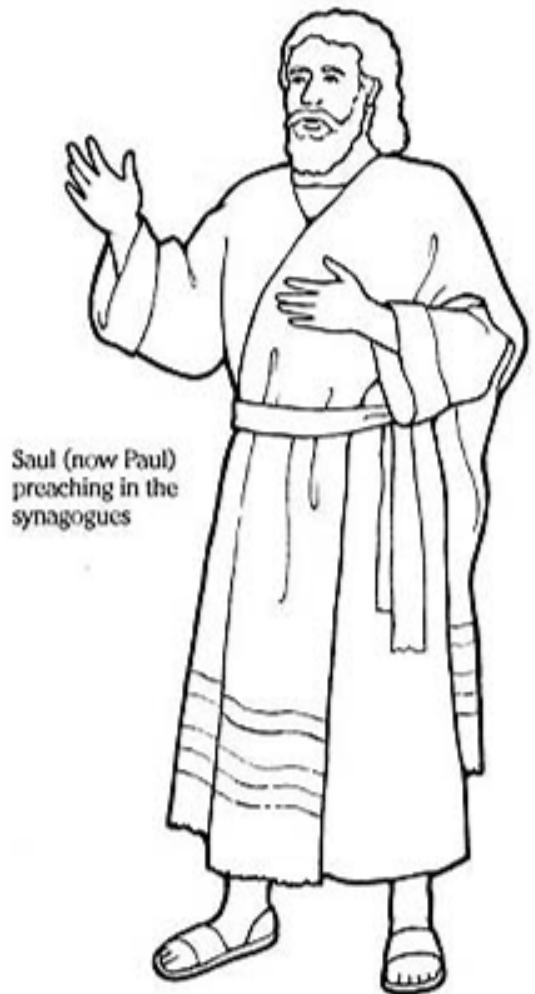
Saul receiving a vision
on the road to Damascus



Saul praying



Ananias blessing Saul



Saul (now Paul)
preaching in the
synagogues



Saul receiving a vision
on the road to Damascus

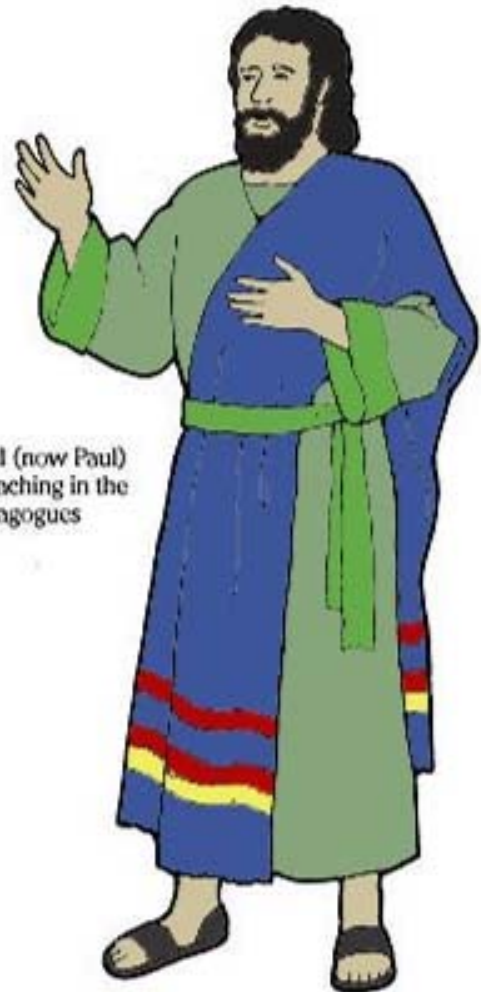


Saul praying



Ananias blessing Saul

Saul (now Paul)
preaching in the
synagogues



Ammon's Example: How Do I Show That I am Keeping My Baptismal Covenant? Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "Dare to Do Right" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 158)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Lesson: Tell the story, "Ammon's Example: How Do I Show that I am Keeping My Baptismal Covenant?" (*The Friend*, October 2000), using the flannel board pictures.

After being converted to the gospel, Ammon, one of the sons of Mosiah, dedicated his life to missionary work among the Lamanites. When Ammon first went to the Lamanite city of Ishmael, he was captured and brought before the ruler of the land, King Lamoni. Ammon asked the king if he could live there. Lamoni was so impressed that he offered to let Ammon marry one of his daughters. Instead, Ammon chose to be a humble servant of the king.

As Ammon and other servants of King Lamoni tended his flocks, another group of Lamanites attacked them and scattered the sheep. The other servants knew that the king would be very angry and would perhaps even kill them for not keeping the flocks together. Ammon encouraged them to gather the sheep, which they did.

The attackers again came to scatter the flocks. Ammon saw this as an opportunity to gain favor with the other servants and with the king, and thereby have a chance to preach the gospel. He commanded the other servants to circle the flocks and protect them. Then, with the Lord's help, he fought off the attackers, "and they were not few in number" (Alma 17:37). (He cut off their arms.)

The other servants rushed to tell King Lamoni about Ammon's strength and power. Lamoni was astonished and asked, "Where is this man that has such great power?"

And they said unto him: Behold, he is feeding thy horses.

Now when king Lamoni heard that Ammon was preparing his horses and his chariots he was more astonished, because of the faithfulness of Ammon, saying: Surely there has not been any servant among all my servants that has been so faithful as this man; for even he doth remember all my commandments to execute them." (Alma 18:8-10.)

Lamoni was so impressed by Ammon's example of strength and righteousness that he was willing to listen when Ammon began to teach him the gospel, which eventually led to the conversion of Lamoni and many of his people.

Like Ammon, eleven-year-old Katrina Dalton of Allen, Texas, has learned how to be a good example to those around her. One day while playing basketball at school, Katrina noticed that some of the kids in her class were saying mean things to a boy who is partially deaf. Katrina made sure that she was kind to him, and she became so concerned about him that she talked privately to the teacher to make her aware of the problem. The teacher was able to stop the bad behavior and later thanked Katrina.

Activity: "Paper Bag Game"

Everyone forms a circle with a paper bag in the middle (it should be open and standing up as if you are ready to put something in it.) The object of the game is to bend down and pick up the bag with your mouth - hands behind your back and one leg up in the air. If you fall or touch the floor with your hands - you are out. When everyone has attempted it, the bag is cut about an inch, and the remaining people continue to try to pick up the bag with their mouth. Continue this until only one person is left.

Closing Song: "I'm Trying to Be Like Jesus" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 78)

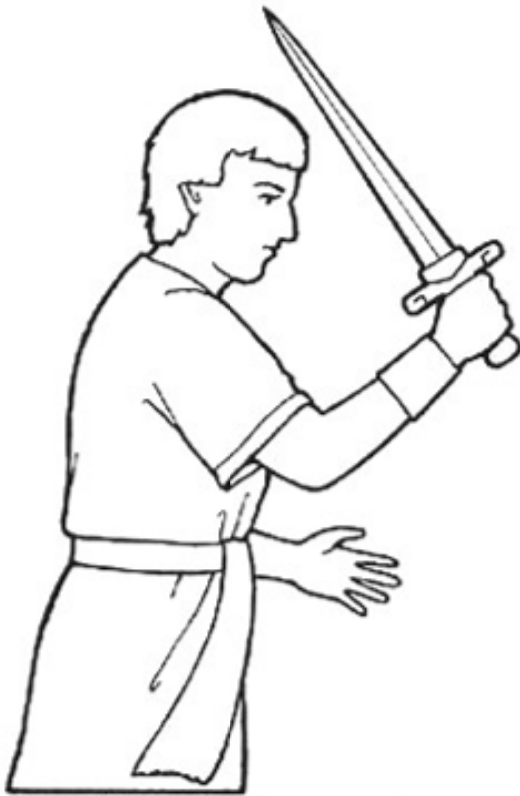
Closing Prayer:



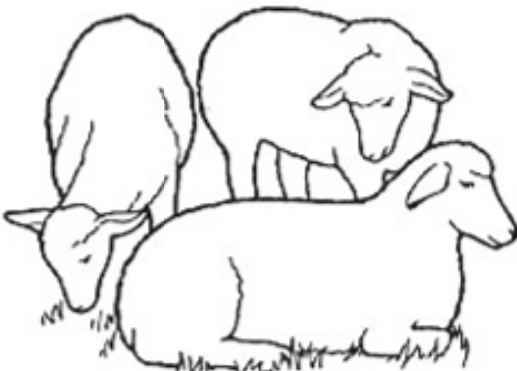
Ammon bound and standing before king



Ammon feeding a horse



Ammon raising his sword





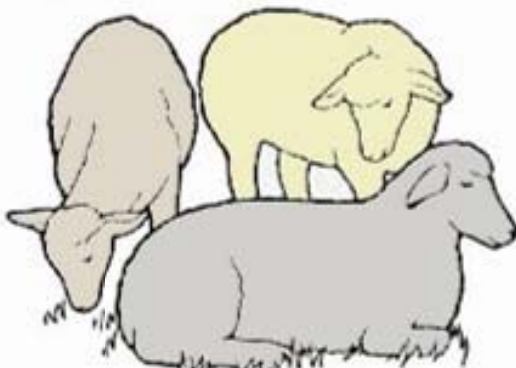
Ammon bound and standing before king



Ammon feeding a horse



Ammon raising his sword



The Army of Helaman:
How Can “My Gospel Standards” Help Me Keep My Baptismal Covenant?
Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Army of Helaman” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 172)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments (1 John 2:3).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “The Army of Helaman: How Can ‘My Gospel Standards’ Help Me Keep My Baptismal Covenant?” *Friend*, Aug. 2000, p. 34) using the flannel board pictures.

The sons of Mosiah, great Book of Mormon missionaries, converted many Lamanites to the gospel of Jesus Christ. This group of Lamanites had been a wicked, murderous people, and now they wanted to show Heavenly Father that they were sorry for their past sins. So they made a covenant with Him that they would never again shed the blood of another man, and they buried their weapons.

A group of wicked Lamanites wanted to start a war with these converts. Because the righteous, who now called themselves Anti-Nephi-Lehies, had promised not to fight anymore, the Nephites who were defending them were being killed. The Anti-Nephi-Lehies wanted to help the Nephites but were persuaded to not break their covenant. Their sons, however, had been too young to make the covenant. Under the leadership of Helaman, these two thousand sons went to battle against the wicked Lamanites.

These young warriors are described as “exceedingly valiant for courage, and also for strength and activity; but behold, this was not all—they were men who were true at all times in whatsoever thing they were entrusted.

“Yea, they were men of truth and soberness, for they had been taught to keep the commandments of God and to walk uprightly before him.” (Alma 53:20-21.)

Because of the righteousness and integrity that the two thousand young men displayed, the Lord watched over them and kept them safe. They were able to fight for the liberty of their people, and not one of them was killed.

Just as those young warriors were rewarded for being righteous, we will also be blessed for being honest in all our dealings and remaining pure.

Although seven-year-old Caylen Craven of Pawhuska, Oklahoma, has not ever had to go to war, he is a “stripling warrior” because he has learned how to be honest, too. One day while walking through the airport with his family, he saw a man in front of him accidentally drop some money. Even though he is normally very shy around strangers, Caylen ran to pick up the money and return it to its owner.

Caylen’s mother wrote, “We were thankful that his first reaction was to do the right and honest thing, that he didn’t even think about keeping the dollar.”

Activity: “This is my Nose”

Players stand in a circle with “It” in the center. “It” approaches any player and while holding his own elbow, says quickly, “This is my nose.” That player must quickly put her hand on her nose and say, “This is my elbow.” If she doesn’t respond correctly or takes longer than the count of five, she becomes “It.” If she is correct, “It” must choose another victim and two other body parts to confuse. The game continues until the leader calls time. The leader could go from one to another in turn, and then change to suddenly confront a player across the circle from the last “victim,” insuring that everyone has a chance to play.

Closing Song: “I Believe in Being Honest” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 149)

Closing Prayer:





The Baptism of Jesus Christ

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "He Sent His Son" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 34)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:5).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from "The Baptism of Jesus Christ," *Friend*, Aug. 1999, p. 15) using the flannel board pictures.

At the beginning of Jesus Christ's ministry, He traveled from Galilee to the Jordan River. John the Baptist was there preaching and baptizing the people. Jesus went to John and asked to be baptized. John did not want to do it, because he thought that Jesus should baptize him. He asked Jesus why He needed to be baptized. The Savior explained that He needed to be baptized to be obedient to the commandments of Heavenly Father.

"And John went down into the water and baptized him.

"And Jesus when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water; and John saw, and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon Jesus.

"And lo, he heard a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear ye him." (JST,

Matt. 3:44-46, page 802, LDS edition of the King James Bible.)

Jesus Christ set the example for us to be baptized. He has told us, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (**John 3:5**). When we are baptized, we make a covenant, or promise, to Heavenly Father to:

! "come into the fold of God" [become a member of His Church]

! "be called his people" [take upon us the name of Christ]

! "[be] willing to bear one another's burdens"

! "comfort those that stand in need of comfort" [help others]

! "stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places" [testify of Christ and set a good example]

! "serve him and keep his commandments." (See **Mosiah 18:8-10**.)

Each Sunday in church when we take the sacrament, we should remember Jesus Christ's Atonement as well as the promises we made to our Heavenly Father when we were baptized.

Activity: "Thankful Game"

Sit in a circle and start a rhythm by first clapping hands against lap, second, clapping hands together, and third, snapping twice. Pick a letter from the alphabet and announce it to the group. First person starts on the first beat (saying a word on each beat) "Thanks for _____." Fill in the blank with any blessing you can think of that starts with the chosen letter. The next person must not skip a beat. They must start on the lap clap and say "Thanks for _____." Choosing a different blessing that starts with the chosen letter. If someone skips a beat, repeats a blessing that's already been stated, or can't think of anything in time, he or she is out of the game. When someone gets out, choose a new letter of the alphabet.

Closing Song: "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 57)

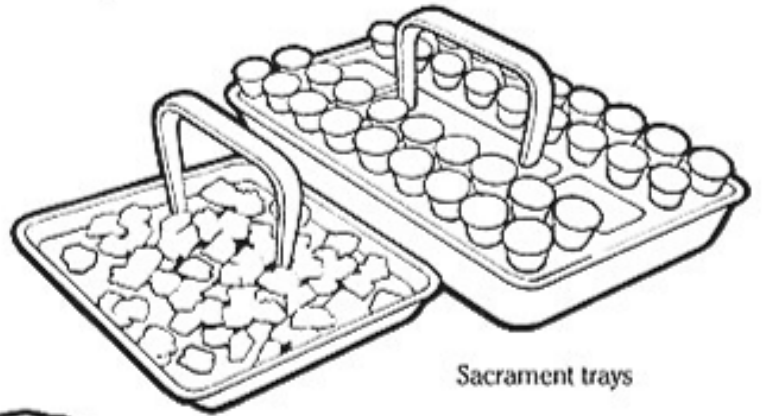
Closing Prayer:



Heavens opening up



Dove



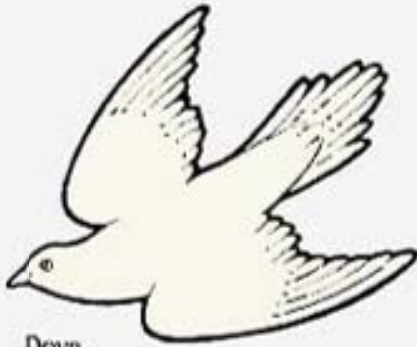
Sacrament trays



John the Baptist baptizing Jesus Christ in the Jordan River



Heavens opening up



Dove



Sacrament trays



John the Baptist baptizing Jesus Christ in the Jordan River

The Brother of Jared Sees Jesus
Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Beautiful Savior” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 62)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Jesus showed himself unto this man in the spirit (Ether 3:17).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “The Brother of Jared Sees Jesus,” *Friend*, Jan. 1992, p. 39) using the flannel board pictures.

I feel reverent when I learn about Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.

The Brother of Jared learned that Jesus has a body.

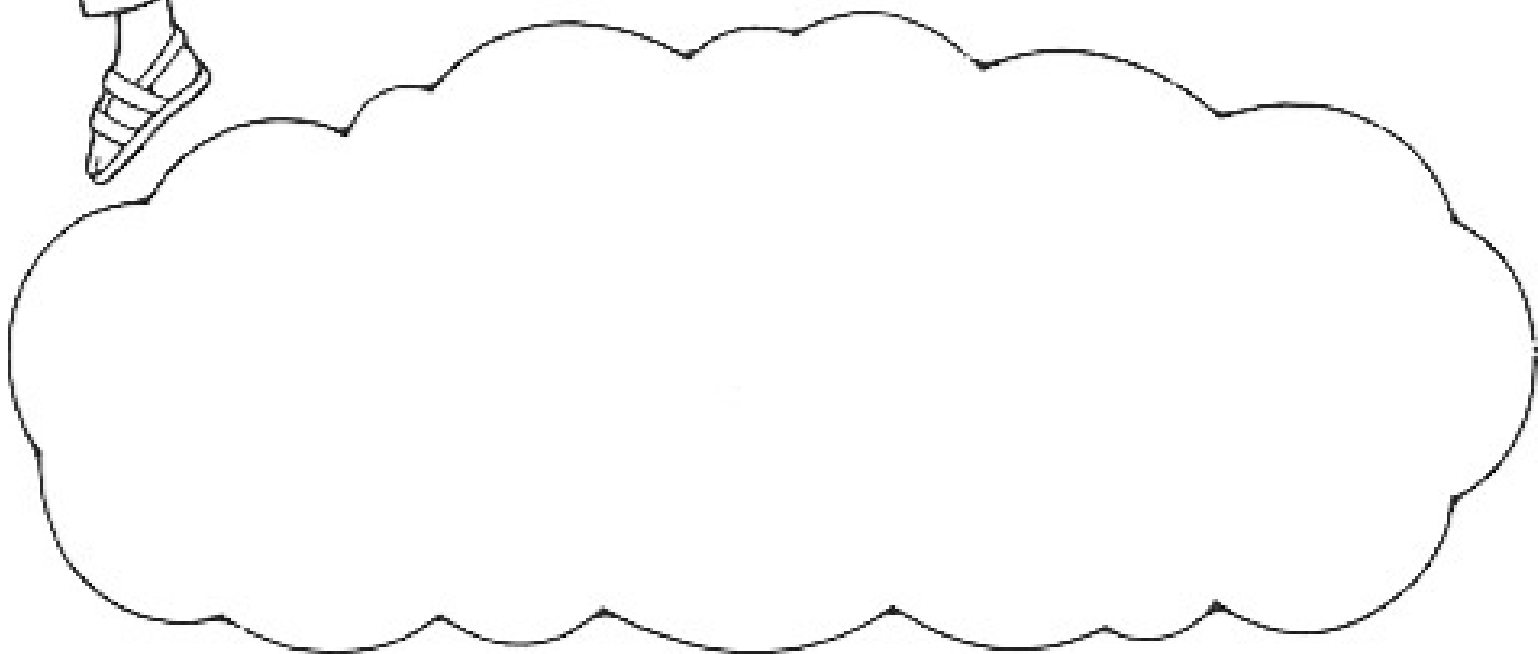
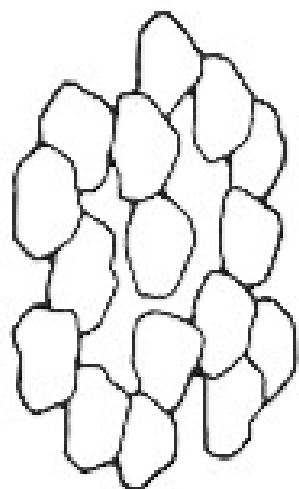
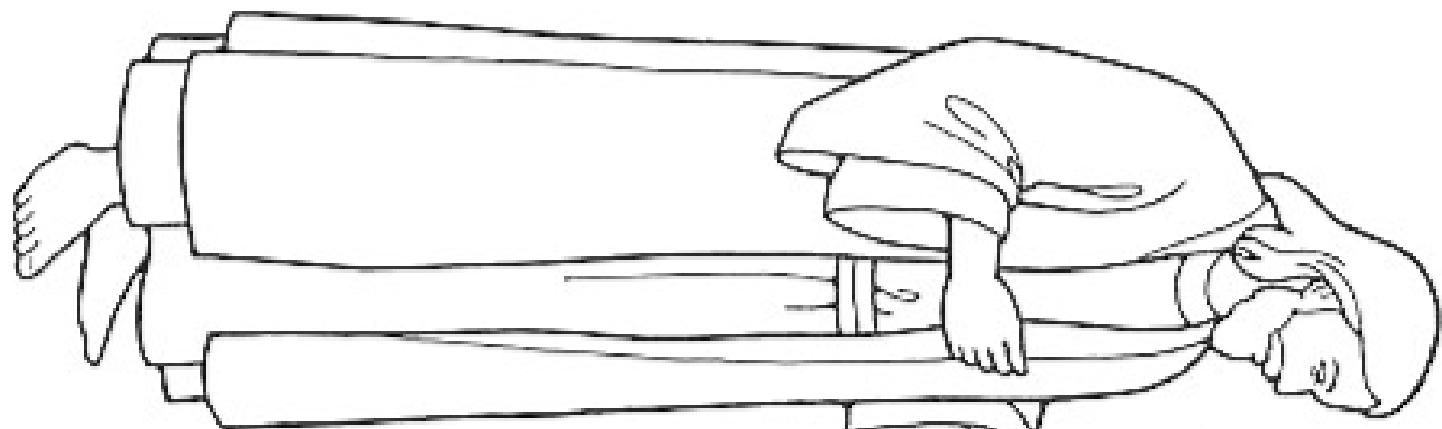
Read: Ether 2:14-23; Ether 3

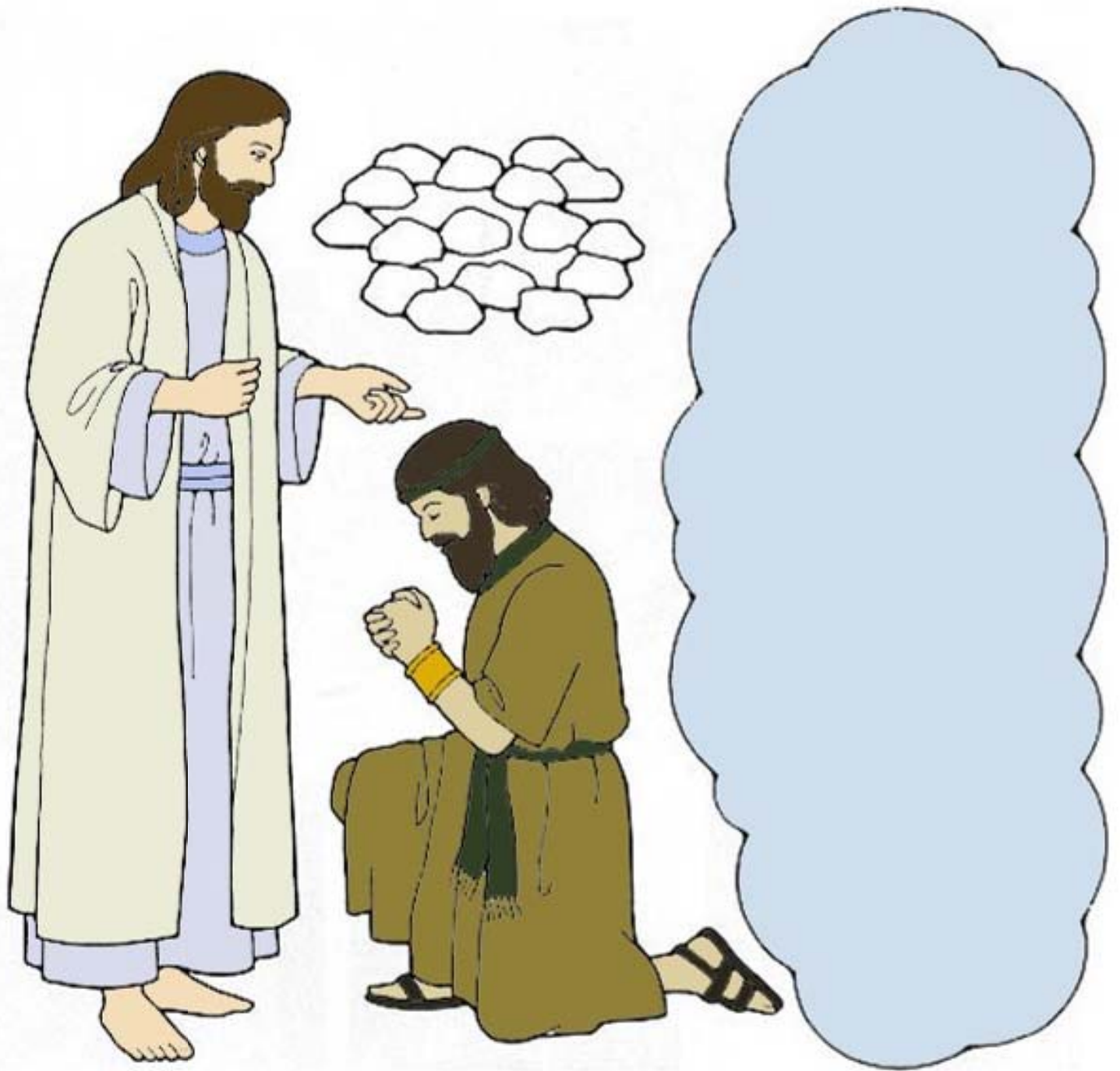
Activity: “Jericho and Jerusalem”

Players stand facing the leader. When the leader calls “Jerusalem,” all players bend their knees. When he calls “Jericho,” all stand still. Players must do what the leader says, not as he does. To confuse the players, the leader could bend his knees and call, “Jericho.” When players bend their knees at the wrong time or do not bend when they should, they sit down. The last to sit down is the winner and can be the leader on the next round.

