



2008 Outline for Sharing Time and the Children's Sacrament Meeting Presentation

I Am a Child of God

"All of you are children of the most High" (Psalm 82:6).

INSTRUCTIONS TO PRIMARY LEADERS
FOR SHARING TIME AND THE CHILDREN'S
SACRAMENT MEETING PRESENTATION

MESSAGE TO PRIMARY PRESIDENCIES

This year we will be helping each Primary child gain a testimony that he or she is a child of God. This gospel truth gives us hope. Our Heavenly Father has a plan for each of us. It includes the love and redeeming power of our Savior Jesus Christ, restored gospel truths, family, covenants, and temple blessings. As you teach the gospel truths outlined in these sharing times, the children will learn who they are and what they can become as they exercise faith in the Savior. They will learn to pray, keep the commandments, make and keep covenants, and express gratitude in word and deed. As leaders, you will have wonderful opportunities to listen to the Spirit as you prepare for sharing time. You will be able to teach from the scriptures, bear testimony, and be an example. As you teach with the Spirit, the children will long remember how the Spirit made them feel. We know the Lord will bless you as you serve Him in faith. We love you and pray for you.

The Primary General Presidency

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SHARING TIME

Sharing time is a 30-minute period that allows children of combined age-groups to participate in activities and sing songs that teach gospel principles.

The following guidelines will help in planning sharing times:

- Study this document before the year begins.
- Teach the principles in this outline.
- Seek inspiration as you plan weekly sharing times.
- Include the music leader in your planning. Use music throughout sharing time to reinforce the principles being taught. Half of sharing time should be used for singing. This will allow the music leader enough time to teach new music and to help the children have fun singing.
- Discuss ways you can teach the weekly gospel principle, involve the children, and help the children apply the gospel principle to their lives. (See [“Teaching Methods” on page 13.](#))

- Write your plan on a copy of the [“Sharing Time Planning Work Sheet” on page 12.](#)
- Determine which member of the presidency will teach or oversee each weekly sharing time.
- Have one sharing time a month be a class presentation. (See [“Class Presentations” on page 13.](#))

GUIDELINES FOR THE SACRAMENT MEETING PRESENTATION

Under the direction of the bishop or branch president, the children's sacrament meeting presentation is given during the fourth quarter of the year. The children will share what they have learned about this year's theme, "I Am a Child of God." The sacrament meeting presentation should be no more than 40 minutes long and should follow Church policies and guidelines for sacrament meetings. A member of the bishopric or branch presidency should conclude the meeting with brief remarks confirming the principles taught in the presentation. (See *Church Handbook of Instructions, Book 2: Priesthood and Auxiliary Leaders* [1998], 237.)


The following guidelines will also help in planning the sacrament meeting presentation:

- Meet with the bishop or branch president early in the year to discuss preliminary plans. Obtain his approval when the plans are completed.
- Plan for the children to present the program based on the monthly sharing time themes.
- Throughout the year, keep notes of individual children's talks and experiences for possible use in the presentation.
- Plan to use a variety of methods in the presentation: scriptures, personal experiences, music, individual or group recitations, and testimonies.
- In presenting the music, you may include the entire Primary chorus, older and younger children's choruses, child soloists, duets, small groups of children, the congregation, and appropriate instrumental accompaniments.

- Plan practices that will not take time away from classes or families unnecessarily.

KEY TO SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used throughout the outline:

	<i>Music.</i> These songs support the yearly objective and are recommended for the sacrament meeting presentation.
CS	<i>Children's Songbook</i>
FHE	<i>Family Home Evening Resource Book</i>
GAK	Gospel Art Picture Kit
GP	<i>Gospel Principles</i>
"My Gospel Standards"	<i>Faith in God</i> guidebooks, back cover
Picture	Primary manual picture packets
"Proclamation"	"The Family: A Proclamation to the World," <i>Ensign</i> , Nov. 1995, 102
TNGC	<i>Teaching, No Greater Call</i>
TTF	<i>True to the Faith</i>

PICTURES

The following GAK pictures are referenced in this year's outline for sharing time. Most have a corresponding picture in one of the Primary manual picture packets.