Closing Song: “I Know My Father Lives” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 5)

Closing Prayer:





The Creation B Each Day a Gift

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: AMy Heavenly Father Loves Me@ (*Children=s Songbook*, p. 228)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Thou shalt thank the Lord thy God in all things (D&C 59:7).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from AThe CreationCEach Day a Gift,@ *Friend*, Nov. 1998, p. 34) using the flannel board pictures.

When the great plan of happiness was presented in the Council in Heaven, we shouted for joy. Thanks to our Father in Heaven and His Son Jesus Christ, we were given the opportunity to progress, to learn, to grow, and to become like Them. What a great blessing!

This great plan included the creation of a beautiful world, where we would come to live our mortal lives. The Creation took six days and was done by Jesus Christ under the direction of Heavenly Father.

First, God divided the light from the darkness, making day and night.

Then, on the second day, He organized the heaven and the earth.

On the third day, He divided the land from the waters and created grass, flowers, trees, fruit, and herbs.

On the fourth day, He created the sun, moon, and stars.

The fish and fowl were created on the fifth day.

On the sixth day, Jesus Christ created the animals. Then Heavenly Father created man A in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them@ (Gen. 1:27).

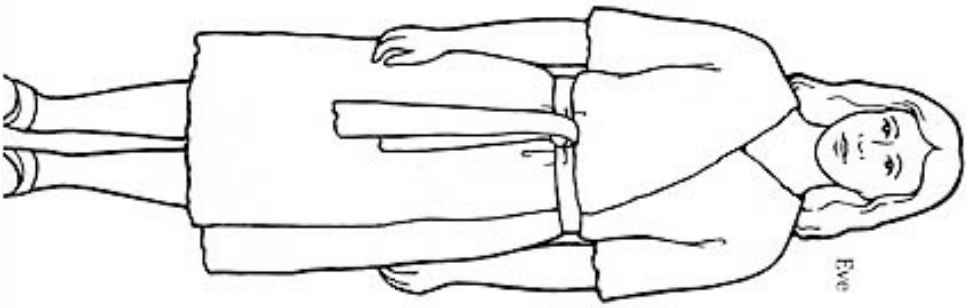
What a great deal we have to be thankful for! Life=s whole experience and all the beauties around us are gifts from our Father, who loves us.

Activity: AGratitude Game@

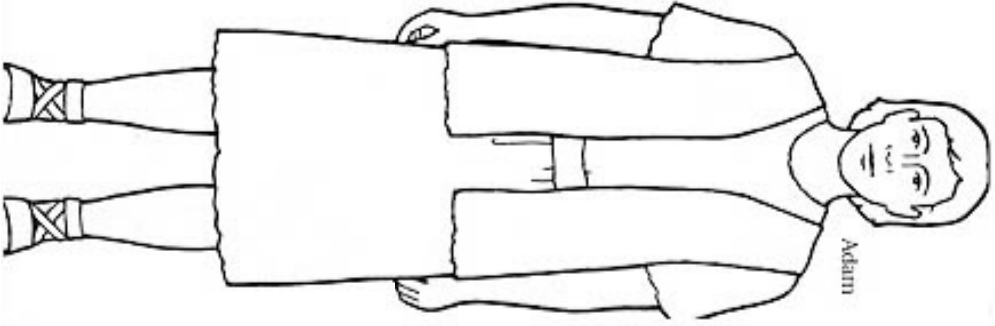
Tell everyone to think of an original blessing that they are especially grateful for. Have them write it down. After everyone has written their blessing down, pull out the dry erase board (or a large pad of paper) and take turns having each person draw their blessing. Everyone must guess what the drawing depicts (it=s like Pictionary). Make sure you don=t tell them in the beginning that they=ll be drawing, because that will influence what they write down.

Closing Song: APopcorn Popping@ (*Children=s Songbook*, p. 242)

Closing Prayer:



Eve



Adam



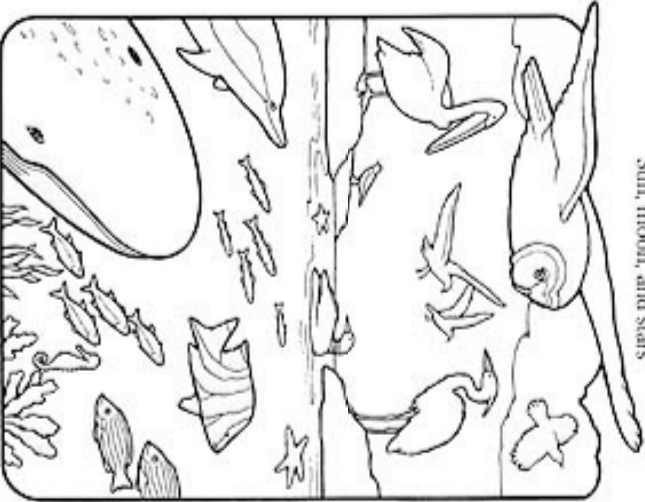
Animals



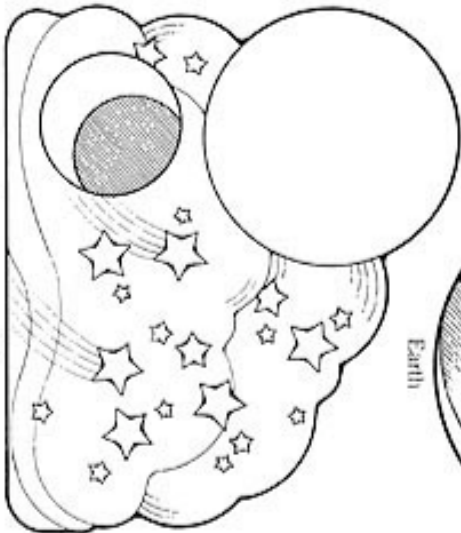
Trees, flowers, etc.



Light, darkness



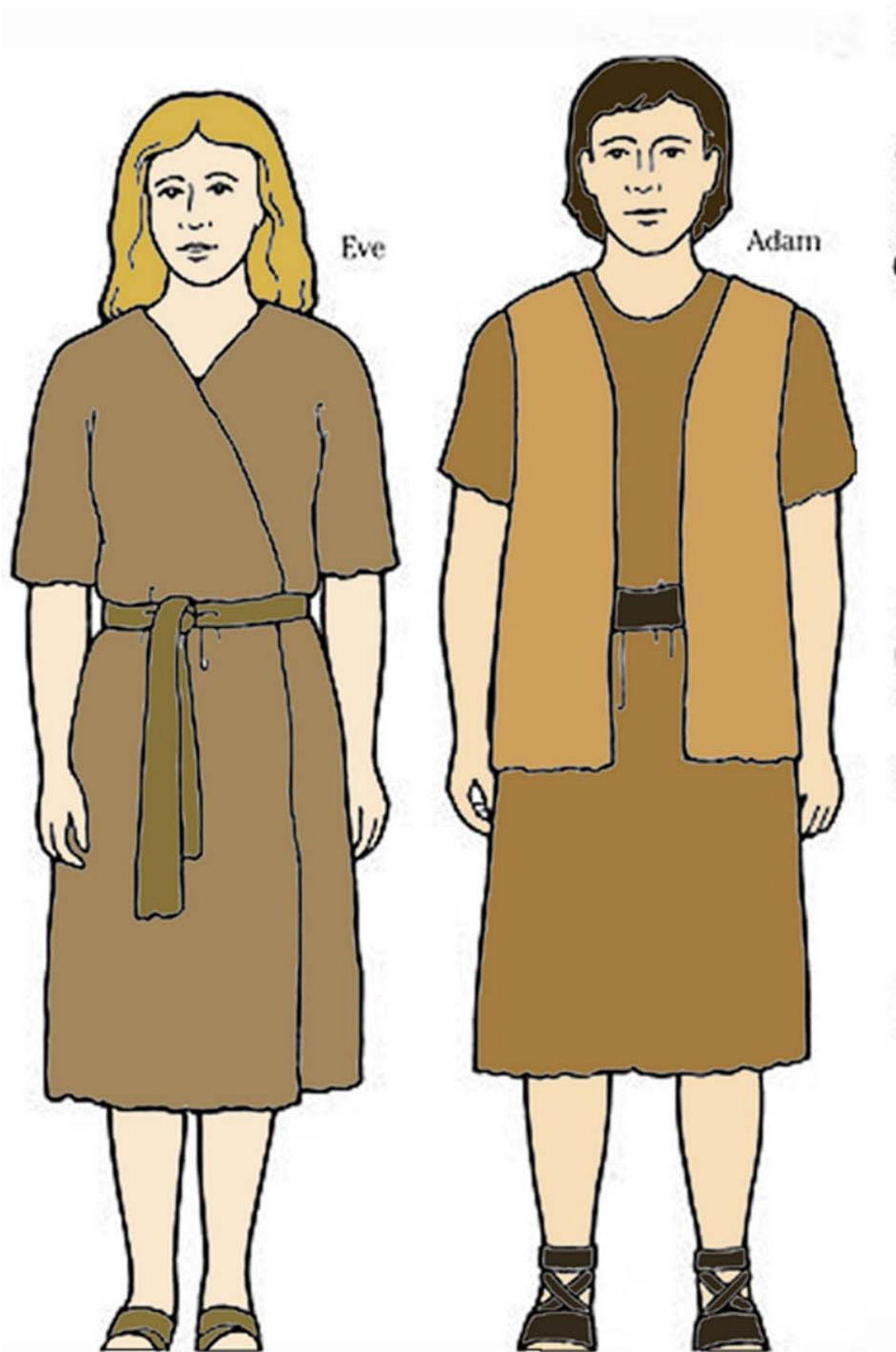
Fish and fowl



Sun, moon, and stars

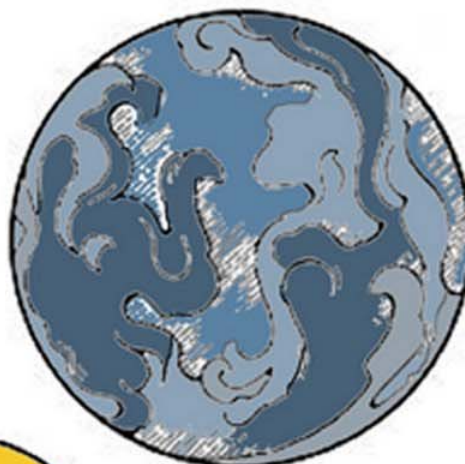


Earth

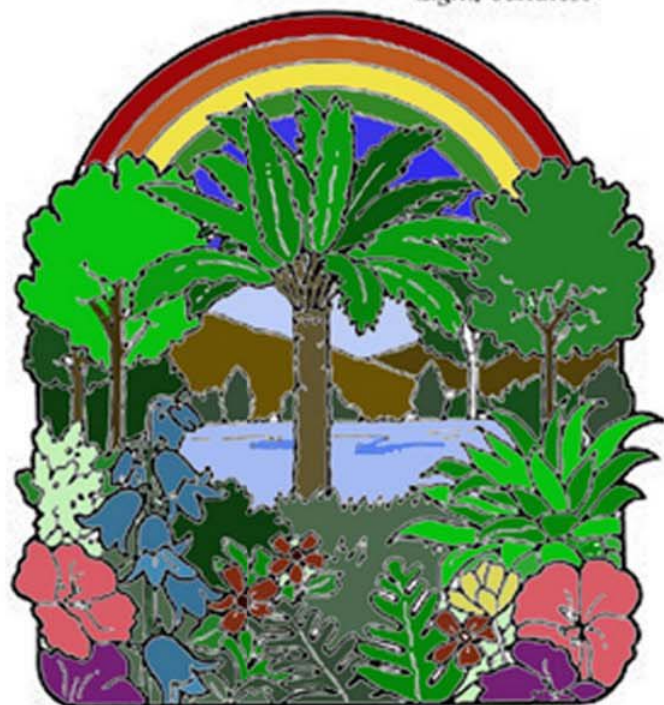




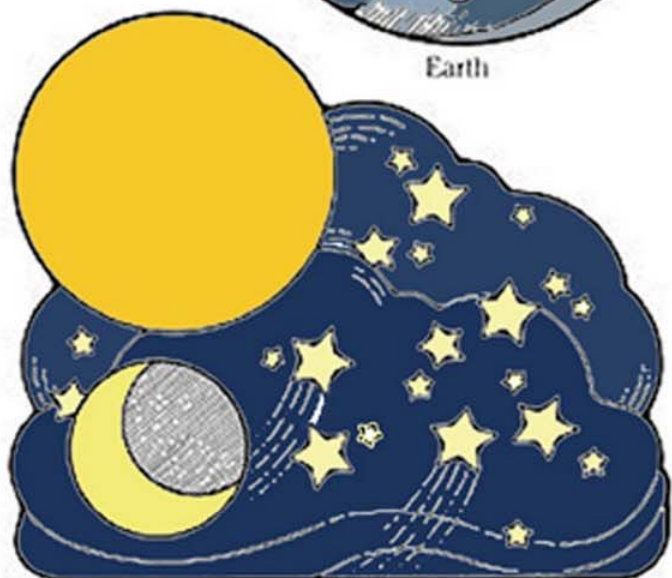
Light, darkness



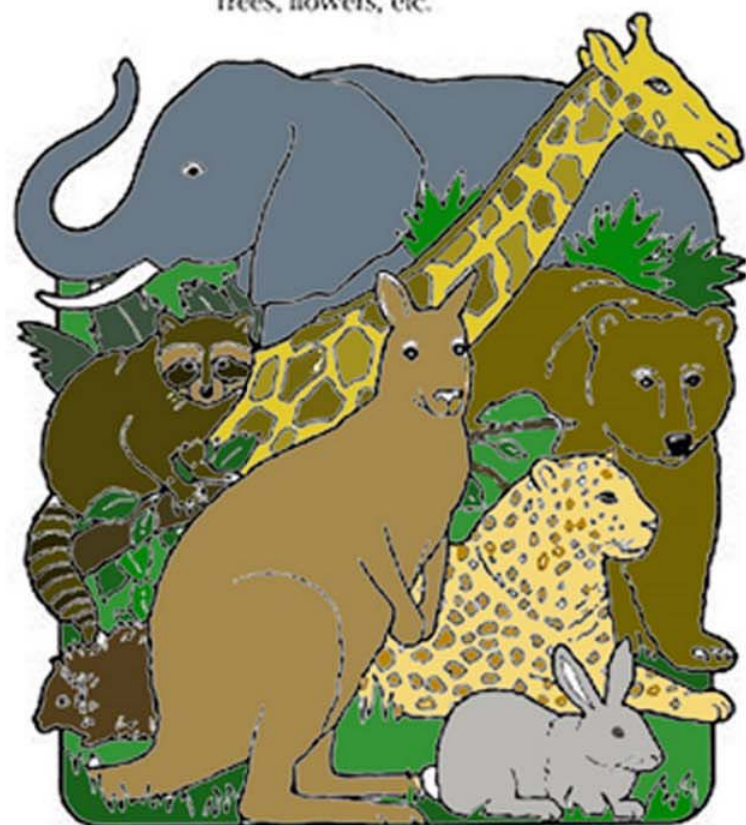
Earth



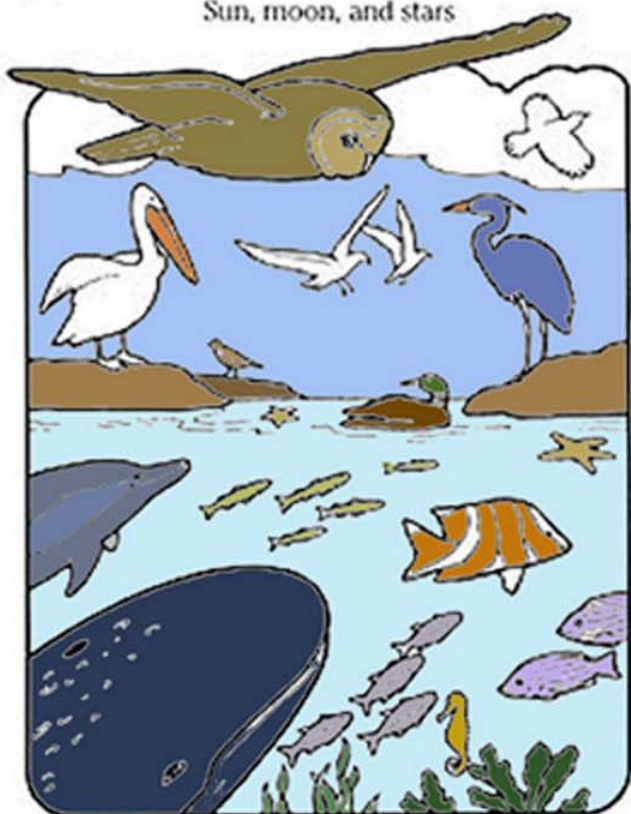
Trees, flowers, etc.



Sun, moon, and stars



Animals



Fish and fowl

Follow the Prophet

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Keep the Commandments” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 146)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: I will ... open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it (3 Ne. 24:10).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “Follow the Prophet,” *Friend*, May 2001, p. 42) using the flannel board pictures.

Enoch was the great-great-great-great-grandson of Adam, and the great-grandfather of Noah. Adam ordained Enoch (gave him the priesthood) when he was twenty-five years old. Enoch “saw the Lord, and he walked with” Him for 365 years. He wrote a book that will come forth in the “due time” of God.

The Lord came to Enoch and told him to warn the people, “All men, everywhere, must repent, or they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there, or dwell in his presence.”

Enoch was to tell the people that after they had repented, they should be baptized. The people who believed the prophet Enoch and followed him were blessed. When their enemies came to fight them, he “spake the word of the Lord, and the earth trembled, and the mountains fled, even according to his command; and the rivers of water were turned out of their course; and the roar of the lions was heard out of the wilderness. ...

“There also came up a land out of the depth of the sea, and so great was the fear of the enemies of the people of God, that they fled and stood afar off. ...

“And from that time forth there were wars and bloodshed among them; but the Lord came and dwelt with his people. ...

“And the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness. ...

“And lo, Zion, in process of time, was taken up into heaven. And the Lord said unto Enoch: Behold mine abode forever.”

Enoch was shown all the peoples of the earth—during the time of Noah, the time of Jesus Christ, and in the last days. At that time, the Lord said, He would prepare “an Holy City, ... for there shall be my tabernacle, and it shall be called Zion, a New Jerusalem. ...

“Then shalt thou [Enoch] and all thy city meet them there, ... and we will kiss each other.”

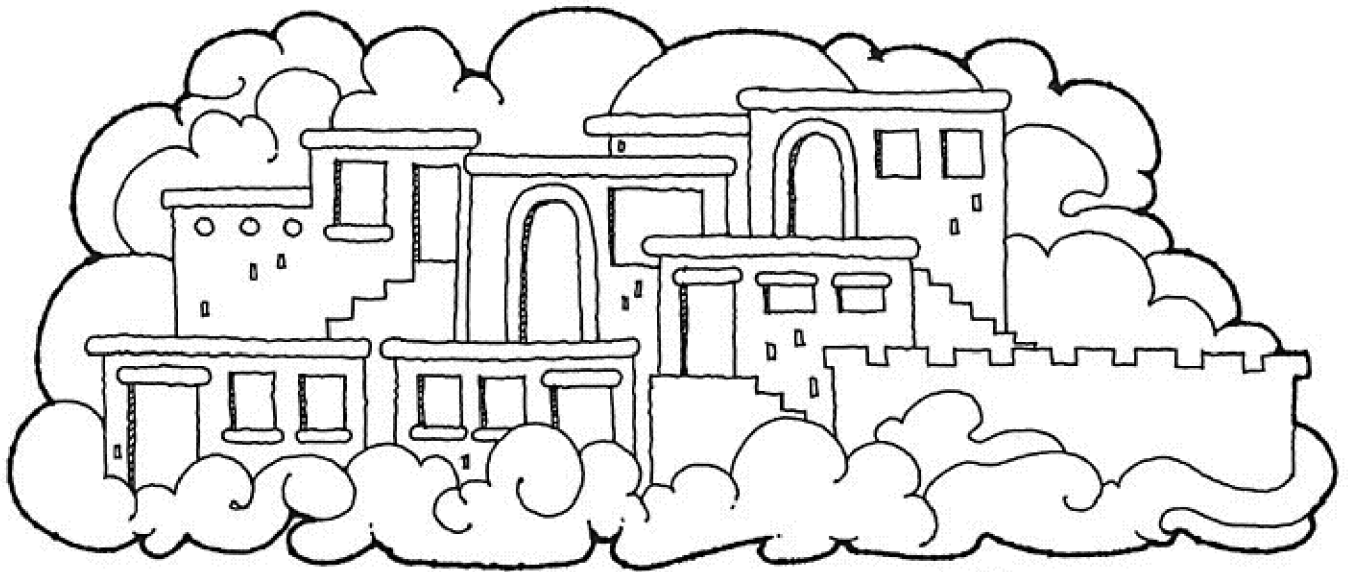
The people who believed the prophet Enoch, and had faith in Jesus Christ, and kept His commandments were blessed to live with Him in Zion forever.

Activity: “I’ve Got a Bright Idea”

When the leader picks an object, she says, “I’ve got a bright idea.” Let’s say she selected a plant. Any player can ask, “How’s it like me?” The leader then uses her ingenuity to come up with comparisons to the player that asked but not enough to give it away right off. For instance, the leader might say, “It’s alive.” Whoever guesses the identity of the object is the leader of the next round.

Closing Song: “Teach Me to Walk in the Light” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 177)

Closing Prayer:



The Good Samaritan

Opening Song: "Love One Another" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 136)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you (John 13:34).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from "The Good Samaritan," *Friend*, May 1999, p. 39) using the flannel board pictures.

One day a lawyer asked Jesus Christ, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" The Savior asked what the lawyer thought that the law said he needed to do, and the lawyer replied, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself."

"Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live," Jesus said.

"Who is my neighbour?" the man asked.

Jesus answered by telling him a parable.

A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho when thieves attacked him. They took his clothes, beat him, and left him near death.

When a Jewish priest came down the road and saw the wounded man, he crossed to the other side of the road to avoid him and continued his journey.

Next a Levite, also a citizen of Judah, approached. He looked at the wounded man, then he, too, crossed the road and went on his way without helping the man.

Finally a man from Samaria came along the road. The Jews and the Samaritans were bitter enemies, but the Samaritan saw that the injured man needed help. He bandaged the man's wounds, put him on his pack animal, took him to an inn, and cared for the injured man there. When the Samaritan left the next day, he paid the innkeeper to look after the man until he got better. He promised that if caring for the man cost more, he would pay the innkeeper the next time he was there.

"Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?" Jesus asked the lawyer.

When the lawyer said, "He that shewed mercy on him." Jesus said, "Go, and do thou likewise." (See Luke 10:25-37.)

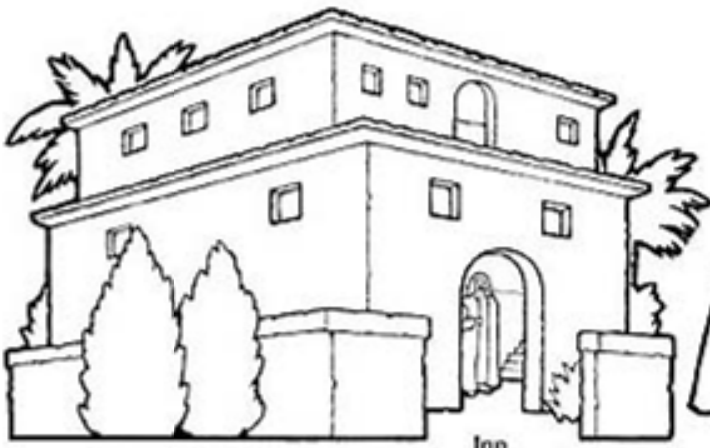
We should each follow Jesus Christ's example by loving and caring for one another. As we do, we will know that Jesus' teachings are true and our faith in Him will grow.

Activity: "Do You Love Your Neighbor?"

Choose someone to be "it" and have them stand in the center of the circle of chairs, everyone else should take a seat. "It" then goes up to one of the seated people and asks, "Do you love your neighbor?" the person then chooses to say "yes" or "no". If they say "yes" then the person's two neighbors (the ones seated directly to their left and right) have to switch seats before "it" can steal one of their chairs. Who ever is left standing is "it". If the person says "no" they then says, "but I love people who _____." They fill in the blank with anything pertaining to one or more players. Those players must then leave their seat and try to find a new one before "it" steals their chair. **For Example:** It asks me, "Do you love your neighbor?" and I reply, "No, but I love people wearing red." Everyone playing with red somewhere on their body must get up from their seat, including myself since my shirt has red on it. The it person takes my seat, I take player two's seat who was wearing red socks, and player two is left standing because no one else was wearing red. Player two is now "it" and asks player 4 if they love their neighbor. Player four says yes, and the two people seated on the right and left of player 4 must switch seats.

Closing Song: "'Give,' Said the Little Stream" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 236)

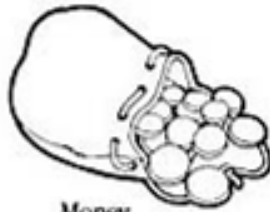
Closing Prayer:



Inn



Levite



Money



Priest



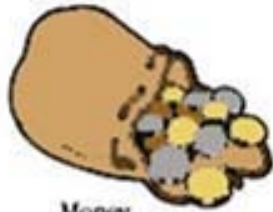
Good Samaritan



Wounded man



Inn



Money



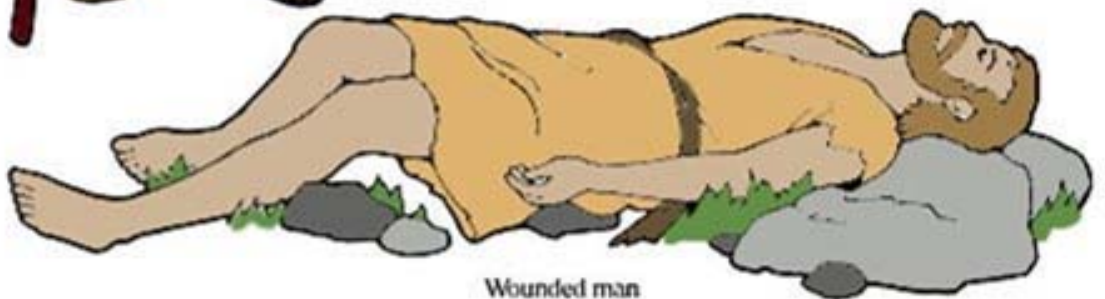
Levite



Priest



Good Samaritan



Wounded man

The Good Shepherd

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: *A Little Lambs so White and Fair* (Children's Songbook, p. 58)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: If ye have faith ye hope for things which are not seen, which are true (Alma 32:21).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from *The Good Shepherd*, Friend, Jan. 1999, p. 39) using the flannel board pictures.

Sometimes when Jesus Christ taught, He used stories. One of the Savior's stories was that of the Good Shepherd. He taught that a good shepherd does not sneak into the sheepfold, but goes in through the door. He goeth before [his sheep], and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice (John 10:4).

A he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber (John 10:1).

A hired shepherd can shepherd rarely loves the sheep he watches as much as a good shepherd does. If a wolf attacks the flock, a shepherd may run away to save his own life, leaving the wolf to scatter and kill the sheep. A good shepherd owns his sheep. They are his, and he takes care of them. He will do anything necessary to protect his sheep, even die for them.

Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd. He suffered and died for us so that we could return to Heavenly Father. We are His sheep if we will listen to His voice and follow Him. We do this by keeping the commandments, studying the scriptures, and obeying the prophets and the promptings of the Holy Ghost. We may not actually see the Savior in this life. But if we have faith in Him and follow His voice, He will protect us and lead us in the correct paths.

Activity: A Obstacle Race

The group gathers in one room and is shown an obstacle course consisting of a bowl, a block, and a book placed in a line on the floor about three feet apart. Show where they will stand to start and let them study the locations of everything carefully. Then the players leave the room and decide who will go through the obstacle course first. Meanwhile, a parent removes the obstacles in the other room. Blindfold the first player and bring her into the room to the starting place. As she walks the course very carefully, gasp, scream, and laugh, to fool her. When she has finished the course, take off the blindfold. She'll be surprised but happy to provide sound effects for the next person to be brought into the room to repeat the blindfolded maneuver. The gasps and screams will get louder as you continue to the last player.

Closing Song: *I Feel My Savior's Love* (Children's Songbook, p. 74)

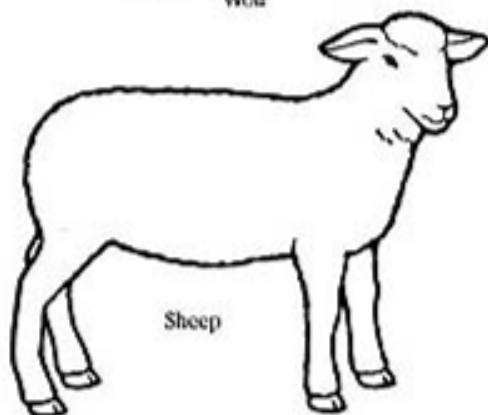
Closing Prayer:



Hired shepherd



Wolf



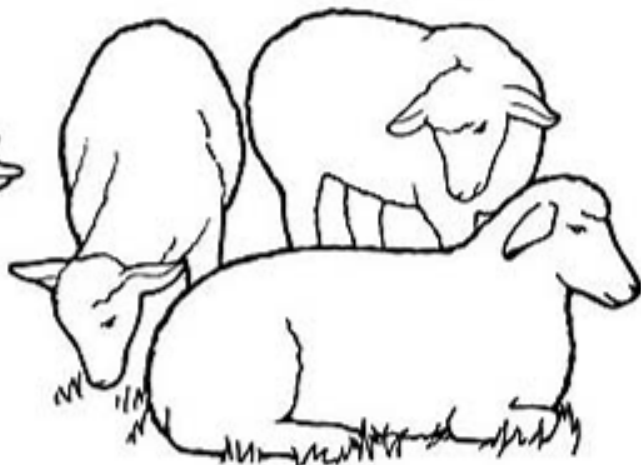
Sheep



Jesus Christ as the Good Shepherd



Thief, who doesn't enter by the door



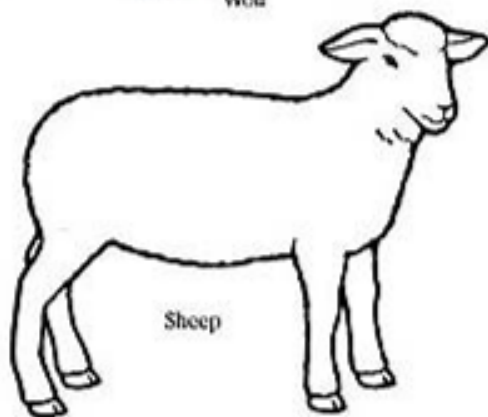
Sheep



Hired shepherd



Wolf



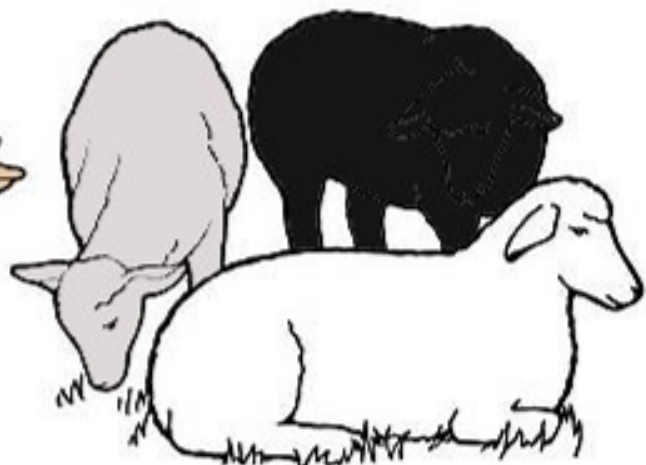
Sheep



Jesus Christ as the Good Shepherd



Thief, who doesn't enter by the door



Sheep

The Nephite Disciples Baptize: What Does Heavenly Father Promise Me When I Am Baptized?

Opening Song: “I Believe in Being Honest” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 149)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: And if ye do always remember me ye shall have my Spirit to be with you (3 Ne. 18:7).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “The Nephite Disciples Baptize: What Does Heavenly Father Promise Me When I Am Baptized?” *Friend*, May 2000, p. 42) using the flannel board pictures.

After the resurrected Christ had authorized (given His authority to) twelve Nephite disciples to perform baptisms for the new covenant in the fulness of the gospel, He told them, “Whoso believeth in me, and is baptized, the same shall be saved; and they are they who shall inherit the kingdom of God” (3 Ne. 11:33).

This was a wonderful promise, and the Savior soon added another. Speaking of these disciples, He told the people, “Blessed are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen from among you to minister unto you, and to be your servants; and unto them I have given power that they may baptize you with water; and after that ye are baptized with water, behold, I will baptize you with fire and with the Holy Ghost” (3 Ne. 12:1).

Jesus taught many marvelous things before going back to heaven. Near the end of His first day’s visit, He authorized His disciples, in the new covenant, to give the Holy Ghost to others. (See 3 Ne. 18:36-37.)

The next day, so many people were there that the disciples divided them into twelve groups to teach them. Then the whole multitude “did pray for that which they most desired; and they desired that the Holy Ghost should be given unto them” (3 Ne. 19:9).

Nephi went down into the water and baptized many people. “And it came to pass when they were all baptized and had come up out of the water, the Holy Ghost did fall upon them, and they were filled with the Holy Ghost and with fire” (3 Ne. 19:13).

Those who are baptized today still receive the gift of the Holy Ghost as a constant companion and guide if they are worthy. Nine-year-old Kendall Hand of Glen St. Mary, Florida, has felt this guidance. He recalls: “When I was baptized on my eighth birthday, I was so happy! I knew that I was following Jesus’ example. After my baptism, we had a birthday party at a nearby park. Some of my friends and family gave me money as birthday presents. I added it to what I had earned that summer, then hid it.

“When I went to get it a few days later, I couldn’t find it. I said a prayer—still no money. Weeks passed—still no money. In the meantime, I earned five dollars for helping my dad. I decided to use those five dollars to pay tithing on the money I had lost. I knew that now that I was a baptized member of the Church, Heavenly Father expected me to pay my tithing. I put the money into a tithing envelope and gave it to the bishop. It felt good.

“That Sunday afternoon I had an idea to look in my closet in a box where I keep my old hats. There was my money! Mom told me that it was the Holy Ghost who gave me that idea. She said that Heavenly Father will bless us if we try to do what’s right. It was right for me to pay my tithing.”

Activity: “Upset the Fruit Basket”

All players sit in a circle. Everyone chooses the name of a fruit. “It”, who stands in the center, calls out the names of two fruits, such as apple and pear. As those two players exchange seats “It” tries to steal one of their seats. If “It” is successful, the player who lost his seat becomes “It”. If not successful “It” calls out two other fruit names. At any time “It” can say, “Upset the fruit basket.” At that call, everyone must move to another seat. “It” is sure to find a seat in the general confusion.

Closing Song: “Dare to Do Right” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 158)

Closing Prayer:



Modern boy paying his tithing



Jesus teaching the Nephite disciples



People being filled with the Holy Ghost



Nephi baptizing



Modern boy paying his tithing



Jesus teaching the Nephite disciples



People being filled with the Holy Ghost



Nephi baptizing

The Nephites Learn of the Sacrament: How Does Partaking of the Sacrament Help Me Remember My Baptismal Covenants?

Opening Song: “To Think about Jesus” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 71)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me (Luke 22:19).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “The Nephites Learn of the Sacrament: How Does Partaking of the Sacrament Help Me Remember My Baptismal Covenants?” *Friend*, July 2000, p. 34) using the flannel board pictures.

Following His resurrection, Jesus Christ appeared to the Nephites on the American continent and taught them many gospel truths. During this visit, He taught the people how to prepare and partake of the sacrament.

The Savior broke the bread, blessed it, and commanded that the disciples who were with Him partake of it. He said, “And this shall ye always observe to do, even as I have done, even as I have broken bread and blessed it and given it unto you.

“And this shall ye do in remembrance of my body, which I have shown unto you. And it shall be a testimony unto the Father that ye do always remember me. And if ye do always remember me ye shall have my Spirit to be with you.” (3 Ne. 18:6-7.)

The Savior also blessed the wine (we use water now—see D&C 27:2) and commanded the disciples to drink of it. When they had partaken of it, Jesus said, “And this shall ye always do to those who repent and are baptized in my name; and ye shall do it in remembrance of my blood, which I have shed for you, that ye may witness unto the Father that ye do always remember me. And if ye do always remember me ye shall have my Spirit to be with you.” (3 Ne. 18:11.)

Jesus Christ taught the disciples that when they partook of the sacrament, they were renewing their baptismal covenants to always remember the Savior, to take His name upon them, and to keep His commandments.

Today, we participate in the same sacramental ordinance that Jesus taught then. It is important to remember that each Sunday we have the opportunity to renew our covenants and to think about our Savior while the sacrament is being blessed and passed. Because we are given this special opportunity, we should show Heavenly Father our gratitude by being reverent.

Ten-year-old Jesse Brewster of Lakeview, Oregon, made a step toward keeping his baptismal covenants by following the commandment, “Thou shalt not steal.” (See Mosiah 13:22; Ex. 20:15.) While Jesse was at the store with his mother, he saw a candy bar he really wanted but did not have any money to buy it with. He knew that his brother had some money saved in his room, and when he got home, he took some of that money, went back to the store, and nearly bought the candy. He realized at the last minute how wrong that would be. He put the candy bar back and bravely confessed to his brother.

By being honest, Jesse showed that he was willing to live by the covenants that he had made when he was baptized. He learned from this experience that “following what I know is right is always better than a candy bar.”

Activity: “Who Is It”

Everyone takes a sheet of paper and at the top of it draws the head of either a person, animal, or bird. Then the sheet must be folded so as the drawn head can’t be seen, except for a little part of the neck. Then this drawing is passed to the person on the right. Now every person has a new sheet with the picture he/she hasn’t seen yet. He/she draws a body then folds the paper and again passes it to the player on the right. Continue until the lower extremities are drawn. Unfold the picture and be surprised at the new “animal” you’ve created.

Closing Song: “I Will Follow God’s Plan” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 164)

Closing Prayer:



Jesus passing the wine to the Nephites after blessing it



Partaking of the sacrament



Jesus passing the bread to the Nephites after blessing it



Jesus passing the wine to the Nephites after blessing it



Partaking of the sacrament



Jesus passing the bread to the Nephites after blessing it

Our Savior and Redeemer

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Jesus Has Risen” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 70)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live (John 11:25).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “Our Savior and Redeemer,” *Friend*, Apr. 1999, 39) using the flannel board pictures.

Knowing that the end of His life was near, Jesus Christ led His Apostles to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives. He told them, “Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder” (Matt. 26:36). Then, after He left them and kneeled to pray, He suffered great pain for our sins. The pain was so great that He pleaded, “Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

“And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.

“And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” (Luke 22:42-44.)

Later that night, one of the Savior’s Apostles, Judas, betrayed Him by leading a group of His enemies to Him. Jesus was arrested, unfairly tried, and nailed to a cross. (See John 18:3-5; John 19:1-18.)

After hanging on the cross for six hours and enduring intense pain, the Savior said, “Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit” (Luke 23:46). Then He bowed His head and died.

Jesus Christ’s body was taken to a borrowed tomb, where it was wrapped in white linens and tenderly laid inside. A large stone was rolled in front of the entrance, and soldiers were ordered to stand guard. For two days His body lay in the tomb, and the soldiers kept watch. (See Matt. 27:57-66.)

Then before the morning sun of the third day, “there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door. ...

“And for fear of him the keepers [guards] did shake, and became as dead men.” (Matt. 28:2, 4.)

When Mary Magdalene and Mary came to visit the tomb that morning, the angel “said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

“He is not here: for he is risen.” (Matt. 28:5-6.) The Savior was not there because He had been resurrected and He was about His Father’s business.

Heavenly Father sent His Son Jesus Christ to earth to save us from our sins. If we repent of what we have done wrong, we will be forgiven because of the atoning sacrifice of the Savior. And, like the Savior, we will all be resurrected someday.

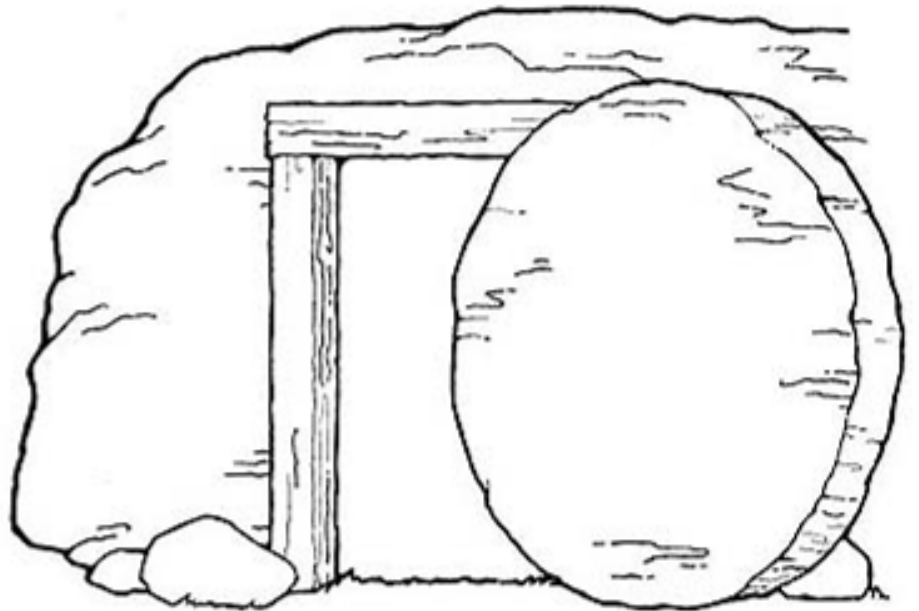
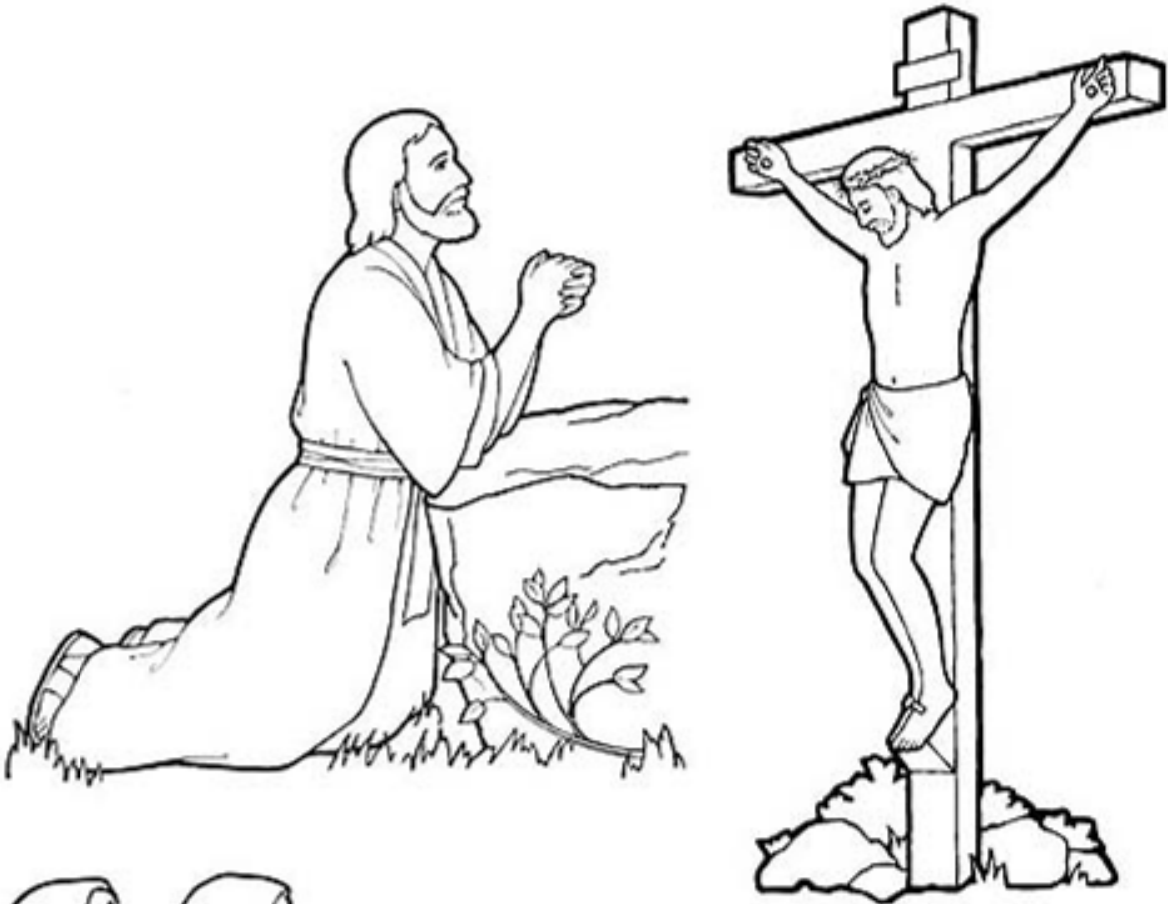
Activity: “Whistling Crackers”

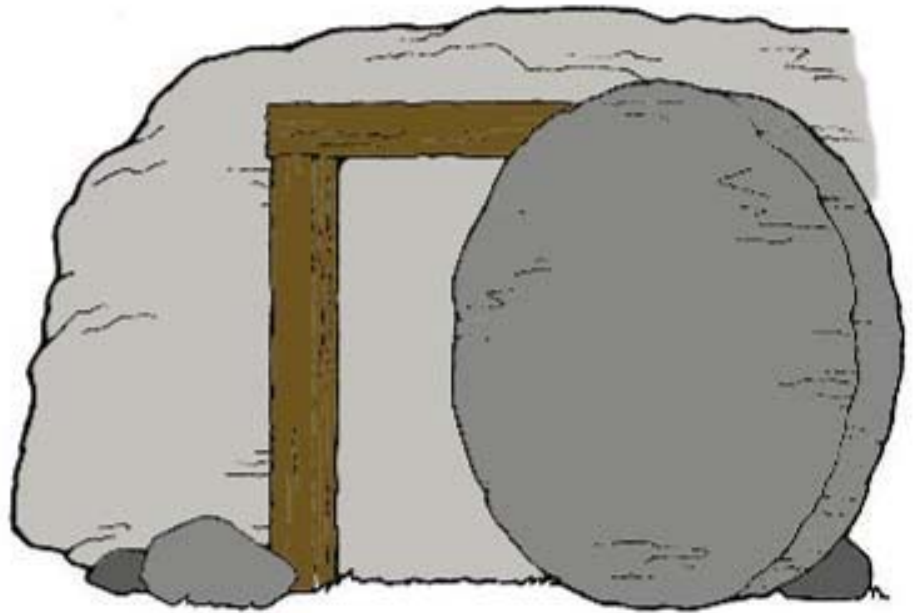
Give everyone three soda crackers. When the leader says “GO” every person puts all the crackers in his/her mouth at once. The first person to whistle wins. (You can also substitute the soda crackers with peanut butter.)

Closing Song: “On a Golden Springtime” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 88)

Closing Prayer:







Priesthood Blessings

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: AThe Fifth Article of Faith@ (*Children=s Songbook*, p. 125)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Article of Faith 1:5 - AWe believe that a man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority, to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.@

Lesson: Tell the following story (from A Sharing Time: Priesthood Blessings,@ *The Friend*, June 1995) using the flannel board pictures.

Tetsuko lived by a high mountain in Japan. She was going to school for the first time. Excited, she dressed quickly in her new school uniform. Then she began to feel sick, and she didn=t feel like eating breakfast.

Okasan (Mother) asked, ADo you feel sick, Tetsuko?@

AYes. My stomach hurts, and I don=t think I will be able to go to school today.@ She started to cry.

Otosan (Father) took her hand in his and said, AI think I know what might be wrong with you. This is your first day of school. You will be away from home all day, and you don=t know what to expect. I had the same feeling when I started my job. Would you like me to give you a special father=s blessing?@

Tetsuko nodded.

Otosan placed his hands upon her head and gave her a blessing. He thanked Heavenly Father for her and for the happiness she brought them. He blessed her to feel better, to not be afraid, and to feel peace in her heart.

Tetsuko left for school. That afternoon she ran into the house, calling AOkasan! Okasan! I=m home. It was fun at school. My teacher is nice, and I met some new friends.@

Her mother pulled her close and said, AI=m happy you had such a good day and that Otosan was able to give you a special blessing.@

Our Heavenly Father gave his authority to certain men so that his work could be done. It is called the priesthood. Priesthood means the power and authority to act for our Heavenly Father.

How would things be different if we didn=t have the priesthood? The Church would not have been organized, no one could be baptized or receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, no one could receive the blessings of the temple, and no one could return to live with Heavenly Father. Through the priesthood, all of Heavenly Father=s children can be blessed.

Activity: Make Father=s Day cards

Make a Father=s Day card for your Dad, Grandpa, or the Father of our Ward (the Bishop). Use whatever art supplies you may have available B crayons, markers, watercolors, finger paints, even color pasta shells and glue them on paper.

Closing Song: ALove is Spoken Here@ (*Children=s Songbook*, p. 190)

Closing Prayer:





Samuel the Lamanite

Opening Song: "My Country" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 224)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Wo unto this great city of Zarahemla; for behold, it is (only) because of those who are righteous that it is saved (Hel. 13:12).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from "Samuel the Lamanite," *Friend*, Sept. 1992, 45) using the flannel board pictures.

I can be reverent by showing respect, honor, and love for my home and neighborhood.

Samuel the Lamanite tried to save his homeland and that of the Nephites by teaching the people about Jesus Christ.