<i>GAK pictures and descriptions</i>	<i>Corresponding pictures in Primary manual picture packets</i>
101—Adam and Eve	1-33, 6-4
102—Noah building the ark	1-29, 2-72, 6-7
105—Abraham and Isaac	6-11
117—Daniel in the lions' den	1-14, 6-13
215—Healing Jairus's daughter	2-25, 7-18
216—Christ and children	2-35, 3-56, 7-24
218—The good Samaritan	1-62, 3-63, 7-21
221—The ten lepers	2-45, 7-23
227—Christ in Gethsemane	1-72, 2-52, 3-46, 6-47, 7-30

230—The Crucifixion	1-59, 2-61, 3-71, 4-11, 6-27, 7-33
231—Burial of Jesus	1-73, 3-74, 7-34
233—Mary and the resurrected Lord	2-62, 7-36
240—Jesus Christ	1-3, 2-3, 3-9, 4-9, 5-48, 7-1
301—Lehi leaving Jerusalem	3-40, 4-5
311—Anti-Nephi-Lehies	3-54, 4-33
322—Christ and Nephite children	2-36, 4-48
400—Joseph Smith	1-13, 5-2
407—Restoration of Aaronic Priesthood	3-11, 5-15, 6-52
416—Translating the Book of Mormon	5-14
507–520—Latter-day prophets	2-15 (Brigham Young); 3-18, 5-58 (Lorenzo Snow); 3-19 (David O. McKay); 3-67 (Spencer W. Kimball)
601—Baptism	1-11, 2-20, 3-13
602—Confirmation	1-12, 2-30, 3-14, 6-51
605—Prayer	1-9, 3-24, 3-60, 7-13
608—Christ and children from around the world	

I AM A CHILD OF GOD

“All of you are children of the most High” (Psalm 82:6).

Objective: To help children understand that as children of God they are part of an eternal plan and rich blessings are in store for them as they follow Jesus Christ.

OUTLINE FOR SHARING TIME

The monthly themes in this outline have accompanying scriptures that the children could memorize. The weekly gospel principles should be taught during sharing times and opening or closing exercises that month. Normally, only one gospel principle is taught each week. Some of the weekly gospel principles are followed by a suggested sharing time idea. All have references to other sources that may help you plan your sharing time. Occasionally there may be a need in your Primary, such as a temple dedication or a priesthood leader’s focus, that calls for a special emphasis in sharing time.

JANUARY THEME

I am a child of God, and He has a plan for me.

“All human beings—male and female—are created in the image of God. Each is a beloved spirit son or daughter of heavenly parents, and, as such, each has a divine nature and destiny” (“Proclamation,” paragraph 2).

♪ “I Am a Child of God” (CS, 2–3; Hymns, no. 301)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. I am a child of God. I lived with Him in the pre-mortal world. I am created in His image (Moses 2:26; D&C 76:24; GP, chapter 2; Primary 1, lesson 1; Preach My Gospel, 48–49).
2. I learned of and accepted Heavenly Father’s plan. I have a divine destiny (D&C 138:55–56; Abraham 3:24–27; “Proclamation,” paragraph 3; Primary 6, lesson 1; GP, chapters 2–3; “Plan of Salvation,” TTF, 115–17).

Discuss the following:

- a. *Premortal Life.* (I lived with Heavenly Father as a spirit child. He presented His plan—the plan of salvation. I chose to follow His plan.) Sing verse one of “I Lived in Heaven” (CS, 4).

- b. *Earth Life.* (I came to a family and received a body. Earth life is a time for learning, choosing, and preparing for eternal life.) Sing verse two of “I Lived in Heaven.” Explain Jesus Christ’s role in the plan of salvation.

- c. *Life after Death.* (I will be resurrected. Because of Jesus Christ’s Atonement, if I live righteously I will be able to live with Heavenly Father again.) Sing verse three of “I Lived in Heaven.”

Divide the children into three groups and assign them to a part of Heavenly Father’s plan. Have each child in the group draw a picture of himself or herself living during that part of the plan. Post the pictures on the wall under headings “Premortal Life,” “Earth Life,” and “Life after Death.” Review by asking questions. Bear your testimony of the plan of salvation.