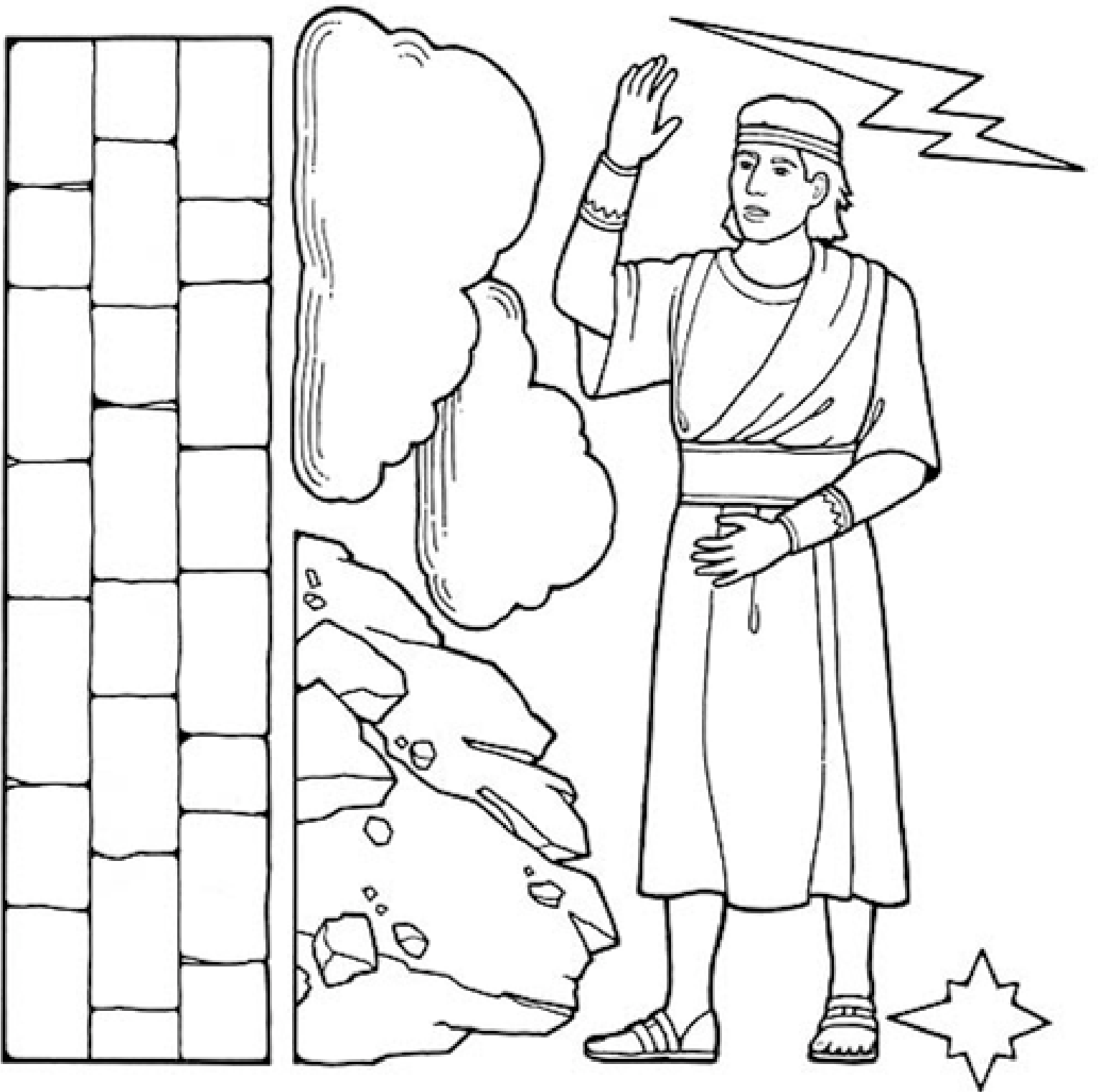
Read: Helaman 13:1-6; 14:2-6, 20-24; 16:1-8

Activity: "This Town is Our Town"

Have kids turn the famous Woodie Guthrie Song "This Land Is Your Land" into their hometown song by replacing words such as "California" and "Redwood Forest" with local landmarks and locations.

Closing Song: "My Flag, My Flag" (*Children's Songbook*, p. 225)

Closing Prayer:





Seek Guidance through Prayer

Opening Song: “A Child’s Prayer” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 12)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Whatsoever thing ye shall ask in faith, believing that ye shall receive in the name of Christ, ye shall receive it (Enos 1:15).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “Sharing Time: Seek Guidance through Prayer,” *Friend*, May 1988, p. 39) using the flannel board pictures.

Enos

Enos was the son of Jacob and the grandson of Lehi. He was righteous and knew the importance of prayer. One day he went into the forest to hunt. He began thinking about the teachings of his father, Jacob. He knelt to pray and prayed all day and into the night. He asked Heavenly Father to forgive him of his sins. While praying, the voice of the Lord came into his mind and told him that his sins were forgiven.

Enos continued to pray and asked that the records of his people would be preserved so that someday the Lamanites could read them and understand the gospel. Because Enos had great faith, God promised him that the records would be safe. The answer to this prayer gave Enos a feeling of peace.

This experience happened between four and five hundred years before the birth of Christ. Today, just as in Enos’s day, if we seek for forgiveness and guidance through prayer, having faith, Heavenly Father will answer our prayers.

Jeremy and Daniel

A few years ago Jeremy Kearns and his family were on a bow hunt in the La Sal Mountains in southern Utah. One drizzly morning Jeremy and his younger brother Daniel saw a deer near their camp. They shot at it with their toy bows and arrows, then ran after it, not realizing how far from their tent they had run before they lost sight of the deer. Finally they stopped to catch their breath before starting on their walk back to camp. However, they soon realized that they were lost. All afternoon they walked and called out for help, but no one heard them. They began to be afraid. It was raining hard, and they tried to make a shelter under a big tree. They huddled together to keep warm. All night they prayed to Heavenly Father for help.

After walking for three hours the next morning, the boys saw some cows. Just then Jeremy heard a voice in his mind. He was told to follow the cow’s path to the stream, go up the stream, around the mountain, and then someone would find them there.

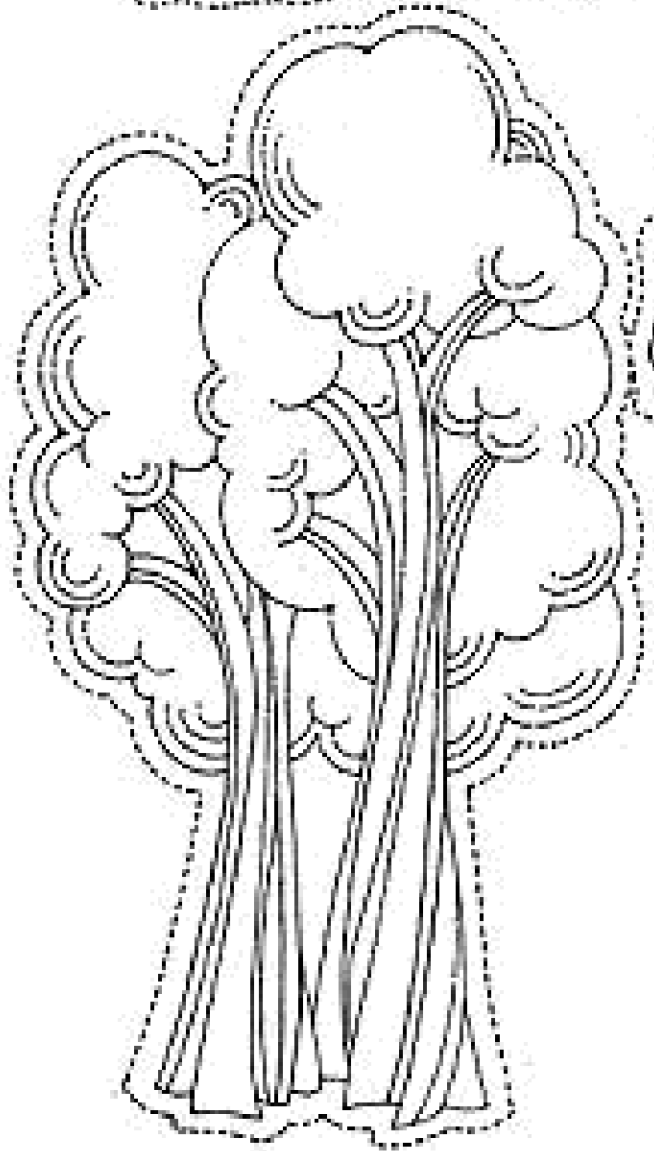
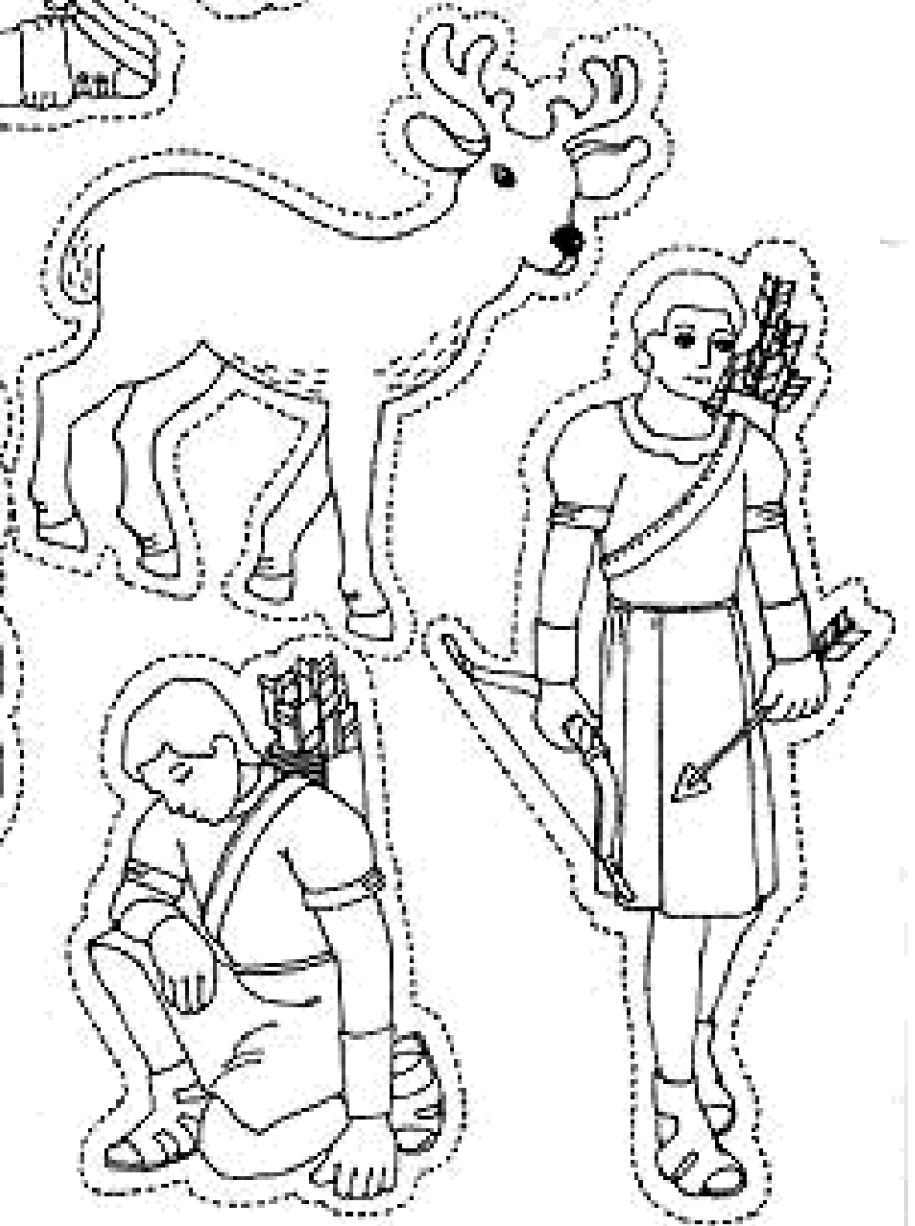
Jeremy and Daniel heeded this answer to their prayers, and when they reached the other side of the mountain, they heard people calling for them. Soon they were back with their family, grateful for the answer that they had received to their prayers.

Activity: “Sleeping Pirate”

All the people except one (the pirate) sit cross-legged on the floor in a circle. The pirate sits in the middle of the circle, blindfolded, with a large bunch of keys on the floor in front of him. A person is nominated to creep up and take the keys and then return to their place without the pirate hearing them. The pirate points to where he thinks the raider is. If he is successful, the raider becomes the pirate.

Closing Song: “I Pray in Faith” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 14)

Closing Prayer:



Special Witnesses

Opening Song: “Did Jesus Really Live Again?” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 64)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God (John 6:69).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “Special Witnesses,” *Friend*, Feb. 1999, p. 34) using the flannel board pictures.

When John the Baptist saw Jesus Christ the day after he had baptized Him, he testified, “And I saw and bare record that this is the Son of God” (John 1:34). He also testified to two of his followers, John and Andrew, “Behold the Lamb of God!” (John 1:36).

After hearing these words, John and Andrew left John the Baptist and followed the Savior. Jesus Christ stopped and asked them what they wanted. When they asked Him where He lived, He invited them to come and see. Later, Andrew told his brother Simon (Peter), “We have found the [Messiah], which is, being interpreted, the Christ” (John 1:41).

The next day Jesus Christ met Philip, who was from Bethsaida, the same city as Andrew and Peter. Philip knew who Jesus Christ was, and he went to his friend Nathanael (also known as Bartholomew) and testified, “We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph” (John 1:45).

The Savior chose and ordained Peter, Andrew, John, Philip, and Bartholomew along with seven other men to be His Apostles (see Matt. 10:2-4). He called these men to help Him preach the gospel and be witnesses of His name.

Jesus Christ knew that many of His followers didn’t really have testimonies of His divinity, so He challenged their beliefs. After many of them left, He asked the Apostles, “Will ye also go away?”

“Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? ...

“And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.” (John 6:67-69.)

Shortly before the Savior was to be crucified, He asked His Apostles, “Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?”

“And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

“He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?”

“And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (Matt. 16:13-16.)

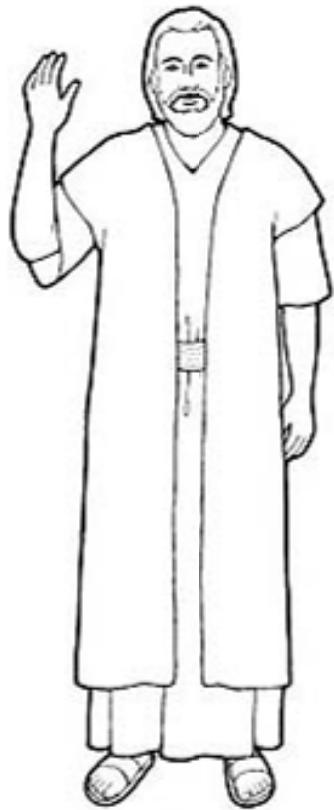
Even though Jesus Christ does not live on the earth with us now, we can have a testimony of Him, too, like these special witnesses, if we pray, study the scriptures, and try to choose the right.

Activity: “Pin the Tag on the Missionary”

Tape pieces of newspaper together so it is about the size of one of the children. Have the child lay down on the newspaper. Trace around him with a marker. This outline will be your missionary, tape it to a door, or the wall where you will play the game. Draw a heart where the missionary’s tag should go. Cut rectangular pieces of paper out and decorate them to look like missionary tags. Blindfold each player in turn to see if they can put the missionary tag as close to the heart as possible.

Closing Song: “I Want to Be a Missionary Now” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 168)

Closing Prayer:



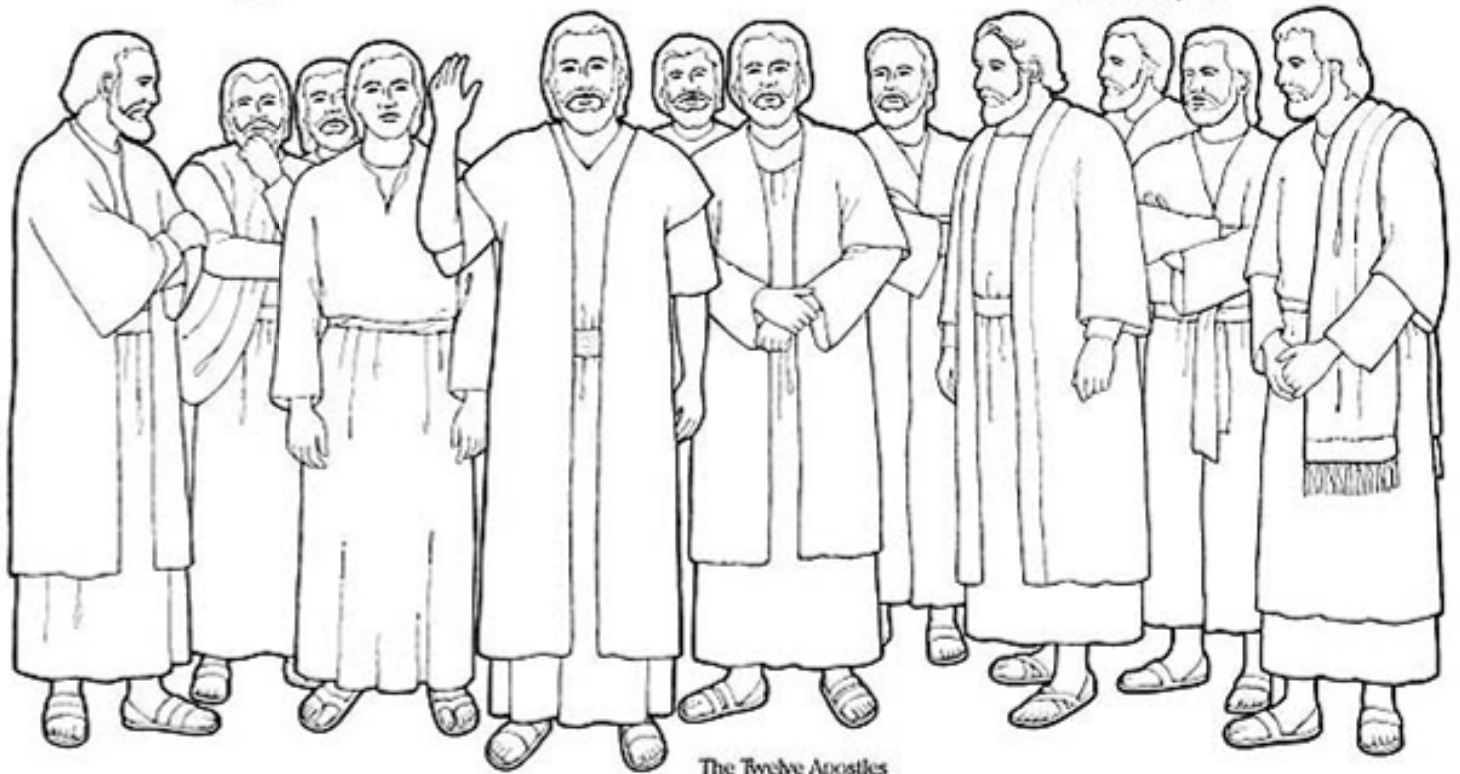
Peter



Jesus Christ



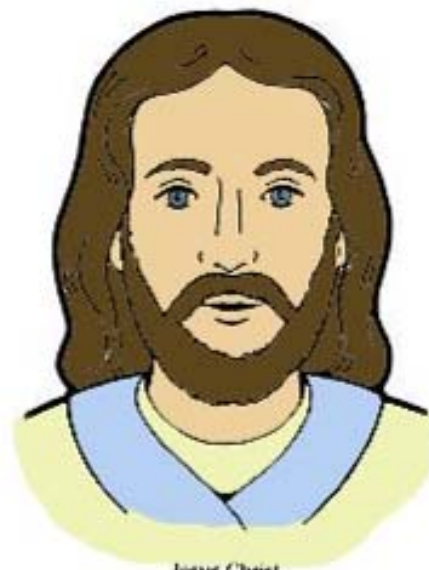
John the Baptist



The Twelve Apostles



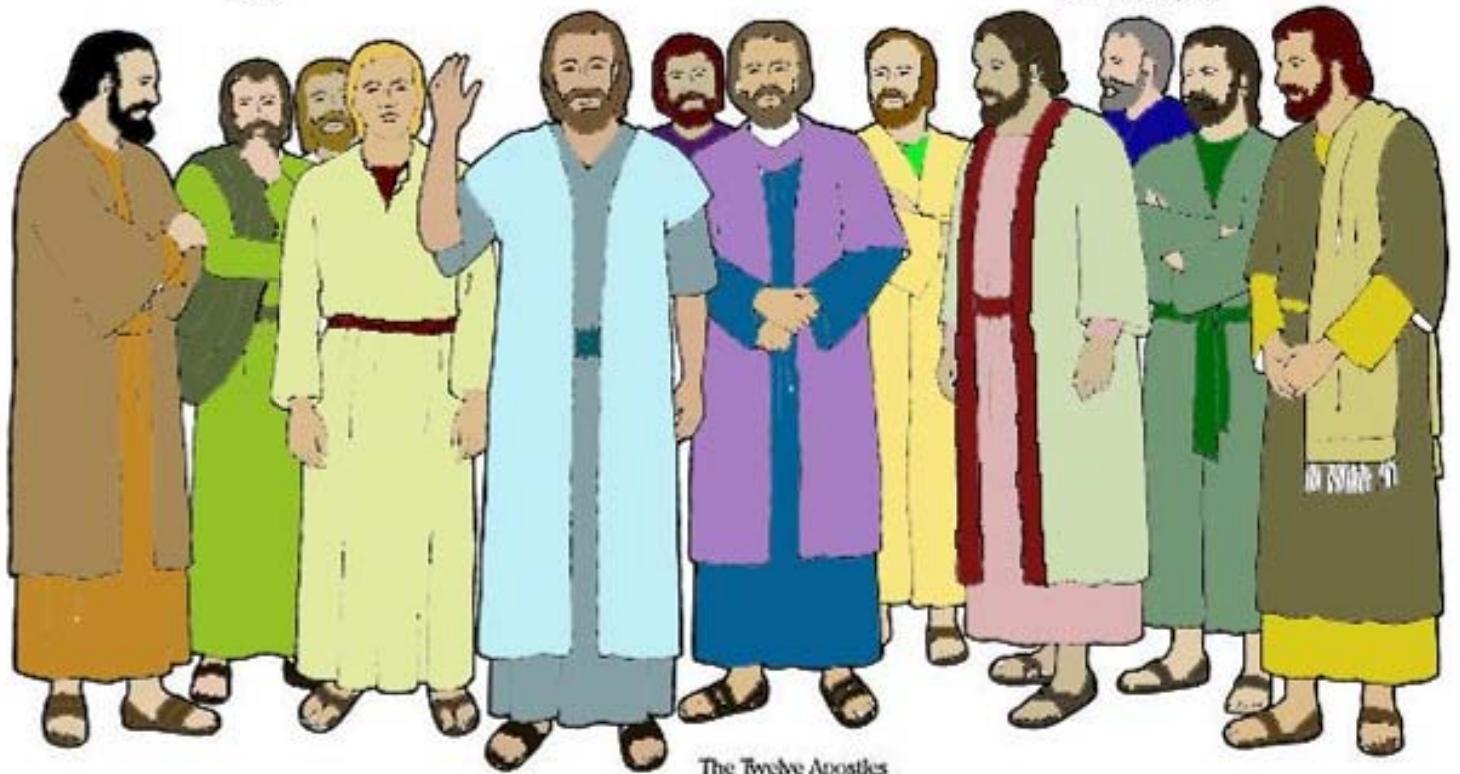
Peter



Jesus Christ



John the Baptist



The Twelve Apostles

Follow Righteous Leaders

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Book of Mormon Stories” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 118)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Alma 46:20 - “Behold, whosoever will maintain this title upon the land, let them come forth in the strength of the Lord, and enter into a covenant.”

Lesson: Tell the story from “Sharing Time: Follow Righteous Leaders,” (by Pat Graham *Friend*, July 1988), using the flannel board pictures.

Captain Moroni was a righteous leader of the Nephite armies. He loved freedom, his home, and his family. He had great faith in Jesus Christ. A wicked man named Amalickiah wanted to destroy the Church and take away the Nephites’ freedom by becoming king. He drew many people away from the Church with his flattery and lies.

Angry with Amalickiah for leading the people astray, Moroni tore his coat and wrote a message on it to the Nephites: “In memory of our God, our religion, and freedom, and our peace, our wives, and our children” (Alma 46:12). Then he fastened the coat to a pole and called it the title of liberty.

Next, Moroni prayed that his people would remain free as long as there were righteous people in the land. When he had finished praying, he went among the people, carrying the title of liberty and inviting them to covenant with the Lord that they would not forget their God or their families and that they would fight to keep their freedom. Many entered into the covenant, and they numbered more than the followers of Amalickiah. Moroni’s army captured most of Amalickiah’s army, and there was peace for a time.

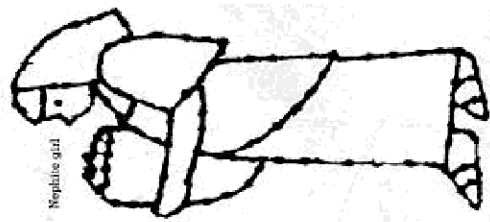
Moroni had the title of liberty flown from every tower in the land so that the people would remember and keep the covenant that they had made with the Lord. (See Alma 46.)

Activity: “Buckle, Buckle, Beanstalk”

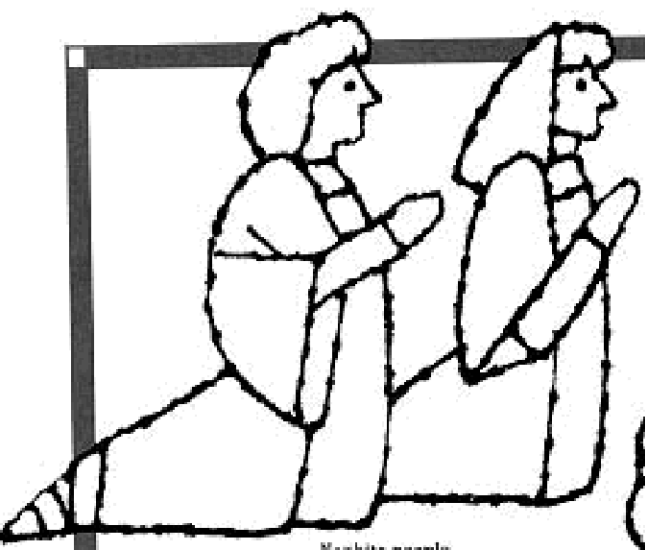
Begin with any small object or toy (such as a hot wheels car, etc). Elect someone to be “it.” That person goes into a different room to hide the object in a VISIBLE place while the rest of the group counts to twenty or so. The object cannot be inside something although it can require standing in a particular spot or angle to see it. The group moves into the room and begins to visually search for the object. When someone sees it, they say “Buckle, buckle, beanstalk” and sit down while the rest continue searching. When everyone has found it, the first person to see it gets to be “it.” Part of the fun of this game is throwing others off by moving to a different part of the room before saying “Buckle, buckle, beanstalk” to make them think it’s in the wrong place.