3. Heavenly Father gave me agency. I chose to follow His plan (2 Nephi 10:23; Helaman 14:30–31; “Agency,” TTF, 12; Primary 3, lesson 2; Preach My Gospel, 49–50; GP, chapter 4).
4. As part of the plan, Jesus created this world for all of God’s children. Adam and Eve were our first parents (Genesis 1–2; Moses 2–3; GP, chapters 5–6; “Creation,” TTF, 44–45; Primary 6, lessons 3 and 4).

Divide the chalkboard into eight sections. Label them “Day 1, Genesis 1:3–5”; “Day 2, Genesis 1:6–8”; “Day 3, Genesis 1:9–13”; “Day 4, Genesis 1:16–19”; “Day 5, Genesis 1:20–23”; “Day 6, Genesis 1:24–28, 31”; “Day 7, Genesis 2:1–3”; and “Because Jesus created this world for me, I will _____.” Discuss each day of the Creation as one child reads the scripture listed on the board and another child illustrates that day’s creations. For day 6, display GAK 101, and for day 7, display GAK 240. Sing “All Things Bright and Beautiful” (CS, 231). For section eight, have each child decide one thing they will do to show gratitude for the Creation.

FEBRUARY THEME

The scriptures teach me about Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and how to return to Them. “For my soul delighteth in the scriptures, and my heart pondereth them, and writeth them for the learning and the profit of my children” (2 Nephi 4:15).

♪ “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” (CS, 57)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. The Bible and the Book of Mormon testify of Jesus Christ (Articles of Faith 1:8; John 20:31; 1 Nephi 13:38–40; D&C 20:8–9; *GP, chapter 10*; “The Bible” and “The Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ,” *TTF, 156–58*; *Primary 7, lesson 1*; *Preach My Gospel, 103–5*).

2. Bible stories teach me how to live the gospel (D&C 42:12; for examples see *Primary 6* and 7).

Sing “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” (CS, 57). On the chalkboard write the words *courage, faith, love, obedience, and gratitude* in scrambled letters. Display the following pictures: [GAK 117](#) (*courage*), [GAK 215](#) (*faith*), [GAK 218](#) (*love*), [GAK 105](#) (*obedience*), and [GAK 221](#) (*gratitude*). Have the children unscramble the words and match the principles with the pictures. Discuss each story. Help the children mark the stories in their scriptures and write gospel principles in the margin.

3. Book of Mormon stories teach me how to live the gospel (2 Nephi 4:15; for examples see *Primary 4*).

Sing “Book of Mormon Stories” (CS, 118–19, verse 4). Prepare a readers’ theater script about the prophet Abinadi from Mosiah 17:1–9; 18:1, 7–11, 17, 30. Emphasize Abinadi’s faithfulness and the effect of his testimony on Alma. Have children perform the readers’ theater (see “Readers’ Theaters,” *TNGC, 177*). Ask, “What gospel principles do we learn from Abinadi?” (Answers might include obedience, faith, courage, love for the Savior, and sharing the gospel.) Invite the children to share an experience when they have lived these gospel principles.

4. The Doctrine and Covenants teaches me how to live the gospel (D&C 1:37–39; for examples see *Primary 5*).

MARCH THEME

Jesus Christ is my Savior. “And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world” (1 John 4:14).

♪ “If the Savior Stood Beside Me” ([page 11 of this outline](#) or *Friend, Oct. 1993, 14*)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. Jesus Christ is my Savior and the Savior of all mankind (Mosiah 3:8–10; 1 Nephi 19:9–10; 3 Nephi 27:14–16; *GP, chapter 12*; “Atonement of Jesus Christ,” *TTF, 14–21*).

Show [GAK 227](#) and read the summary on the back. Sing “To Think about Jesus” (CS, 71). Show the following pictures and have children read the suggested scriptures: [GAK 230](#), Matthew 27:35–38; [GAK 231](#), Matthew 27:59–60. Sing “He Sent His Son” (CS, 34–35). Continue activity with [GAK 233](#), Luke 24:36–37, 39–43. Sing “Did Jesus Really Live Again?” (CS, 64). Testify that Jesus Christ is the Savior.

2. Jesus Christ loves me. Because of His Atonement, I can repent and live with Heavenly Father again (Isaiah 53:4–6; 2 Nephi 9:21–23; Ether 12:33; *Primary 6, lesson 45*; *Primary 3, lesson 22*; *FHE, 146–54*).