Closing Song: “Dare to Do Right” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 158)

Closing Prayer:



Nephite gut



Nephite people



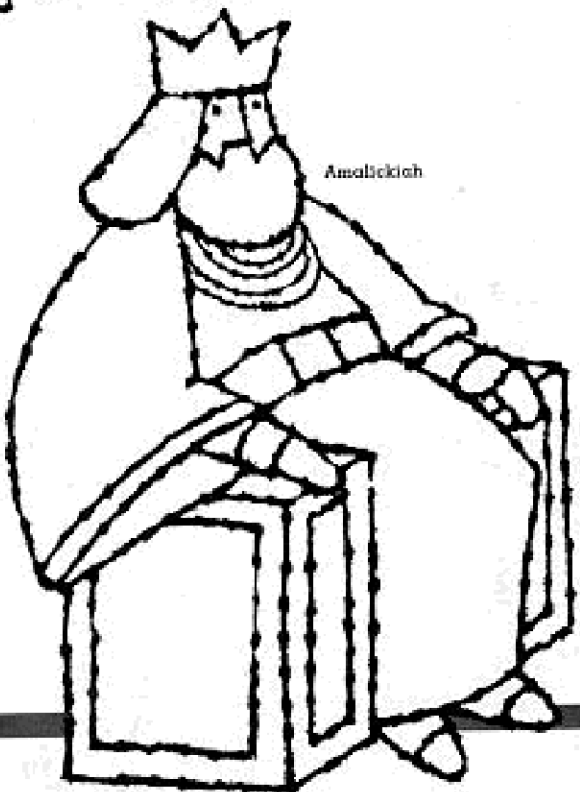
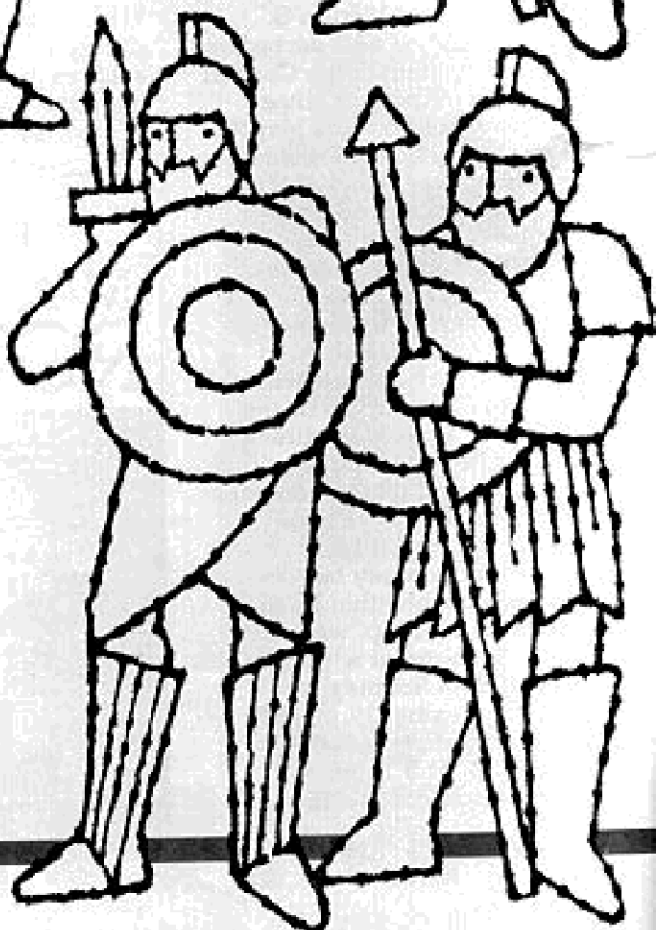
Captain Moroni and title of liberty



Nephite people



Soldiers



Amalickiah

His Servants the Prophets

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “The Sixth Article of Faith” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 126)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Amos 3:7 - “The Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “His Servants the Prophets,” (*Friend*, Jan. 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

The scriptures are a record kept by prophets called of God to teach and guide His children here on earth. These sacred writings tell us of things that have taken place as well as prophesy of things that are yet to come. They contain the counsels and commandments that we must obey to return to live with our Father in Heaven.

For example, the last book in the Old Testament was written by the prophet Malachi. He told of the last days—our time—and gave us a promise from the Lord that if we will pay our tithes and offerings, the Lord will “open [us] the windows of heaven, and pour [us] out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Mal. 3:10).

In the New Testament, the Apostles and other followers of our Savior Jesus Christ recorded His life, His teachings, His death, and His Atonement. John, one of His disciples, wrote that the Savior asks us to “love one another, as I have loved you” (John 15:12).

The prophets of the Book of Mormon wrote of their peoples who came to the American continent as directed by the Lord. One of them, Alma, led his people during troubled times and wrote of their experiences to help us as we also live in troubled times. He said, “Learn wisdom in thy youth; yea, learn in thy youth to keep the commandments of God” (Alma 37:35).

The Prophet Joseph Smith received many of the revelations contained in the Doctrine and Covenants. In one of them, the Lord counsels, “Go to the house of prayer and offer up thy sacraments upon my holy day” (D&C 59:9).

One of the prophets in the Pearl of Great Price is Enoch, who told his people to “choose ye this day, to serve the Lord God who made you” (Moses 6:33). His people listened to his words and have given us a wonderful example to follow.

The scriptures are full of the Lord’s words to us, given by inspiration through His prophets.

Activity: “Granny Grunt”

All players stand in a circle except for “it”. “It” is blindfolded and stands in the middle of the circle with a broom in hand. “It” tells all the players to move, then tells them to stop. Then “it” spins around and sticks his broomhandle out. The nearest person grabs it and “it” says “granny grunt”. The person grunts and whoever is “it” tries to guess who the granny is. If the guess is correct, that person is “it” for the next round.

Closing Song: “Latter-day Prophets” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 134)

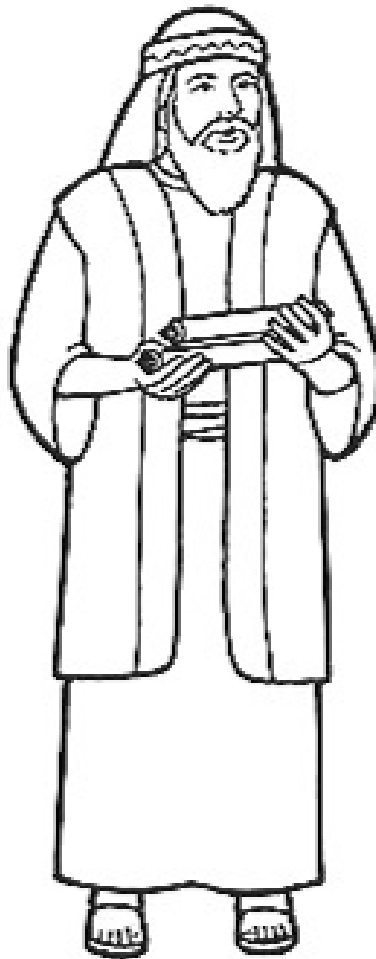
Closing Prayer:



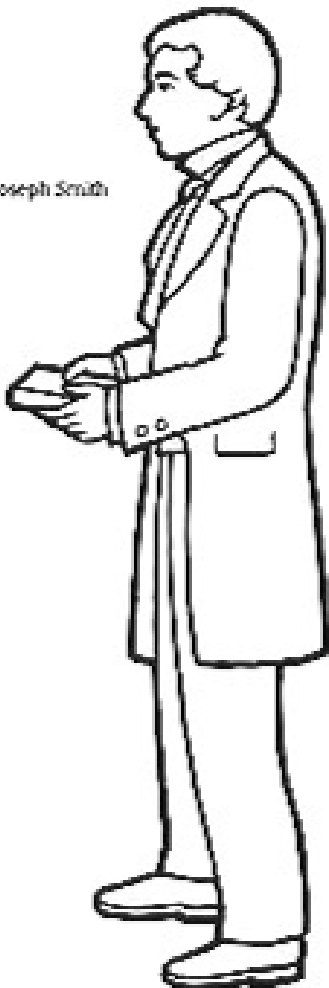
Alma the Younger



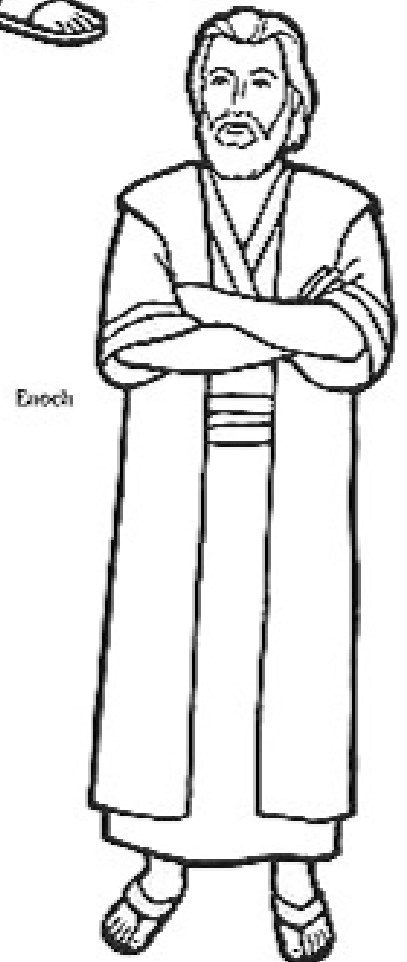
John the Beloved



Malachi



Joseph Smith



Enoch



Alma the Younger



John the Beloved



Malochi



Joseph Smith



Enoch

Honest and Truthful at All Times

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "Our Primary Colors" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 258)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Alma 53:20 - "They were men who were true at all times in whatsoever thing they were entrusted."

Lesson: Tell the story, "Sharing Time: Honest and Truthful at All Times," (by Karen Ashton, *Friend*, Oct. 1996), using the flannel board pictures.

Instructions: Color the camp scene and the figures of Joseph F. Smith and the ruffians. Glue or paste the colored page on a sheet of heavy paper or lightweight cardboard. Carefully cut out the scene and the figures. Accordion-fold the paper strips on the dotted lines. Attach the folded strips to the back of the figure of Joseph F. Smith and to the back of the ruffians. Attach these figures to the scene by gluing the tabs to the places indicated. When properly in place, the men can "reach out and shake hands". Use this action scene during family home evening to tell your family the following story of Joseph F. Smith.

Heavenly Father wants you to be honest and truthful at all times and in all places. It is not always easy. If you do something wrong, you might be ashamed to admit it or afraid of what will happen to you if you do. When you are honest about the mistakes you make, you can repent and be forgiven.

Even when you have not done anything wrong, sometimes it is hard to defend what is true or right. It takes courage to stand up for what you know is true when others do not believe as you do. It is not always easy to express your testimony of Heavenly Father and His Son Jesus Christ. But when you are honest about your feelings and express your testimony, the Holy Ghost will strengthen you.

As a young man just nineteen years old, Joseph F. Smith was traveling from California to Utah with a small group of Latter-day Saints. As they set up camp one evening, a group of drunken men rode into their camp on horseback. The men had guns, and they threatened to kill any Mormons who came across their path. Some of the Saints hid in the bushes by the creek. Joseph F. Smith, who had been gathering wood, boldly approached the fire. One of the drunken men, pointing his pistol at Joseph, said that it was his duty to kill every Mormon he met. He then demanded, "Are you a 'Mormon'?"

Without a pause, Joseph F. Smith looked the ruffian in the eye and answered, "Yes, siree; dyed in the wool; true blue, through and through." The angry man was so surprised by Joseph's honest answer that he grabbed Joseph's hand and said, "Well, you are the ... pleasantest man I ever met! Shake, young fellow. I am glad to see a man that stands up for his convictions." The drunken men then rode off and did not bother the Saints again. (*Life of Joseph F. Smith*, Joseph Fielding Smith, pages 188-189.)

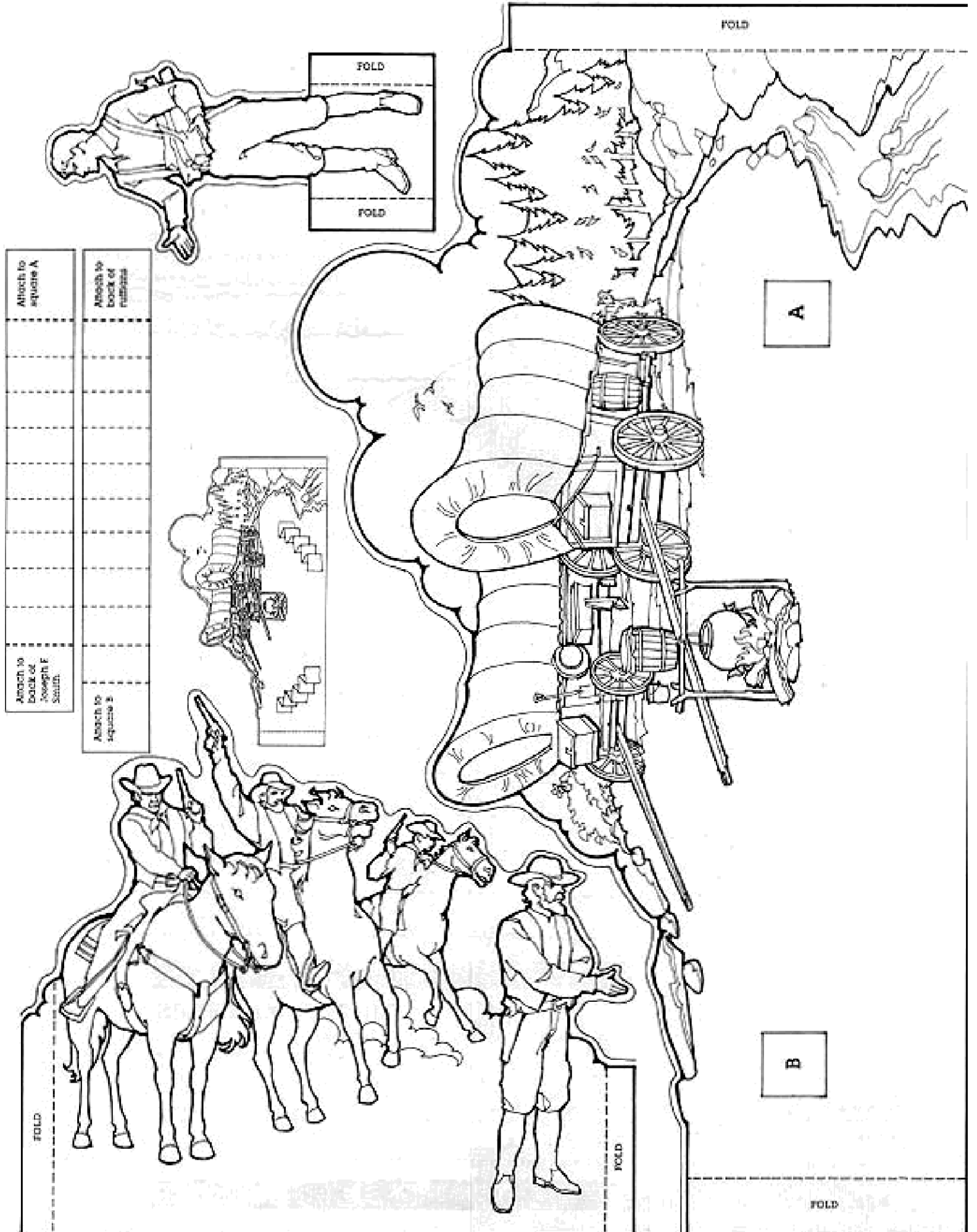
You can be like Joseph F. Smith. You can be honest and truthful at all times and in all places.

Activity: Who Sews Faster?

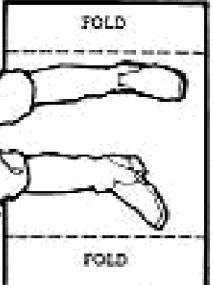
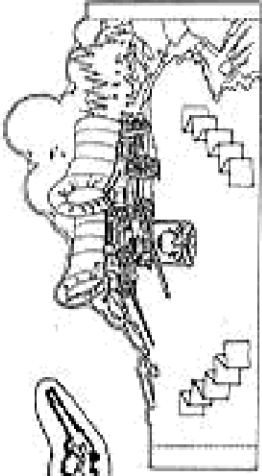
Two teams take part in this game. The players of each team must "sew" the players to one another as quickly as possible. Instead of the needle they use a spoon with the long thread or string tied to it. The players may be sewed to each other by the belts, straps or loops on the clothes.

Closing Song: "I Believe in Being Honest" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 149)

Closing Prayer:



Attach to square A	
Attach to back of Joseph F Smith	



FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “He Sent His Son” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 34)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: John 17:3 - “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Isaiah Prophecies of the Savior,” (*Friend*, Mar. 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

Isaiah was a prophet who lived in Jerusalem about 700 years before the birth of the Savior. He wrote many things about important events that had not yet taken place. The Lord said to the Nephites, “Great are the words of Isaiah,” and He promised that everything Isaiah said would happen, would happen (see 3 Ne. 23:1-3).

Many of the wonderful prophecies of Isaiah are about the Savior. “Behold,” he wrote, “a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (Isa. 7:14). We read in the New Testament about when this took place. Jesus was born to Mary in Bethlehem. (See Luke 2.)

As Jesus grew, He learned all that Heavenly Father wanted Him to learn. “And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord,” wrote Isaiah. Jesus learned to be kind, and fair, and merciful. Isaiah wrote that the Savior wouldn’t judge people by what He could see on the outside or by what He heard, but He would judge people with righteousness, knowing what was in their hearts. (See Isa. 11:2-4 and 1 Sam. 16:7.)

Jesus would “preach good tidings unto the meek” and would “bind up the brokenhearted,” and “proclaim liberty to the captives” (Isa. 61:1). Isaiah truly saw the wonderful things the Savior would do for us. The good tidings of the gospel teach us of His Atonement, which makes it possible for us to repent when we make mistakes. He suffered for each one of us. “Surely,” Isaiah wrote, “he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. ...

“He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities [wrongdoings]; ... and with his stripes we are healed.” (Isa. 53:4-5.)

The scriptures teach us of the Savior, and Isaiah is one of the prophets who wrote about Him.

Activity: “With the Help of the Toes”

Two players compete in this game. To participate in this game the players must take their shoes and socks off and sit down on the low chairs. On the floor in front of each player there stand 2 plates. Near each plate there are 5 walnuts. The task of the players is to put 5 walnuts onto the left plate with the help of the left toes and 5 walnuts onto the right plate with the help of the right toes. The player who fulfils the task the first wins the game.

Closing Song: “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 57)

Closing Prayer:



Isaiah writing
on a scroll



The Savior
teaching a
child



Mary
holding
Baby Jesus



The Savior
on the Cross



The New Testament



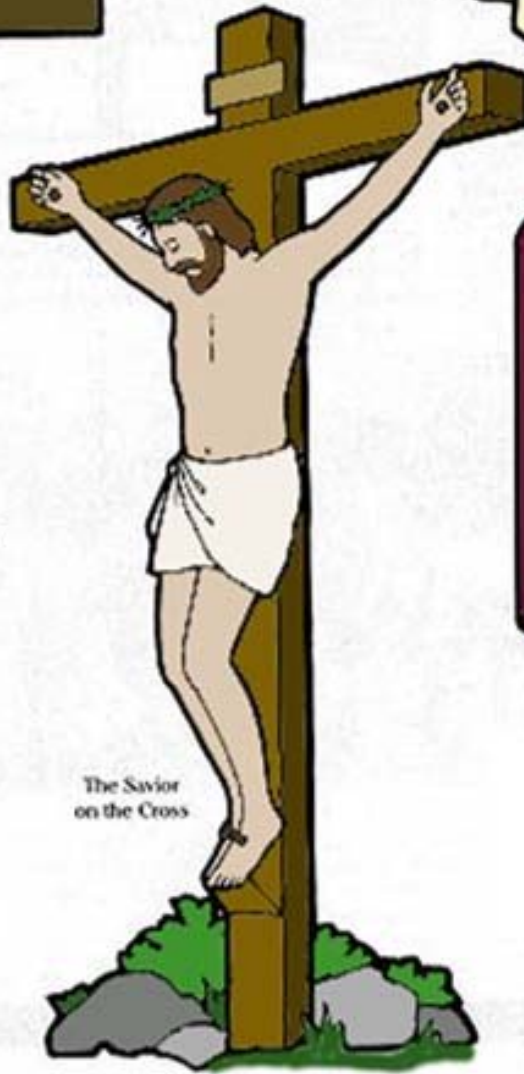
Isaiah writing on a scroll



The Savior teaching a child



Mary holding Baby Jesus



The Savior on the Cross



The New Testament

Jesus Christ Heals a Blind Man

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "I Am like a Star" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 163)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Matt 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Lesson: Tell the story, "Jesus Christ Heals a Blind Man," (*Friend*, Oct. 1999), using the flannel board pictures.

One Sabbath day when Jesus Christ and His disciples were in Jerusalem, they saw a man who had been blind since birth. "He [Jesus Christ] spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

"And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam. ... He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing." (John 9:6-7.)

Many of the townspeople had seen this blind man sitting in his usual place, begging. When they discovered that he could see, they asked him how it had happened. After he told them, they took him to the Pharisees (religious leaders of the Jews) for an explanation of this Sabbath-day healing.

The Pharisees asked the man many questions about the healing. They were confused and argued among themselves. The leaders thought that, according to their laws, it was a sin for anyone to heal someone on the Sabbath; they also believed that a sinner could not heal someone. Frustrated, they asked the man to repeat his story, which he did.

Feeling that their leadership was being threatened by Jesus Christ, they asked the man, "What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He [Jesus] is a prophet." (John 9:17.)

Not wanting to believe that this man had ever been blind, the Pharisees questioned his mother and father. "His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind" (John 9:20).

Then the Pharisees told the healed man to "Give God the praise: we know that this man [Jesus] is a sinner" (John 9:24). The man said, "If this man were not of God, he could do nothing" (John 9:33).

Angry at the man's testimony of Jesus, the Pharisees threw him out of the synagogue and excommunicated him from their church. When the Savior heard what they had done, He went looking for the man and asked him, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?"

"He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?"

"And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee.

"And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him." (John 9:35-38.)

When our belief in the Savior is tested, we can let the light of our testimony shine brightly by sharing it with others as well as by setting a good example for others in choosing the right.

Activity: "Be Careful, Pinocchio!"

There is a cap on the head of one of the players. He/she is Pinocchio. The leader tries to catch the player with the cap on his/her head. It's not easy, because the players pass the cap to one another while running. As the leader catches Pinocchio, they exchange their roles.

Closing Song: "Stand for the Right" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 159)

Closing Prayer:



Blind man begging



Jesus Christ



Man with sight restored



Pharisees



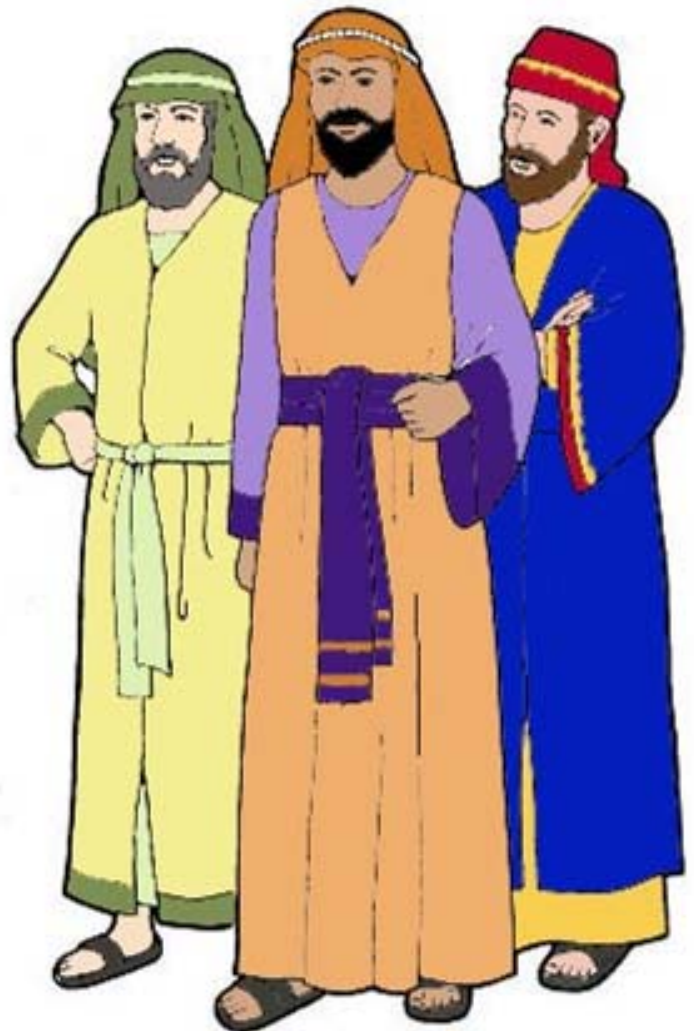
Blind man begging



Jesus Christ



Man with sight restored



Pharisees

Jesus Christ Will Come Again

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "I Wonder When He Comes Again" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 82)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Acts 1:11 - "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

Lesson: Tell the story, "Jesus Christ Will Come Again," (*Friend*, Dec. 1999), using the flannel board pictures.

When Jesus Christ was in the temple in Jerusalem, He told His disciples that after He died, He would come back to the earth to live with the people. After they left the temple to walk to Bethany, He foretold one of the signs of His Second Coming. "There shall not be left here, upon this temple, one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down.

"And Jesus left them, and went upon the Mount of Olives. And as he sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying: Tell us when shall these things be which thou hast said concerning the destruction of the temple, and the Jews; and what is the sign of thy coming ... ?

"And Jesus answered, and said unto them: Take heed that no man deceive you;

"For many shall come in my name, saying—I am Christ—and shall deceive many;

"Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you, and ye shall be hated of all nations, for my name's sake. ...

"For in those days there shall also arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders, insomuch, that, if possible, they shall deceive the very elect [faithful]. ...

"You also shall hear of wars, and rumors of wars; see that ye be not troubled, for all I have told you must come to pass; but the end is not yet. ...

"There shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes."

And about the false prophets and Christs, He warned: "Wherefore, if they shall say unto you: Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: Behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not;

"For as the light of the morning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west, and covereth the whole earth, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be." (JS—M 1:3-7, 22-23, 29, 25-26.)

The Savior told the disciples that not even the angels in heaven knew when He would come again. He said, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man" (Luke 21:36). He also warned them, "Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh" (JS—M 1:48).

The Second Coming of the Savior will be a glorious experience for all righteous people. It will be a time of happiness, peace, and love for those who are prepared to meet Him. We can be prepared to meet Jesus Christ if we follow His teachings, keep the commandments, and choose the right.

Activity: "Four Elements"

The players get into a circle. The leader is in the center. He/she throws the ball to one of the players. On throwing the ball, he/she says either "Earth", "Water", "Air" or "Fire". The player must catch the ball, throw it back to the leader and name:

any animal, if the leader said "Earth"

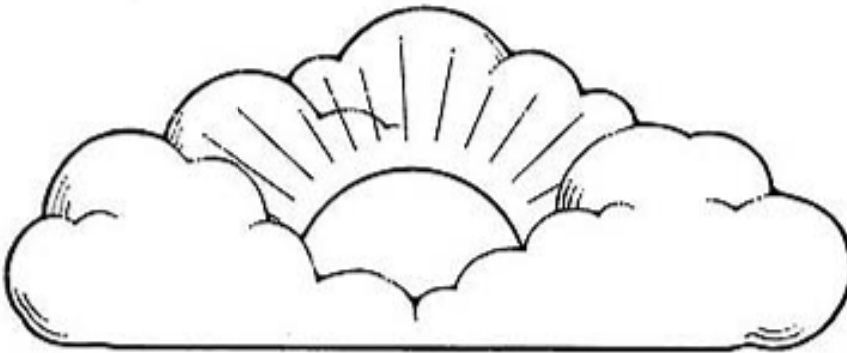
any bird, if the leader said "Air"

any fish, if the leader said "Water"

If the leader said "Fire" the player must raise the hands over the head and turn around. The player who makes a mistake becomes the leader.

Closing Song: "I'm Trying to Be like Jesus" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 78)

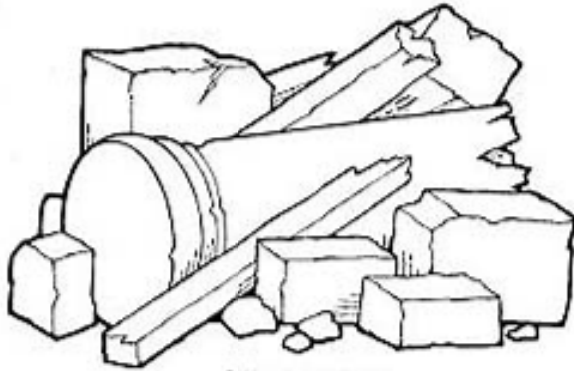
Closing Prayer:



Sunrise



The Savior's Second Coming



Fallen temple



Jesus Christ teaching some of His disciples



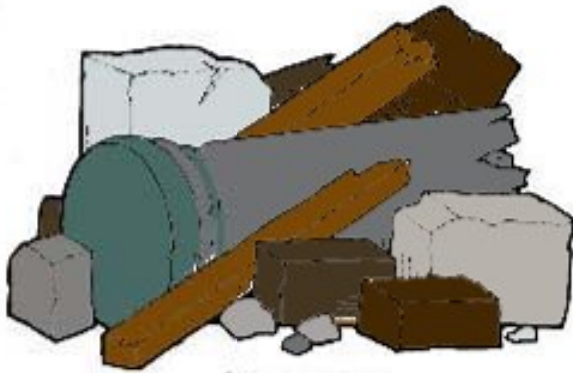
War, famine, pestilence,
and earthquakes



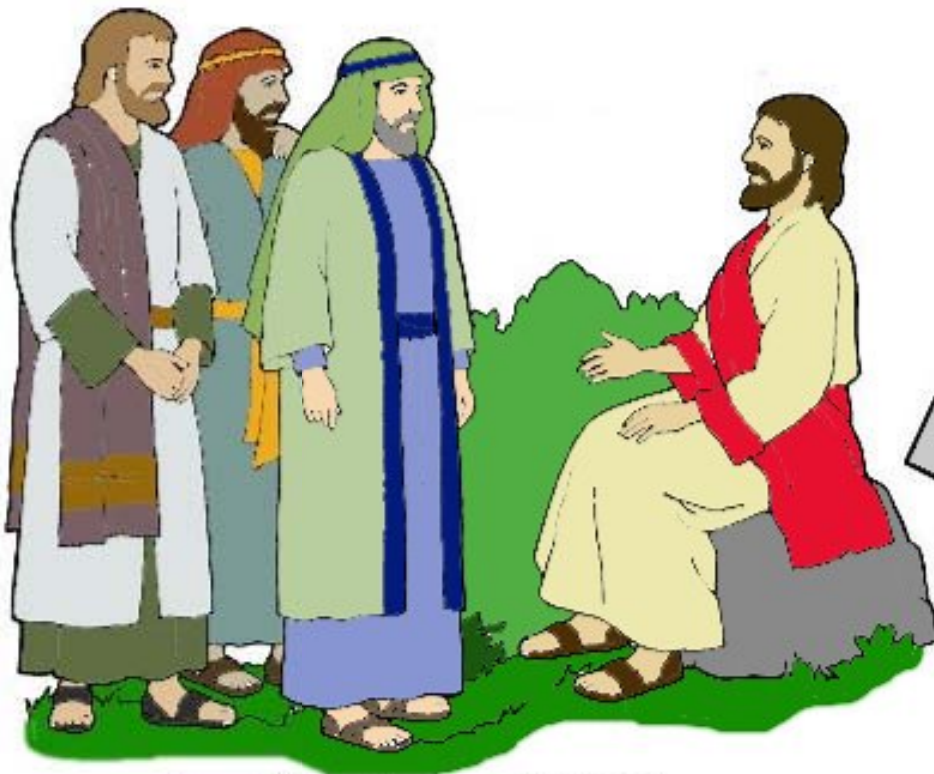
Sunrise



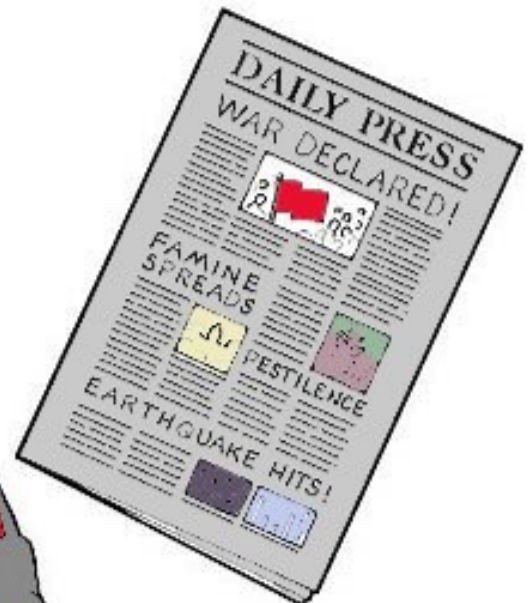
The Savior's Second Coming



Fallen temple



Jesus Christ teaching some of His disciples



War, famine, pestilence,
and earthquakes

Jonah and the People of Nineveh

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Help Me, Dear Father” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 99)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: John 14:6 - “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Jonah and the People of Nineveh,” (*Friend*, Apr. 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

Jonah was a prophet just before the ten tribes of Israel were taken captive into Babylonia, a country *east* of Israel. Only a small part of Jonah’s story is told in the Old Testament, but the part that is recorded teaches us that the Lord offers salvation to everyone who will repent.

The Lord commanded Jonah to tell the wicked people of Nineveh, a city north of Babylon, that if they didn’t repent, they would be destroyed. Jonah didn’t want to go to that wicked place. He didn’t think the people would listen to him or want to change, so he got on a boat that was sailing *west* to Tarshish, Spain.

A terrifying storm arose and tossed the boat to and fro. The sailors cried out to the prophet, who was sleeping, to pray to his God to save them. Knowing that his disobedience was the cause of the storm, Jonah told them, “Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you” (Jonah 1:12).

Though they didn’t want to, the sailors finally did as Jonah asked and threw him into the sea. “Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.” (Jonah 1:17.)

While in the fish, Jonah cried unto the Lord. He knew that he had disobeyed, and he wanted the Lord to forgive him. The Lord did, then caused that the fish “vomited out Jonah upon the dry land” (Jonah 2:10). He again told the prophet to go to Nineveh.

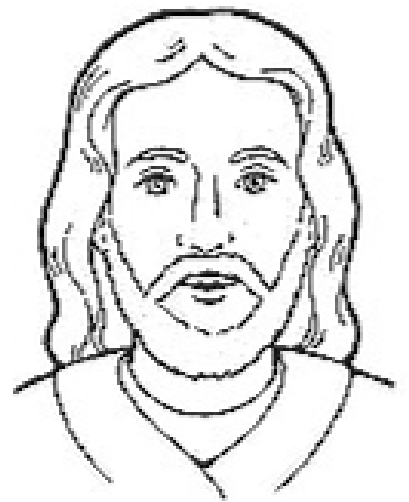
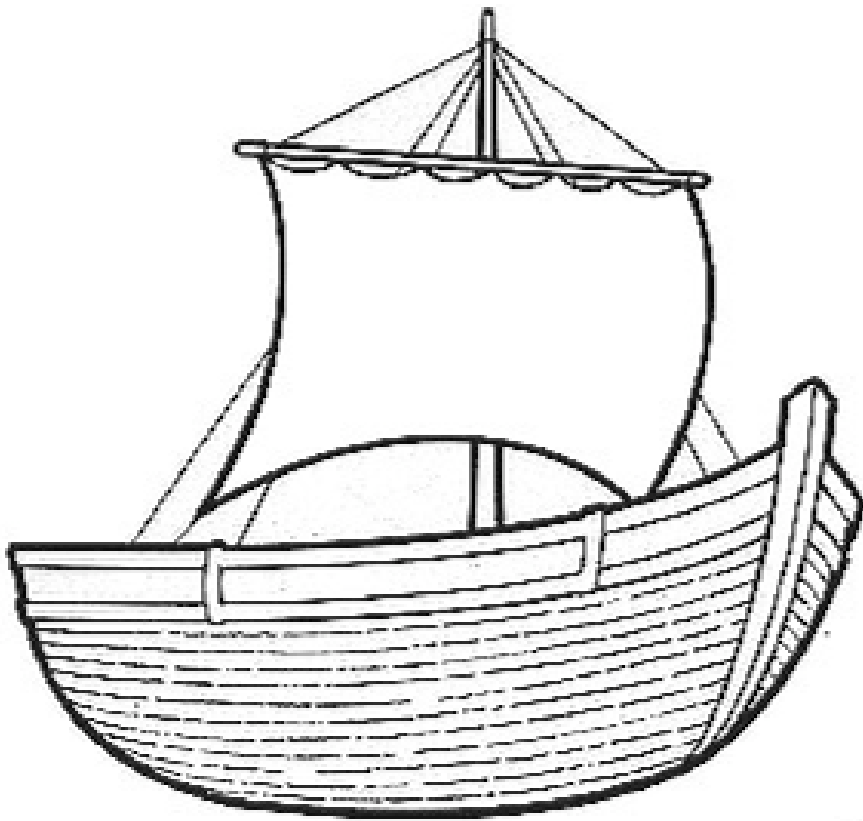
Jonah obeyed. To his surprise, when he told the people of Nineveh that the Lord was displeased with them and that they would soon be destroyed, they believed him and turned from their evil ways. They accepted the gift of repentance that would come through the Savior, and they were not destroyed. Both the prophet and the people he preached to had need of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ so that they could return to Heavenly Father. Because this gift is given to everyone, we too can repent when we make mistakes.

Activity: “Don’t Eat Pete!”

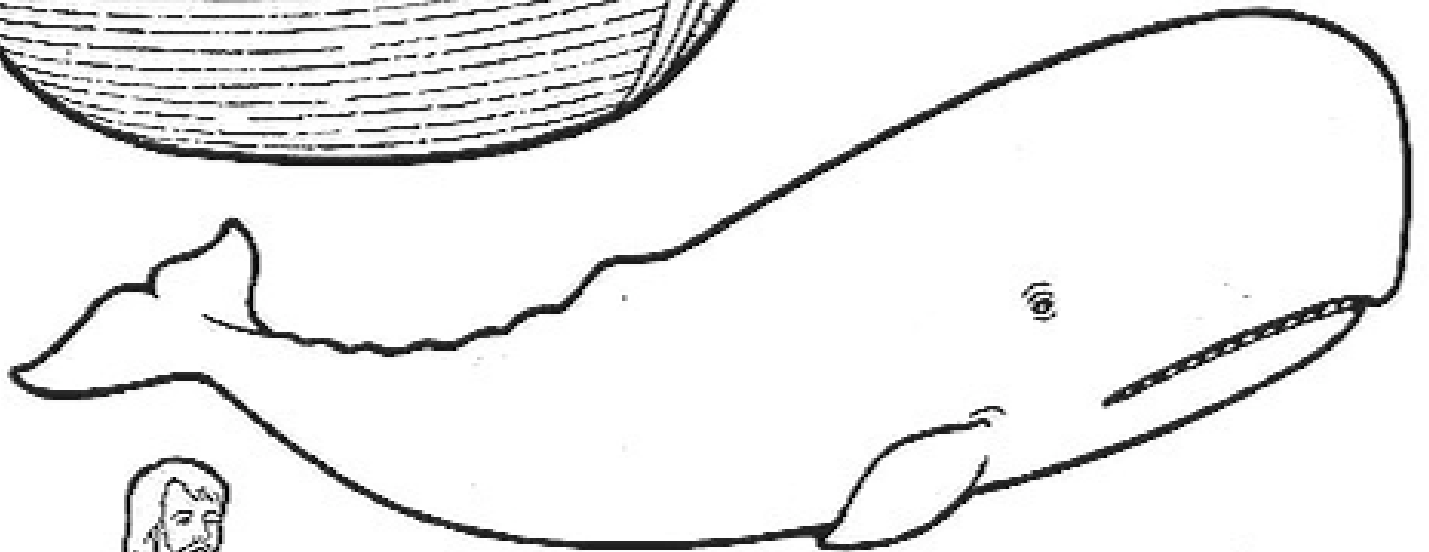
Place one piece of candy, raisin, M&M, etc., on each square. Each person takes a turn leaving the room while the others choose which square will be “Pete.” The person comes back in and begins choosing the candies one by one. If he/she chooses “Pete,” everyone yells out, “DON’T EAT PETE!” and the round is over. Any candy that he has chosen, he gets to keep.

Closing Song: “Keep the Commandments” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 146)

Closing Prayer:



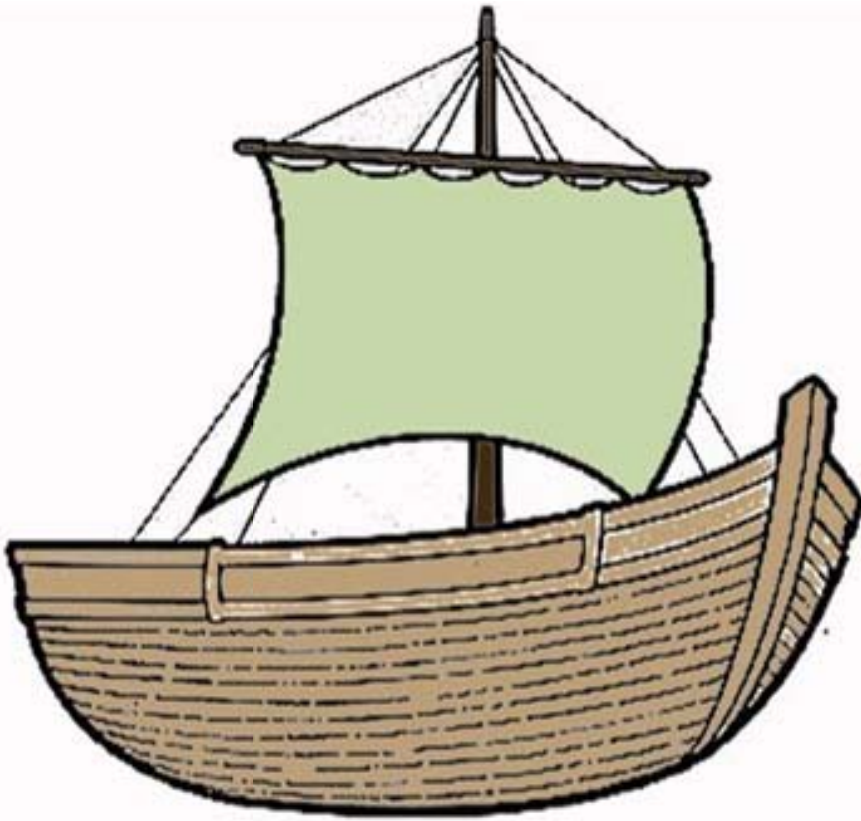
The Scribe



Jonah



People of Nineveh



The Savior



Jonah



People of Nineveh

Joseph “Holds to the Iron Rod”

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Nephi’s Courage” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 120)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: 1 Nephi 3:7 - “I will go and do the things which the Lord has commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Joseph ‘Holds to the Iron Rod,’” (*Friend*, July 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

Of all his twelve sons, Jacob favored Joseph because “he was the son of his old age” (*Gen. 37:3*). Knowing this made the other brothers hate Joseph. One day when they were tending their flocks away from home, Jacob sent Joseph to see if all was well with them. When they saw him approach, some of them wanted to kill him. Reuben, the oldest son, talked them into capturing Joseph, instead, and putting him into a pit. They later sold him to a passing caravan, then led their father to believe that he had been killed by a wild animal.

Joseph was taken to Egypt and put to work in the house of Potiphar, a captain of Pharaoh’s guard. In spite of all that had happened to him, Joseph remained faithful to the word of God, to what he knew was good and true. “And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand” (*Gen. 39:3*). Joseph was made an overseer in Potiphar’s house.

One day Potiphar’s wife tempted Joseph to do something that he knew was wrong. Remembering how the Lord wanted him to live, he answered, “How ... can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” (*Gen. 39:9*). He quickly left. Potiphar’s wife was angry and caused trouble for Joseph, but he still “held to the iron rod” and followed the teachings of God.

Later Joseph was reunited with his brothers, whom he forgave, and with his father. From his example and other stories of righteous men and women in the scriptures, you may learn that you, too, can choose to always follow the Savior’s example and obey His commandments.

Activity: “Paper Arrow”

For this game you need a paper airplane. It’s better to play this game inside or on a day that isn’t windy. The players are divided into two teams. Draw a line on the ground. A member of Team 1 stands on the line and throws the airplane. A member of Team 2 picks up the plane and throws it back towards the starting line. A member of Team 1 picks up the airplane and throws it away from the line. This continues until all players have had a chance to throw the airplane and both teams have thrown it an equal number of times. If the airplane ends on the line or behind the starting line, Team 2 is the winner. If the airplane ends in front of the line, Team 1 is the winner.

Closing Song: “Keep the Commandments” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 146)

Closing Prayer:

Putiphar's wife



Joseph as a 17 year old Israelite



Reuben, the oldest son



Joseph as an overseer in Egypt



The other brothers



Potiphar's wife



Joseph as a 17-year-old Israelite



Reuben, the oldest son



Joseph as an overseer in Egypt



The other brothers



Joseph Smith Asked Heavenly Father to Help Him Choose the Right Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Joseph Smith’s First Prayer” (*Hymns*, #26)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: 2 Nephi 2:27 - “Men ... are free to choose liberty and eternal life, through the great Mediator of all men, or to choose captivity and death, according to the captivity and power of the devil.”

Lesson: Tell the story from “Sharing Time: Joseph Smith Asked Heavenly Father to Help Him Choose the Right,” (by Karen Ashton, *Friend*, Jan. 1997), using the flannel board pictures.

Do you know the name of the person who organized The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; established a bank, a newspaper, and a printing office; supervised the building of the Church’s first temple; initiated extensive missionary work; made a translation of the Bible; received keys of authority from Moses, Elias, and Elijah; and translated the Book of Mormon?

If you answered Joseph Smith, you are correct.

Joseph lived with his large family on a farm. He worked very hard helping his father and brothers clear trees from the land, care for their animals, and plant crops. Because his help was needed on the farm, he rarely was able to attend school.

When he was fourteen years old, there was great excitement in his community about religion. There were many churches, and each one thought it had the truth. Joseph did not know which church he should join.

He loved Heavenly Father and wanted to do what was right. He wanted to choose the right church to join. He said, “What is to be done? Who of all these parties are right; or, are they all wrong together? If any one of them be right, which is it, and how shall I know it?” (JS—H 1:10.)

One day while he was studying the Bible, he read, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5). Joseph decided to ask Heavenly Father which church was right and which he should join.

On a beautiful spring morning, he went to a grove of trees and knelt to pray. As he began to pray, a frightening, evil power came over him. He felt that he was going to be destroyed. As he called out to Heavenly Father to save him, a pillar of light came from heaven and rested upon him. The evil feeling vanished, and he saw two bright and glorious Beings standing above him in the air. One of Them spoke to Joseph, calling him by name, and said, pointing to the other, “*This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!*” (JS—H 1:17).

Joseph saw Heavenly Father and His Son Jesus Christ; he listened carefully as Jesus told him not to join any of the churches.

Joseph wanted to choose the right. Heavenly Father and the Savior were pleased with his desire and helped him understand what was right. Because Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ knew that Joseph Smith would always strive to choose the right and be obedient to whatever They asked him to do, They chose him to restore the true church to the earth.

Activity: “Sit on a Chair!”

One of the players is sitting on a chair. At the leader’s signal, the player stands up, closes his/her eyes, takes six steps forwards and two steps to the right or left. Not turning back, the player must repeat all of his/her movements and, moving back to front, sit on the chair. The leader may change the task for the players. The player who manages to fulfill the task “wins”.

Closing Song: “On a Golden Springtime” verse 3 (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 88)

Closing Prayer:





Joseph Smith—Prophet of the Restoration

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song:

Opening Prayer: “The Sacred Grove” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 87)

Scripture: D&C 35:17 - “And I have sent forth the fulness of my gospel by the hand of my servant Joseph.”

Lesson: Tell the story from “Sharing Time: Joseph Smith—Prophet of the Restoration,” (by Diane Nichols, *Friend*, July 2001), using the flannel board pictures.

Have you ever really wondered about what to do in a certain situation? Or really wanted to know the answer to a question? Perhaps you asked your parents or your friends or your teachers about it but were still not sure what you should do. When Joseph Smith was fourteen years old, he had a question. He was living on his family’s farm in Palmyra, New York. In the town where they lived, there was a great deal of excitement about religion. There were many preachers from many different churches. Each said that he had the truth and tried to convince people to join his church. Joseph wondered which of the churches he should join. He asked himself, “What is to be done? Who of all these parties are right; or, are they all wrong together? If any one of them be right, which is it, and how shall I know it?” (JS—H 1:10).

One day Joseph read in the Bible, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5). Joseph decided to do what the scripture said. He decided to ask Heavenly Father which church was right so that he would know which one he should join.

Joseph had never prayed out loud before. He decided to go to a grove of trees near his home to ask Heavenly Father his question. On a beautiful spring morning, he walked into the grove, looked around to be sure that he was alone, and knelt in prayer. As he began his prayer, a terrible feeling of darkness surrounded him. It was so strong that he thought it was going to destroy him! He prayed with all his heart to Heavenly Father for help. At that moment, a pillar of light appeared over his head and came down and rested on him. The darkness left him, and he saw two Heavenly Beings standing above him in the air. One spoke to him, saying, “This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!” (JS—H 1:17.)

The two Heavenly Beings were Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. The Savior told Joseph that he should not join any of the churches because they were all wrong. Joseph had the answer to his question. Later, he received visits from other heavenly messengers and learned what Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ wanted him to do to help restore the gospel to the earth. He followed Their directions.