3. Jesus Christ showed me how to do the will of Heavenly Father (Luke 22:42; 2 Nephi 31:7; Articles of Faith 1:3; “Obedience,” *TTF, 108–9*; *GP, chapter 35*; *Primary 3, lesson 16*).

4. Jesus Christ lives today. He will come again (Articles of Faith 1:10; D&C 76:22–23; Joseph Smith—History 1:16–17; *GP, chapter 43*; “Millennium,” *TTF, 103–4*).

Sing “When He Comes Again” (CS, 82–83). Ask a ward member or missionary to share his or her testimony that Jesus Christ lives today and that He will come again and reign during the Millennium. (See “Guest Speakers,” *TNGC, 170*.) Show the prophet sharing his testimony from the video *Special Witnesses of Christ* (53584). Sing “The Church of Jesus Christ” (CS, 77) or “I Believe in Christ” (*Hymns, no. 134*). Testify of Jesus Christ.

APRIL THEME

I will follow the prophet. *“Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets”* (Amos 3:7).

♪ “We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet” (*Hymns*, no. 19; *GP*, 344)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. The prophet holds all priesthood keys and leads the Church as directed by the Lord (D&C 21:1–5; 107:64–67; *GP*, chapters 9 and 17).

Have two children throw and catch a ball. Explain that if the children don’t pay attention, they won’t catch the ball. Compare catching a ball to listening to the prophet. (See “Comparisons,” *TNGC*, 163–64.) Read D&C 21:5. Ask, “What can we do to be ready to receive the words of the prophet?” Divide into small groups. Let each group select a picture of a latter-day prophet (*GAK* 400, 507–20) and read the information on the back. Ask each group to share something they learned about that prophet. Testify that we are led by a living prophet today. Sing “We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet” (*Hymns*, no. 19; *GP*, 344).

2. The prophet teaches me that I should love and forgive others (Alma 23–24; Gordon B. Hinckley, “Forgiveness,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2005, 81–84).

Teach the story of the Anti-Nephi-Lehies. Emphasize their repentance. Display *GAK* 311. Read Alma 24:6–13, 17–18. Have the children act out the story. (See “Dramatizations,” *TNGC*, 165–66.) Ask, “What happened when the Anti-Nephi-Lehies would not fight back?” Read Alma 24:23–26. Teach that part of receiving forgiveness from the Lord is loving and forgiving others. Ask, “What can we do to show love and forgiveness for others?” Sing “Jesus Said Love Everyone” (*CS*, 61).

3. The prophet teaches me to read and pray about the Book of Mormon (Moroni 10:3–4; Gordon B. Hinckley, “A Testimony Vibrant and True,” *Ensign*, Aug. 2005, 2–6; *GP*, chapters 8, 10).
4. The prophet teaches me what I must do to live with God again (addresses from recent general conferences; D&C 1:37–38; *Primary* 3, lesson 8).

MAY THEME

Heavenly Father planned for me to come to a family. I can strengthen my family now. *“The family is central to the Creator’s plan for the eternal destiny of His children”* (“Proclamation,” paragraph 1).

♪ “Home” (*CS*, 192)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. Families in the scriptures teach me how I can strengthen my family (1 Nephi 8; 16; Mosiah 27; *Primary* 3, lesson 39).

Divide the children into three groups and give each group a picture, a Primary song, and scripture references.

- a. *GAK* 102; “Follow the Prophet,” third verse (*CS*, 110–11); Moses 8:18–20; Genesis 6:9–14, 22; 8:20.
- b. *GAK* 301; “Nephi’s Courage,” third verse (*CS*, 120–21); 1 Nephi 3:1–7.
- c. Picture 1-69 or 4-53; “Dare to Do Right” (*CS*, 158); Ether 1:38–43; 6:2–12.

Write the basic events of each story on the board as each group displays the picture, sings the song, and tells the story. (For example: *surrounded by wickedness, gathered together, followed God’s plan, showed gratitude to the Lord.*) Ask, “What did these families do to strengthen each other?” Ask the children to write or draw three ways they can strengthen their families.

2. Each member of my family has a divine role (Ephesians 6:1–4; Mosiah 4:14–15; Alma 56:47–48; 57:21; D&C 68:25; *GP*, chapter 37; “Proclamation,” paragraphs 6–7).
3. Scripture study, family prayer, and family home evening can strengthen my family (1 Nephi 19:22–23; D&C 88:118–19; “Family Home Evening” and “Family Prayer,” *TTF*, 65–66, 122; *FHE*, 3–6, 17–19).
4. The priesthood can bless and strengthen my family (2 Nephi 4:3–12; D&C 121:41–43; *GP*, chapter 13; “Priesthood and the Family,” *TTF*, 125).

Choose children to represent a family, with the oldest boy as a priesthood leader. Have the other

children close their eyes and attempt to walk through the room. Repeat the exercise as the priesthood leader guides them. Discuss the following questions:

- a. What is the priesthood? (power and authority of God)
- b. How do men receive the priesthood? (“by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority” [Articles of Faith 1:5])
- c. How are men to use the priesthood they bear? (to bless the lives of others [D&C 121:36, 41])
- d. What can priesthood bearers do to bless and strengthen families? (counsel, teach, lead, perform ordinances, etc.)

Explain that Lehi gave his family members priesthood blessings. Refer to 2 Nephi 4:3–12. (See “Likening,” *TNGC*, 170–71.) Sing “Fathers” (*CS*, 209). Teach that other priesthood leaders can bless families when there is not a priesthood bearer in the home. Testify that the priesthood blesses and strengthens families.

JUNE THEME

The temple is a blessing for me and my family.

“And verily I say unto you, let this house be built unto my name, that I may reveal mine ordinances therein unto my people” (D&C 124:40).

♪ “I Love to See the Temple” (*CS*, 95)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. I will live now to be worthy to go to the temple and do my part to have an eternal family (D&C 97:15–17; “Temples,” *TTF*, 170–72; *Primary 3*, lesson 35).

Invite the children to express their feelings about the temple. Sing “I Love to See the Temple” (*CS*, 95). Draw on the chalkboard a road map leading to a picture of a temple and a family. Draw other roads on the map that lead to “nowhere.” Write on paper strips actions that will lead to the temple (reading scriptures, showing love, etc.) and actions that will lead to nowhere (forgetting to pray, not sharing, etc.). Place the strips in a bag. Invite the

children to pick a strip from the bag, decide which destination the action would lead to, and post the action on the corresponding road. Every time someone chooses an action that leads to the temple, sing the first two lines of “I Love to See the Temple.” At the end of the game, sing the entire song. Help the children memorize Alma 37:35. (See “Memorization,” *TNGC*, 171–72.)

2. My tithing helps to build temples (Malachi 3:10; D&C 97:10–12; *Preach My Gospel*, 78–79; *GP*, chapter 32).
3. I will do family history work so my ancestors can receive temple blessings (Malachi 4:5–6; D&C 138:47–48; *FHE*, 189–90; *GP*, chapter 40; “Family History Work and Genealogy,” *TTF*, 61–64; *Preach My Gospel*, 86–87).
4. I will be reverent, dress modestly, and speak kindly to be worthy to enter the temple (D&C 109:20–21; Susan W. Tanner, “The Sanctity of the Body,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2005, 13–15).

Use stations to explain how we prepare for the temple. (See “Stations,” *TNGC*, 179.) Divide the children in three groups to rotate through the stations.

Reverence Station: Ask, “What is reverence?” Sing “Reverence Is Love” (*CS*, 31). Write reverent and irreverent actions on cards and place them upside down. Have the children select a card. Discuss the action. Have each child complete the sentence, “I will be reverent by _____.”

Modesty Station: Teach the children about dressing modestly by using an example, quotation, poem, or story. Sing “The Lord Gave Me a Temple” (*CS*, 153). Have each child complete the sentence, “I will be modest by _____.”

Speak Kindly Station: Help the children understand the sacredness of the names of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and that we should speak reverently about Them. We should also speak with respect and kindness to and about family, teachers, and friends. List words that we might use when talking to them. Have each child complete the sentence, “I will speak kindly by using the words _____.”

JULY THEME

Because I know we are all children of God, I will share the gospel with others. *“And if it so be that you should . . . bring, save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy”* (D&C 18:15).