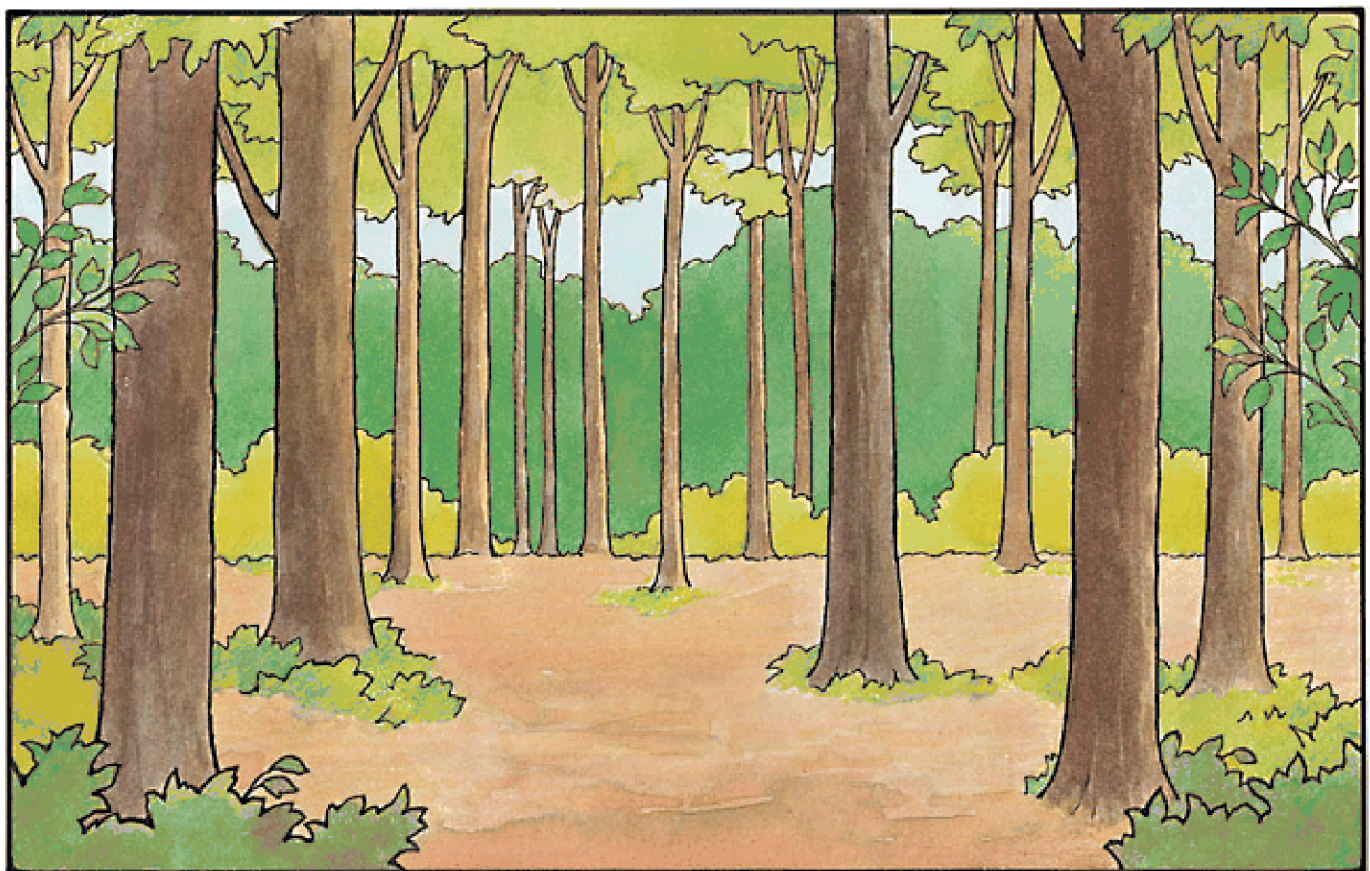
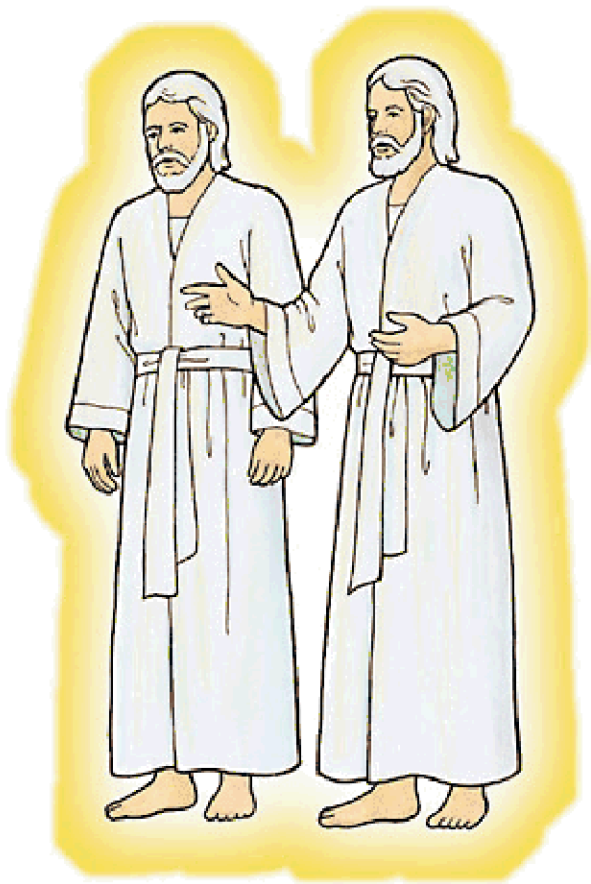
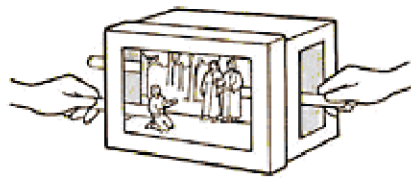
Joseph Smith organized The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and became the first prophet and President of the Church. He translated the Book of Mormon, built the first latter-day temple, and received most of the revelations found in the Doctrine and Covenants. We are grateful to him for helping to restore the gospel to the earth. And we should be thankful for the example of faith and courage he set for all of us. What a blessing it is that Joseph Smith prayed to Heavenly Father when he needed an answer. We, too, can go to Heavenly Father in prayer and receive answers to important questions in our lives. Through prayer we can also receive a testimony from Heavenly Father that Joseph Smith was a prophet.

Activity: “Eatable - Uneatable”

The leader names different objects. If the named object is eatable the players are to clap their hands in front of them. If the named object is uneatable the players are to clap their hands behind their backs. The leader can string objects together, trying to trip up the players. For example, the leader could say, “roll-doll-box-fox-jam-ham-lamb-plane-cane-cream-dream.” Any player who makes a mistake is out until the next round.

Closing Song: “Seek the Lord Early” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 108)

Closing Prayer:



Josiah—Believer in the Scriptures

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Search, Ponder and Pray” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 109)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Moroni 10:4-5 - “And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost. And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things.

Lesson: Tell the story “Josiah—Believer in the Scriptures,” (*Friend*, Feb. 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

Josiah was only eight years old when he became king of Judah. His father had been a wicked king, but Josiah chose to be righteous. When he had been king for several years, he ordered that the temple be repaired. While that was being done, the “book of the law” (scriptures) was found. The high priest sent it to King Josiah, who studied it carefully. To his dismay, he discovered that he and his people had not been living the gospel. He wept when he realized that they had been worshiping idols (false gods). He ordered that the idols be destroyed.

The Lord saw that Josiah wished to be obedient and live according to the scriptures, and promised him that though Jerusalem would one day be destroyed because of its wickedness, it would not happen while he was king.

King Josiah had all the people brought before the temple. As he stood next to a pillar, he read to them from the book of law. He then had them make a sacred covenant to “walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments ... with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book” (2 Kgs. 23:3). All the people agreed. Josiah tried all his life to live by the scriptures, and he tried to teach his people to do the same.

Though his people did not remain faithful after his death, Josiah was such a righteous man that it was said, “like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him” (2 Kgs. 23:25).

Activity: “Cities”

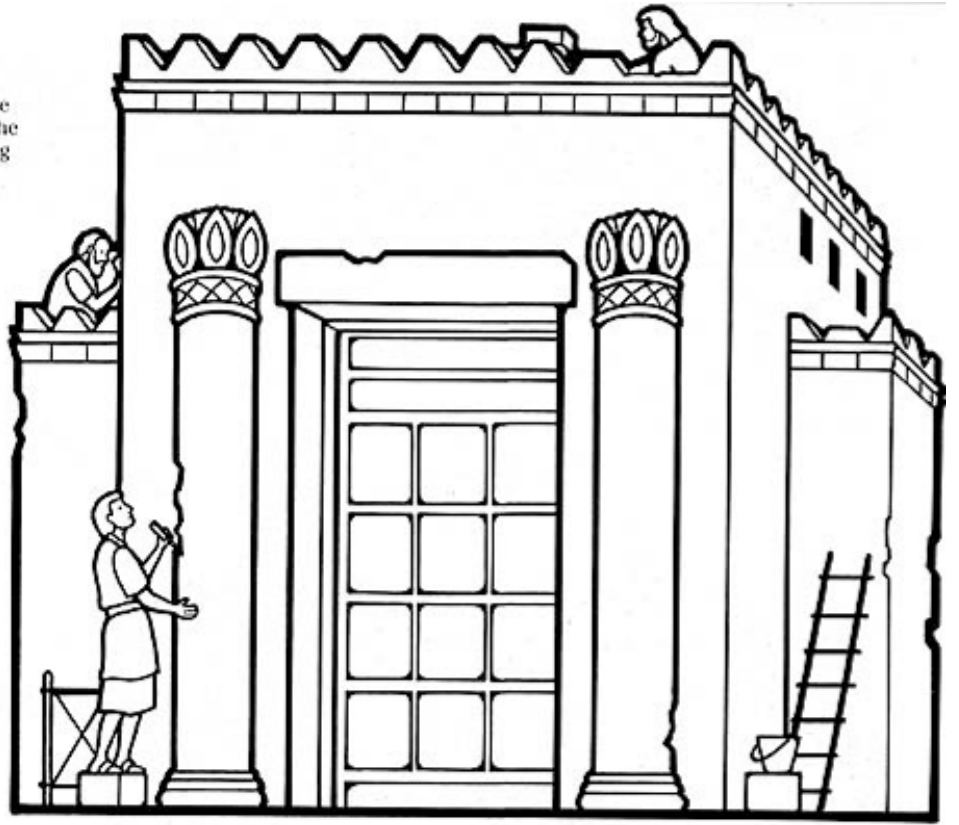
The object is to name as many cities beginning with the letter “A” as possible. The player whose variant is the last is the winner. When there are no more variants the leader begins to count, for example, “Amsterdam - one, Amsterdam - two, Amsterdam - three. Amsterdam wins!”

Closing Song: “The Eight Article of Faith” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 127)

Closing Prayer:



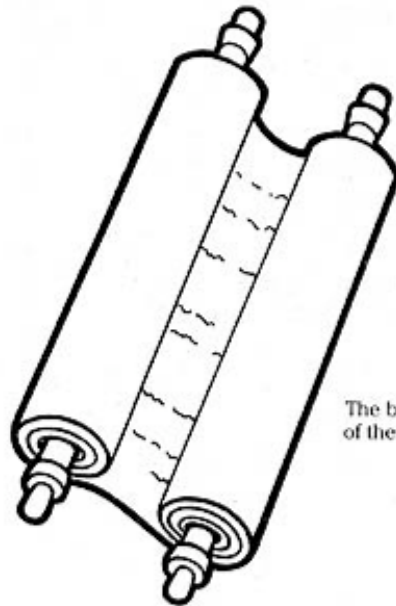
Josiah at age eight, when he became king



The temple being repaired



The high priest



The book of the law



Josiah, grown up, standing by the pillar of the temple



Josiah at age eight, when he became king



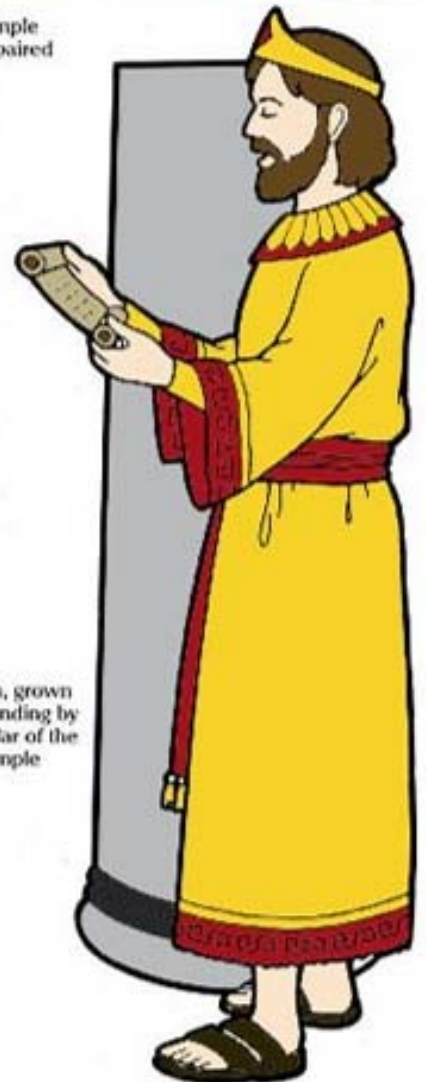
The temple being repaired



The high priest



The book of the law



Josiah, grown up, standing by the pillar of the temple

Love at Home

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Prayer:

Opening Song: “Love is Spoken Here” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 190)

Scripture: John 13:34 - “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you.”

Lesson: Give the lesson, “Sharing Time: Love at Home” (*Friend*, June 1996), using the pictures when applicable.

Can you guess the answer to this riddle? What is as invisible as the wind and as warm as the sun, can be given away without losing any, grows when it is shared, comes from your heart, and shows on your face?

The answer to the riddle is love. Love is a powerful feeling of affection, concern, and tenderness for another.

Your home in heaven was filled with love. Your Heavenly Father prepared a plan of happiness for you because He loves you. That plan makes it possible for you to become like Him and return to live with Him forever. Your Savior and Elder Brother, Jesus Christ, suffered and gave His life to free you from sin and death. Heavenly Father and Jesus love you. Jesus gave us a commandment to love one another as He loves us. When you love others and show that love by your actions, you are following Him. When you love others, you show that you are a child of Heavenly Father and a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ (see John 13:34-35). You become more like Them.

Your home here on earth is the first and most important place to show love. You can do it in very simple but powerful ways—a smile, a thank you, a hug, a kind word or deed. You can say, “I love you.” Everyone enjoys hearing those words again and again. As you show love for your family, that love will grow, and you will help to make your home a heavenly place.

A home filled with love is a heavenly place.

A person filled with love is following Jesus.

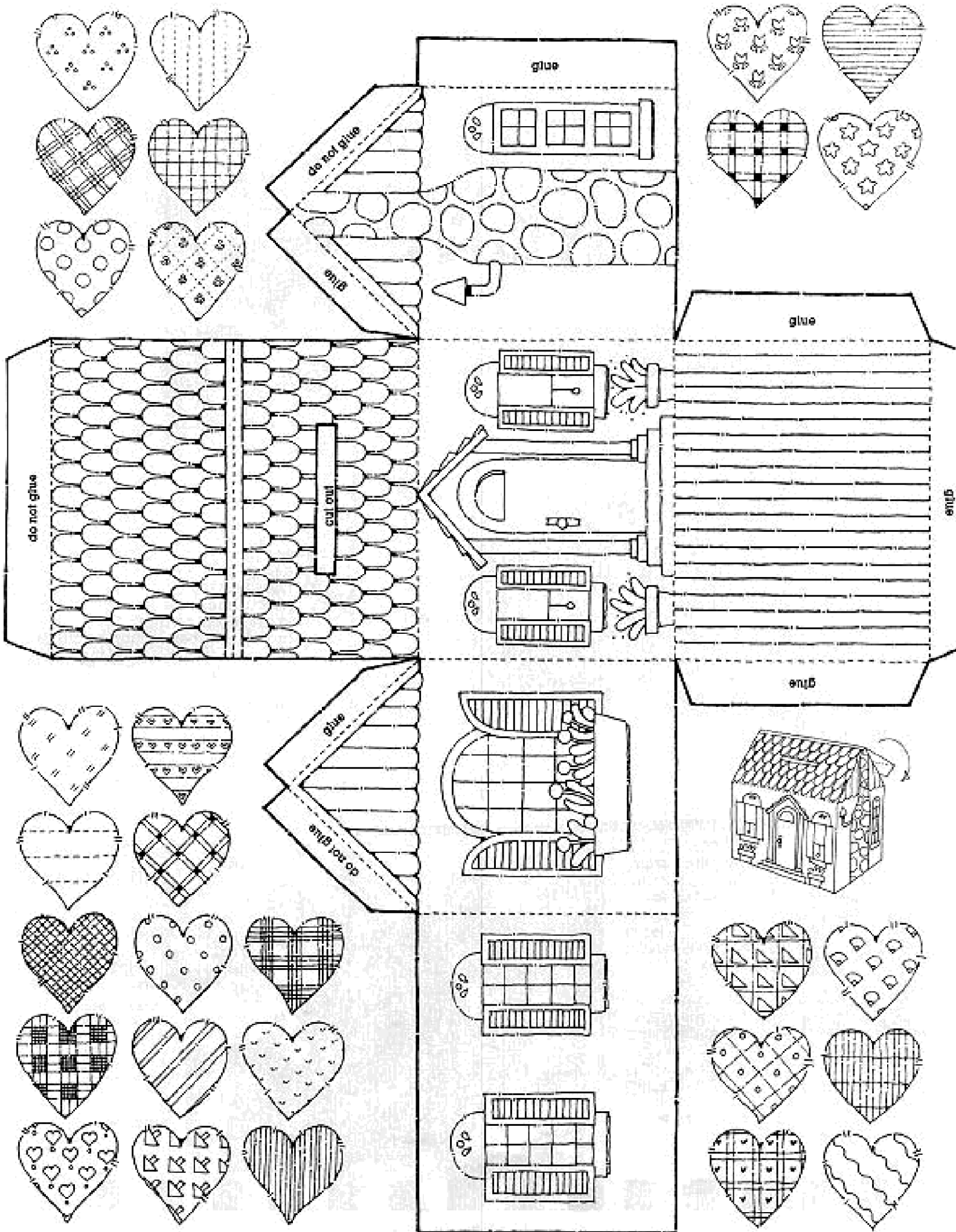
Mount the folding house and hearts on a heavier piece of paper or lightweight cardboard, and color them. Cut out the house and the slot in the roof. Fold along the dotted lines to create a box house, and glue where indicated. Cut out the hearts. Begin with an empty house. Pass out the hearts to members of the family. Each family member writes a kind deed they can do to show love for the family. Go around the room - each person tells what they wrote and puts the heart in the house.

Activity: “Neighbor’s Hands”

The players get into a circle. The leader is walking in the center of it. The leader comes to one of the players and says: “Hands up!” This player must stand still, but both of his/her neighbors (on the right and on the left) must raise their hands. The neighbor on the right must raise his/her left hand. The neighbor on the left raises his/her right hand (their hands closest to the person between them). The player who is mistaken becomes the leader. Before the game begins the leader rehearses with the players so that everybody understands what hand to raise.

Closing Song: “Love One Another” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 136)

Closing Prayer:



Moroni's Words to Us: How Will Keeping My Baptismal Covenant Help Me Follow Jesus Throughout My Life?

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "Choose the Right Way" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 160)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: D&C 14:7 - And, if you keep my commandments and endure to the end you shall have eternal life, which gift is the greatest of all the gifts of God."

Lesson: Tell the story, "Moroni's Words to Us: How Will Keeping My Baptismal Covenant Help Me Follow Jesus Throughout My Life?" (*Friend*, Dec. 2000), using the flannel board pictures.

As prophesied throughout the Book of Mormon, the Nephites were utterly destroyed because of their wickedness and their pride. Moroni was a righteous prophet and his life was spared. As he wandered around the land to escape the Lamanites, he wrote inspired advice for us in the latter days. This advice includes one of the best known and most profound promises in the scriptures:

"Behold, I would exhort you that when ye shall read these things [the Book of Mormon], if it be wisdom in God that ye should read them, that ye would remember how merciful the Lord hath been unto the children of men, from the creation of Adam even down until the time that ye shall receive these things, and ponder it in your hearts.

"And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

"And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things." (Moro. 10:3-5.)

After baptism, we are given the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands by those who have the authority to do so. If we live worthily, the Holy Ghost will be our constant companion and will guide us on the path that leads to eternal life.

Ten-year-old Cameron Julian of McPherson, Kansas, followed the promptings of the Spirit. Cameron loves baseball, and he was thrilled when he was chosen to be the batboy for a traveling baseball team. The team participated in a tournament and were to play in the championship game—a game to be held on a Sunday. Cameron decided to ask Heavenly Father what to do. As he prayed, he felt prompted by the Holy Ghost to miss the game and keep the Sabbath Day holy.

At first, Cameron felt really bad about missing the game. But he gradually felt peaceful about his decision. From this experience, Cameron gained a testimony that "it was hard to choose the right, but I was blessed for following the promptings of the Holy Ghost."

Activity: "From City to City"

The players get into a circle. The first person begins to name the cities. He/she, for example, says "Moscow". The next player names the city which begins with the last letter of Moscow - W. He/she says, "Warsaw". The next player says, for example, "Washington". Then the player name, for example, Newton, New York, Kansas City, etc. Each player has three seconds to think over his/her choice. If he/she can't remember a name of a city in three seconds, he/she is out of the game.

Closing Song: "Keep the Commandments" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 146)

Closing Prayer:

Moroni's Words to Us: How Will Keeping My Baptismal Covenant Help Me Follow Jesus Throughout My Life? Dec 2000

Color the flannel-board figures, then mount them on heavy paper. Cut them out and use them to retell the story "Moroni's Words to Us."



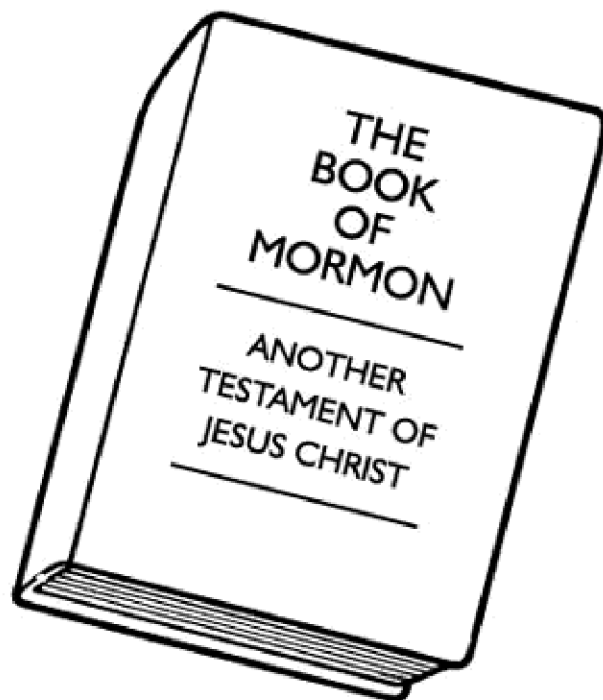
Moroni writing on the gold plates



Girl being confirmed and given the gift of the Holy Ghost



Boy praying



Moses Teaches His People

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “The Commandments” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 112)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: 1 Nephi 19:23 - “I did liken all scriptures unto us, that it might be for our profit and learning.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Moses Teaches His People,” (*Friend*, May 1998), using the flannel board pictures.

God called Moses to be the prophet to lead the children of Israel out of captivity in Egypt. He parted the Red Sea so that Moses could lead the people through it to escape the Egyptian armies who were chasing them. When the people had no food, the Lord gave them manna. When they needed water, He provided it. The Lord blessed His people, and they were grateful.

After they had traveled in the wilderness for two months, they came to Mount Sinai. Moses went up on the mountain, and the Lord called to him and told him to tell the people, “If ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people” (Ex. 19:5). The people answered, “All that the Lord hath spoken we will do” (Ex. 19:8).

The Lord asked Moses to gather the people at the foot of the mountain. When they had gathered there, the mountain was covered with a cloud of smoke and it shook. Then the Lord spoke, saying:

“I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

“Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. ...

“Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. ...

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. ...

“Honour thy father and thy mother. ...

“Thou shalt not kill.

“Thou shalt not commit adultery.

“Thou shalt not steal.

“Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

“Thou shalt not covet.” (Ex. 20:2-4, 7-8, 12-17.)

During the forty years that followed, as the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness on their way to the promised land, Moses taught them and counseled them. He tried to help them obey these commandments, known today as the Ten Commandments. And though we were not there at the foot of Mount Sinai when they were given, it is just as important for us to obey them today. As we read this story in the scriptures, we can imagine the voice of the Lord speaking to us, and the voice of Moses counseling us.

Activity: “Who is the Monkey?”

The players choose the leader. He/she goes out of the room. While the leader is absent the players choose the monkey. When the leader returns, “the monkey” begins to make movements - shake the head, stamp the foot, etc. The players repeat all the movements. They must repeat the movements quickly so it is hard for the leader to figure out who started the movement. If the leader guesses who “the monkey” is, “the monkey” becomes the leader the next round.