♪ “Called to Serve” (CS, 174–75; *Hymns*, no. 249)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. I will prepare to be a missionary by praying and reading the scriptures daily (Alma 17:2–3; 33:14; D&C 104:58–59; *Preach My Gospel*, 73–74; *GP*, chapter 33; *Primary 7*, lesson 44; “Missionary Work,” *TTF*, 104–6).
2. I will prepare to be a missionary by being faithful and obedient (Alma 8; 17–19; Helaman 5; *Preach My Gospel*, 122).
3. Living the gospel standards helps me be a missionary now (Alma 17:2–4; D&C 4:2, 6–7; “*My Gospel Standards*”).

Divide the board into three sections. In each section, scramble the words of one of the following from “*My Gospel Standards*”:

I will only read and watch things that are pleasing to Heavenly Father.

I will only listen to music that is pleasing to Heavenly Father.

I will seek good friends and treat others kindly.

Invite children to unscramble the words, read the gospel standard, and tell how they can live it. Liken the gospel standards to a chain that secures us to the Savior the way an anchor’s chain secures a boat in a storm. Have the children write on strips of paper ways they will live these gospel standards. Tape the strips together to form a chain. Attach one end of the chain to a picture of Jesus Christ, and have a child hold onto the other end. Sing “The Things I Do” (CS, 170–71). Testify that as we live gospel standards, we can be missionaries by being examples to others.

4. I help to bless others when I share the gospel (Acts 27–28; Alma 32:23; D&C 18:15–16; 84:88; *Primary 3*, lesson 25).

Tell the children that the Apostle Paul was a great missionary. Read Romans 1:16. Have the children repeat “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.” Sing “The Church of Jesus Christ” (CS, 77). Tell about the missionary experiences of Alma and Amulek, Ammon, or Samuel the Lamanite. Discuss what made them good missionaries and how we can be missionaries now. Have the children describe ways they can be missionaries at home, at church, and at school. Share one of your missionary experiences or relate one from the *Friend*. Bear your testimony of the blessings others receive when we share the gospel.

AUGUST THEME

I will show my faith in Jesus Christ by being baptized and confirmed. *“And their children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old, and receive the laying on of the hands”* (D&C 68:27).

♪ “When Jesus Christ Was Baptized” (CS, 102)

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. I will show my faith by being baptized and confirmed and keeping my baptismal covenants (Mosiah 18:8–13; D&C 20:37; *Faith in God* guidebook, 2–3; *Primary 3*, lessons 11, 16; *GP*, chapter 20).

Explain what a covenant is (see “Covenants,” *TTF*, 44). Discuss Mosiah 18:8–13 and the covenants people make at baptism. Explain that when we are baptized, we covenant to keep all of the Lord’s commandments. Write the following scriptures on the chalkboard: Malachi 3:10 (tithing); D&C 59:9–10 (Church attendance); Exodus 20:12 (obey parents); D&C 89:7–11 (Word of Wisdom); John 13:34 (love one another). Write the commandments found in these scriptures on paper stepping-stones. Tape them in random order to the board. Open a path from the board to the back of the room. Place a picture of baptism at the beginning of the path and a picture of the Savior at the end of the path. Have the children look up each scripture and match it to a stepping-stone. Have a child place the corresponding stepping-stone on the path that leads to Jesus Christ. Explain that obeying the commandments brings us closer to Him. Sing “Keep the Commandments” (CS, 146–47).

2. The Holy Ghost will prompt me to repent and live righteously after I am baptized and confirmed (2 Nephi 31:12–13; “Holy Ghost,” *TTF*, 81–84; *Primary 3*, lesson 12; *GP*, chapter 21).

Display **GAK 601** and **GAK 602**. Remind the children that after baptism they receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Use a maze (*Friend*, Oct. 2005, 20; or *Primary 5*, lesson 12) to teach how the Holy Ghost will help them make choices that will lead them back to Heavenly Father and Jesus. Sing “The Holy Ghost” (*CS*, 105). Invite a priesthood leader to talk to the children about the Holy Ghost.