Closing Song: “Keep the Commandments” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 146)

Closing Prayer:



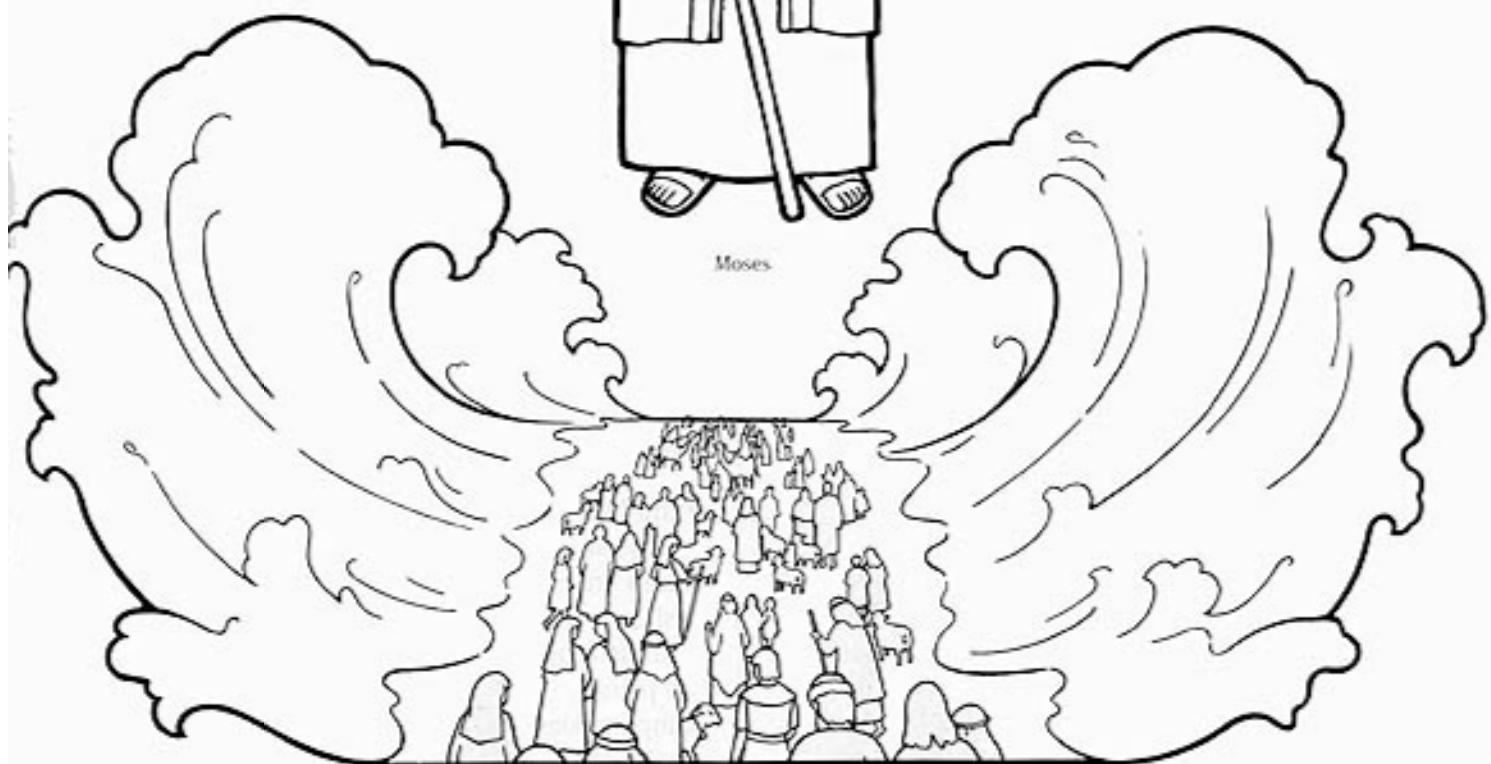
Tablets with the
Ten Commandments



Moses



Mount Sinai in a cloud



The Red Sea parted, and the children of Israel went through.



Tablets with the Ten Commandments



Moses



Mount Sinai in a cloud



The Red Sea parted, and the children of Israel went through.

Remember Mother

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “My Mother Dear” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 203)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: Col. 3:20 - “Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.”

Lesson: Tell the poem, “Hats Off to Mother” (*Friend*, May 1983), using the flannel board pictures.

Hats Off to Mother

My mother’s job is sometimes hard, and I have heard her say,
“The hours are long, and if I could, I’d like to change the pay.”

Her profession has variety, and I will tell you now
About the many hats she wears—and why and when and how.

1. My mommy’s a nurse who fixes and patches
All of my hurts and my sores and my scratches.
2. My mother’s a chef who fixes each dinner
Fit for a king—a blue-ribbon winner!
3. My mom’s a chauffeur who drives pretty slow
But gets me to places where I need to go.
4. My mom’s a detective, and no one is greater
At getting the truth from me sooner or later.
5. My mommy’s a gardener and works really hard,
Planting and weeding and grooming our yard.
6. My mother’s a maid—at least that’s what she said—
‘Cause she cleans up the house and makes every bed.
7. My mother’s an angel—a queen in disguise—
Who teaches the gospel with tears in her eyes.

Today take these hats off, and please wear no other.
Let me do your work, to show I LOVE YOU, MOTHER!

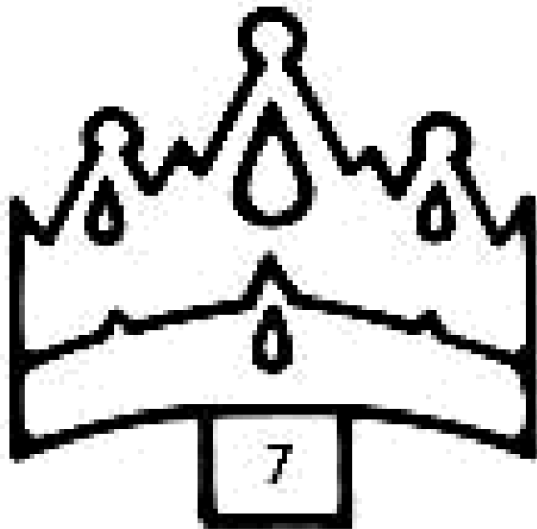
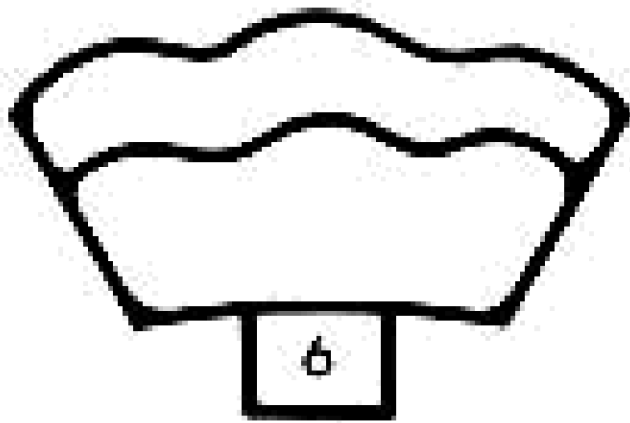
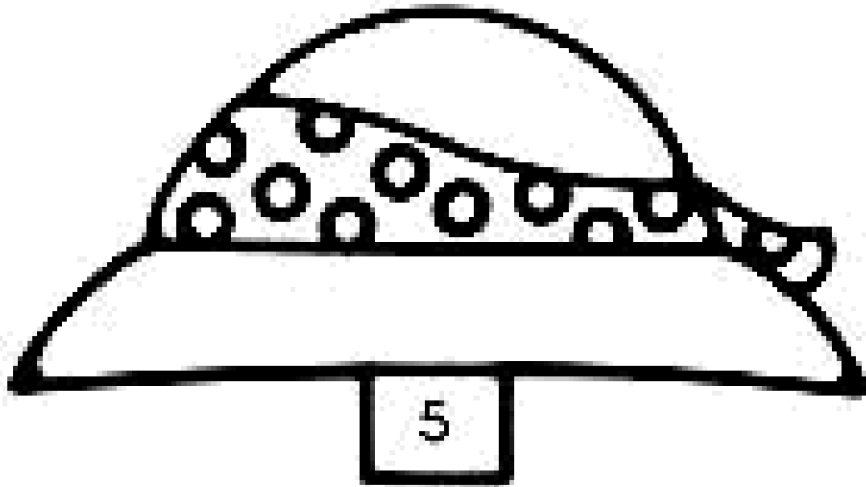
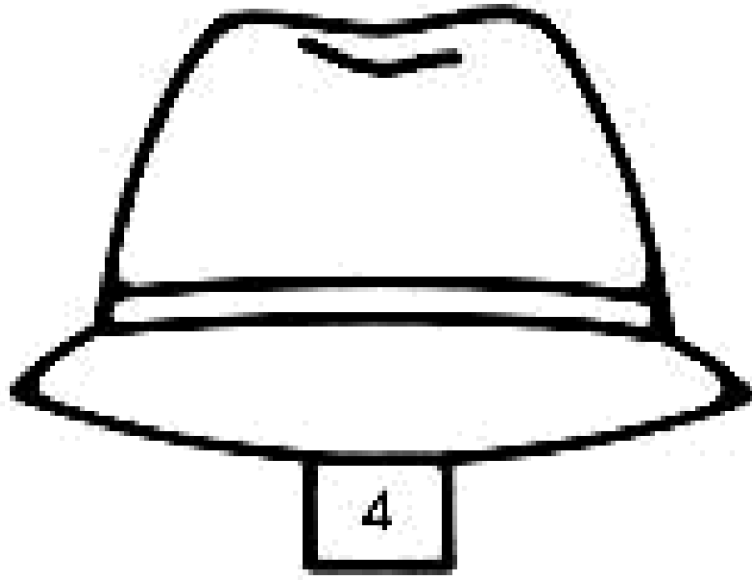
Activity: **Coupons**

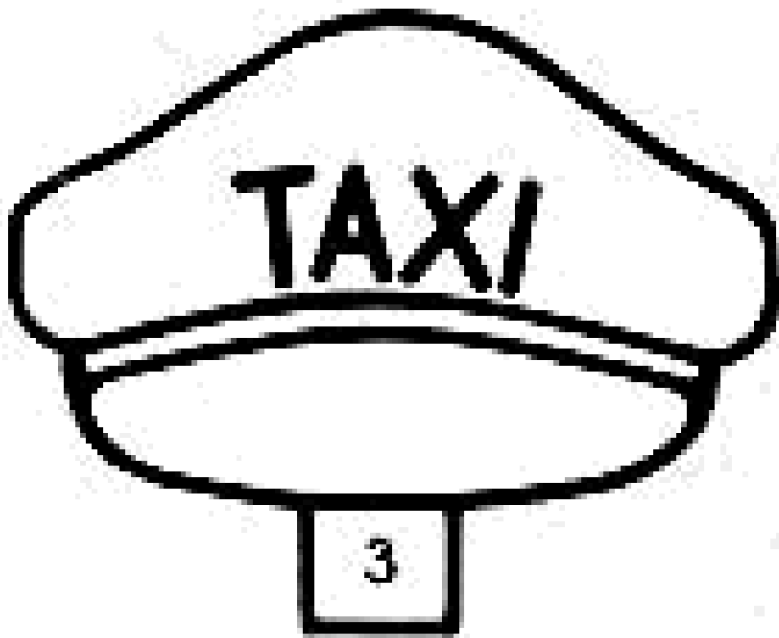
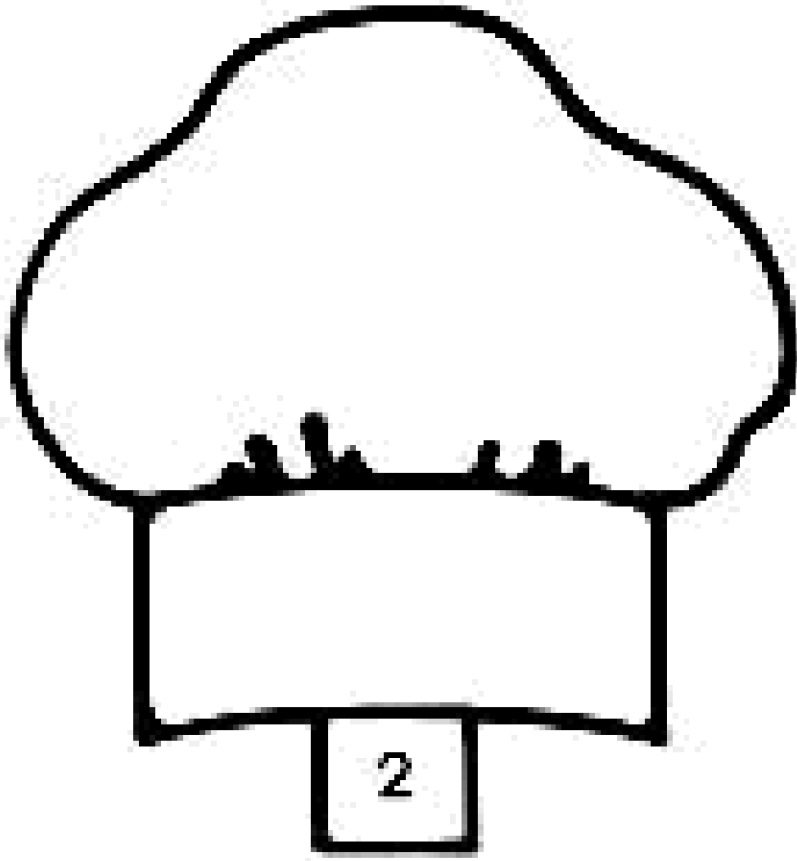
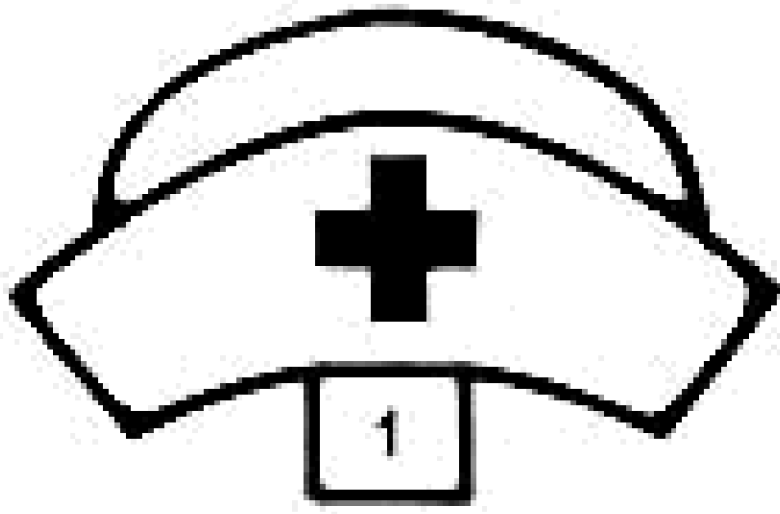
Each person makes up two service coupons to give to Mother. They might say, “Redeemable for one free car wash” or “Good for a night of washing dishes” or “Exchange this coupon for a hug and a kiss.”

Closing Song: “The Dearest Names” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 208)

Closing Prayer:







Nephi Forgives: How Can We Help Each Other Keep Our Baptismal Covenants? Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Help Me, Dear Father” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 99)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: 1 Timothy 4:12 - “Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”

Lesson: Tell the story, “Nephi Forgives: How Can We Help Each Other Keep Our Baptismal Covenants?” (*Friend*, Nov. 2000), using the flannel board pictures.

After the prophet Lehi and his family left Jerusalem, and the family of Ishmael joined them in the wilderness, Laman, Lemuel, and some of Ishmael’s family began to rebel against those who were living righteously. Lehi’s son Nephi was sad that his brothers were being rebellious. He said, “How is it that ye are so hard in your hearts, and so blind in your minds, that ye have need that I, your younger brother, should speak unto you, yea, and set an example for you?”

“How is it that ye have not hearkened unto the word of the Lord?” (1 Ne. 7:8-9.)

Laman and Lemuel became very angry with him. They did not like to be told they were living unrighteously. They became so angry that they tied him up and planned to leave him bound (tied up) to be eaten by wild beasts.

Nephi prayed, “O Lord, according to my faith which is in thee, wilt thou deliver me from the hands of my brethren; yea, even give me strength that I may burst these bands with which I am bound” (1 Ne. 7:17).

The bands that were tied around him were loosed from his hands and feet, which made Laman and Lemuel even angrier. When they tried to hurt him, however, Ishmael’s wife and two of his children pleaded with them so much that their hearts were softened and they were sorry for their wickedness.

Laman and Lemuel bowed down before Nephi and asked for his forgiveness. Instead of being angry with his brothers for trying to hurt him, Nephi said that he “did frankly forgive them all that they had done, and ... did exhort them that they would pray unto the Lord their God for forgiveness” (1 Ne. 7:21).

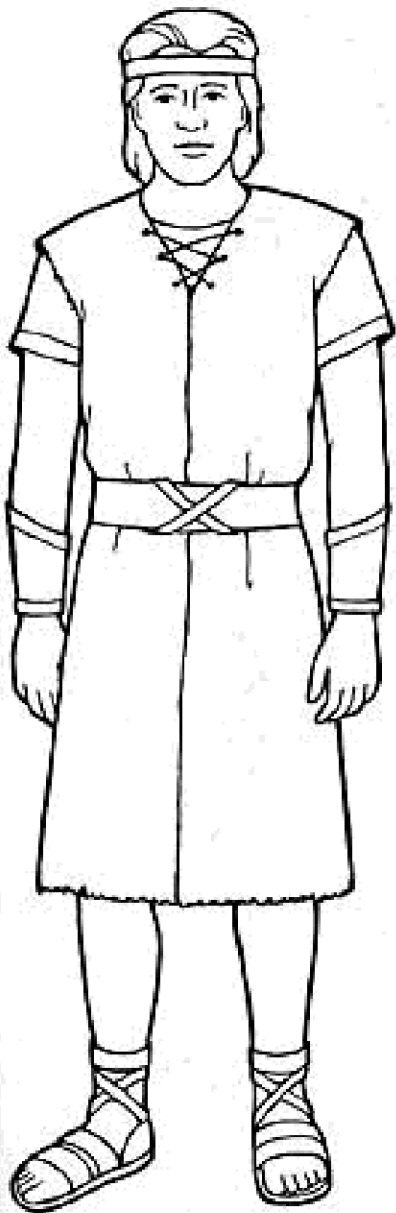
We, too, can choose whether to forgive those who have hurt or offended us, or to remain angry with them. Eight-year-old Nils Evensen from South Jordan, Utah, has learned to follow Nephi’s example of being forgiving. When Nils turned eight, he saved all his birthday money and bought a toy that he really wanted. He was always very careful to put it away after playing with it so that it would not get broken. One day, a friend accidentally sat on the toy and broke it. Nils’ eleven-year-old sister, Linnea, said that instead of getting angry with his friend, Nils told him, “It’s OK—we can glue the pieces back on.” Because Nils chose to be forgiving, he was able to keep a friendship that might have been badly hurt if he had chosen to get angry.

Activity: “Two Signals”

When the leader whistles once, the players raise and lower their right hands quickly. When the leader whistles twice, the players do not raise their hands. The players who make a mistake are out of the game until the next round.

Closing Song: “Kindness Begins with Me” (*Children’s Songbook*, pg. 145)

Closing Prayer:



Nephi



Laman and Lemuel



Nephi bursting his bands



Saw with a broken toy



Laman and Lemuel bowing before Nephi

Nephi Obtains the Plates
Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: “Nephi’s Courage” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 120)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded (1 Ne. 3:7).

Lesson: Tell the following story (from “Nephi Obtains the Plates,” *Friend*, Mar. 1992, 11) using the flannel board pictures.

I feel reverent when I keep the commandments.

Nephi obtains the plates because the Lord commanded him to do it.

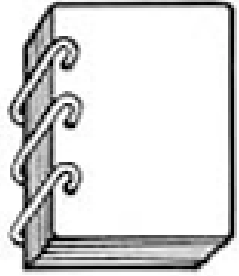
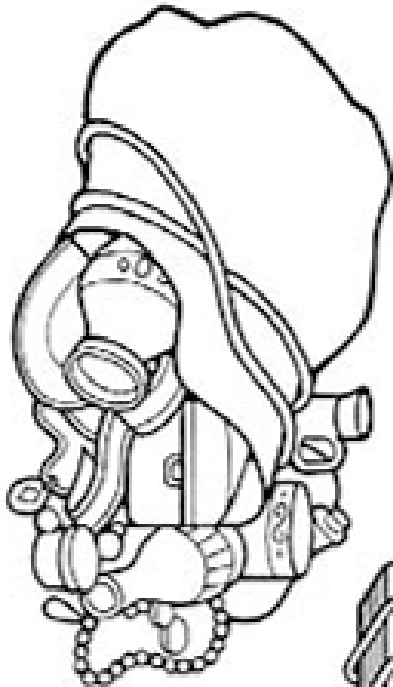
Read: 1 Nephi 3; 4:1-13, 20, 26

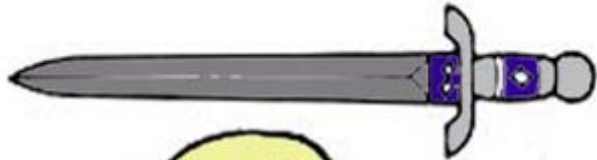
Activity: “Melted Crayon Valentines”

With a piece of wax paper in front of a child, show her how to use a carrot peeler on a crayon. As she scrapes different colored crayons, let the scrapings fall in various places on the paper. Next, cover with a second piece of wax paper. Carry this to the ironing board. Place an old cloth or a paper grocer sack underneath to keep your ironing board clean, and on top of the wax paper sandwich to keep your iron clean. Show what pretty designs can be made by ironing the artwork with a warm iron. After the wax paper has been ironed, cut it in the shape of a heart. You can hang it up in your window, or with a felt tip pen, write a Valentine message and give it away.

Closing Song: “Called to Serve” (*Children’s Songbook*, p. 174)

Closing Prayer:





The Lord Commands His People to Build Temples

Family Home Evening Lesson

Opening Song: "I Love to See the Temple" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 95)

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: D&C 124:31 - "I command you, all ye my saints, to build a house unto me."

Lesson: Read the riddles from "The Lord Commands His People to Build Temples" (*Friend*, February 1993), about some of the prophets and other leaders who were commanded by the Lord to build temples. Match each picture of the man, and the temple built under his direction, with the riddle. Use the pictures to retell the stories.

A. I directed my people to build a temple like Solomon's temple in Jerusalem, even though the land in which I lived was far from Jerusalem. We did not have as many precious materials to use for our temple as Solomon did, but we used the best materials we had and worked hard to make the temple as beautiful as we could. Who am I? (See 2 Nephi 5:16.) (3 - Nephi)

B. The Saints were living in poverty but the Lord commanded me that we should build a temple; we knew that we would be blessed to do the difficult task. Our women helped by supplying food and clothing for the temple workmen. The women also donated their fine china to be ground up and added to the plaster for the outer temple walls. The sparkling plaster made the temple even more beautiful. Who am I? (See Doctrine and Covenants 95:preface, 11.) (4 - Joseph Smith)

C. My father, King David, had a great desire to build a temple for the Lord. He collected many materials for the construction of it, but the Lord told him that he was not to build the temple because he had been a man of war and had shed much blood. I was given the honor of building the temple, instead. Who am I? (See Chronicles 22:6-11.) (2 - Solomon)

D. I lived in the greatest era of temple building ever known. Many temples were built under my direction. There was special joy in the Church when the Freiberg Germany Temple was dedicated, because the Saints who lived in what was then East Germany did not have freedom to visit temples in other countries. The Freiberg Germany Temple was the thirty-third temple in use in the world at the time it was dedicated. Who am I? (See *Ensign*, August 1985, page 75; September 1985, pages 73-74; December 1985, page 34.) (6 - Spencer W. Kimball)

E. Because my people were traveling in the wilderness, I was commanded to build a portable temple, which was called a tabernacle. In the most holy part of the tabernacle was the Ark of the Covenant (Testimony), in which were the two tables (tablets) of stone that God gave to me on Mt. Sinai. The Ten Commandments were written on the tables of stone. Who am I? (See Exodus 25:1-2, 8-9, 16, 22, 31:18; 1 Kings 8:9.) (1 - Moses)

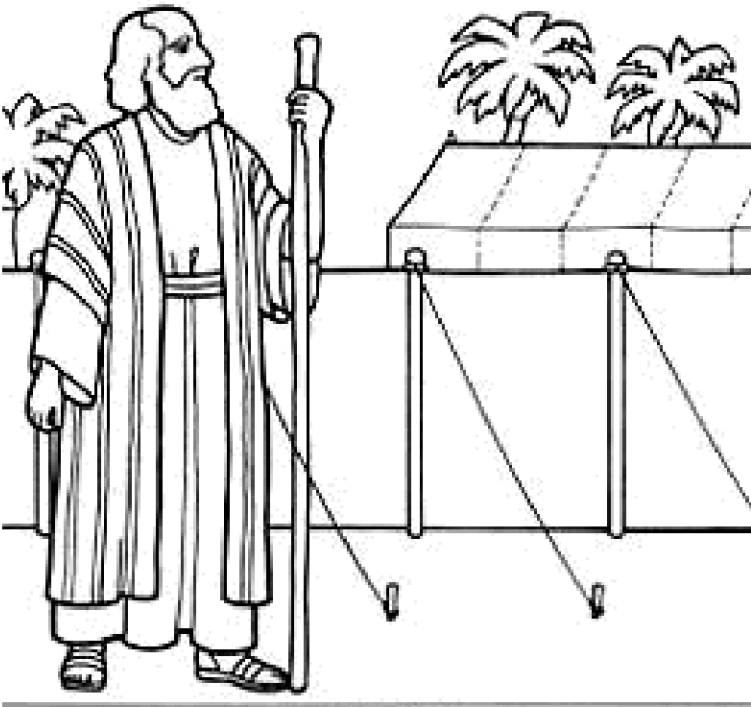
F. A few days after my people reached the beautiful valley that was to be our new home, I saw the spot where the house of the Lord was to be built. This temple took forty years to build. It helped to fulfill the prophecy that "the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains," as Isaiah foretold (Isaiah 2:1-3). Who am I? (See *Ensign*, July 1988, pages 6-13.) (5 - Brigham Young)

Activity: "Stations"

Everyone stands in a circle (except one who is standing in the middle) and has been told to remember a different number, letter, state, etc. The person in the middle calls out two names. The people who have been asked to remember those names have to change places quickly, before the person in the middle can get to one of the empty spaces. Whomever is left without a place is the person in the middle for the next game.

Closing Song: "Families Can Be Together Forever" (*Children's Songbook*, pg. 188)

Closing Prayer:



1. MOSES



2. SOLOMON



3. NEPHI



4. JOSEPH SMITH



5. BRIGHAM YOUNG



6. SPENCER W. KIMBALL