3. When I take the sacrament, I renew my baptismal covenants (Luke 22:7–20; 3 Nephi 18:1–11; D&C 20:75–79; *Primary 3*, lesson 33; *GP*, chapter 23).
4. Heavenly Father forgives all who truly repent (Mosiah 4:10; D&C 1:31–32; Articles of Faith 1:4; *GP*, chapter 19; “Repentance,” *TTF*, 132–35; *Primary 3*, lesson 10).

SEPTEMBER THEME

I can pray to Heavenly Father, and He will hear and answer my prayers. “Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them” (Mark 11:24).

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. I learn about prayer from the scriptures (Matthew 6:9–15; Enos 1:1–18; D&C 88:63; Joseph Smith—History 1:14–20; *Primary 7*, lesson 11).
2. Heavenly Father wants me to pray to Him often—anytime, anywhere (Matthew 6:5–8; Alma 34:17–28; 37:37; *Primary 3*, lesson 34; *GP*, chapter 8).
3. Heavenly Father knows me. He will answer my prayers in ways that are best for me (Mosiah 24:7–24; D&C 90:24; *Primary 3*, lesson 19; “Prayer,” *TTF*, 118–23).

Ask, “Does Heavenly Father hear and answer our prayers?” Sing the first verse of “A Child’s Prayer” (*CS*, 12–13). Have children act out the story of Amulon persecuting Alma and his people as Mosiah 24:8–22 is read aloud (see “Dramatizations,” *TNGC*, 165–66). Ask: “How did Alma and his people pray in their hearts?”

How did Heavenly Father answer their prayers? How were the people of Alma blessed? What did they do when they reached the valley of Alma?” Read Matthew 6:6–8, asking the children to consider how it applies to them. Discuss how Heavenly Father may not answer our prayers the way we expect, but He does bless us with the things we need. Sing verse 2 of “A Child’s Prayer” and verses 1 and 2 combined. Bear testimony of how Heavenly Father has answered your prayers.

4. Answers to my prayers come from Heavenly Father through the Holy Ghost, the scriptures, and others (2 Nephi 32:3; D&C 9:7–9; 112:10; *GP*, chapter 8; “Receiving Answers to Prayers,” *TTF*, 123).

Display **GAK 605**. Above the picture write, “How do we receive answers to our prayers?” Use the following songs and scripture stories to teach three ways we can receive answers to our prayers.

- a. Sing “The Still Small Voice” (*CS*, 106–7). Tell of Oliver Cowdery desiring to translate the plates (*Primary 5*, lesson 7). Have a child represent Oliver Cowdery and read D&C 9:7–9. Discuss how the Holy Ghost helps us feel that something is right or wrong. What is one way we receive answers to prayer? (Holy Ghost)
- b. Sing “Search, Ponder, and Pray” (*CS*, 109). Tell the story of Joseph Smith pondering how he would know which church was right. Have a child represent Joseph Smith and read Joseph Smith—History 1:10–12. What prompted Joseph Smith to seek the answer to his question? (scriptures)
- c. Sing “Love One Another” (*CS*, 136). Tell the story of Limhi’s people and how their prayers for deliverance from bondage were answered (see Mosiah 21:13–15; 22:2–16). How did Limhi’s people receive their answer? (others)

Ask children to share times when Heavenly Father answered their prayers through the Holy Ghost, the scriptures, or others. Express your testimony of answered prayer.

OCTOBER THEME

Because I am His child, I will serve God with all my heart, might, mind, and strength. *“Therefore, O ye that embark in the service of God, see that ye serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day”* (D&C 4:2).

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. I will serve God by doing things on the Sabbath that will help me feel close to Heavenly Father and Jesus (Exodus 20:8–11; D&C 59:9–10; *“Sabbath,” TTF, 145–47; GP, chapter 24; Primary 6, lesson 20; Primary 7, lesson 14*).

2. I can serve Heavenly Father by serving others (Matthew 25:31–40; Mosiah 2:17; *Primary 3, lesson 37; GP, chapter 28; “Service,” TTF, 161–62*).

Cover [GAK 608](#) with a sheet of paper that reads “Who are we serving?” and display it on the chalkboard. On the left of the picture write *Needs*, and on the right of the picture write *Service*. Read Matthew 25:35–36. Write phrases in the *Needs* and *Service* columns as the scriptures are read such as I was an hungred/ye gave me meat. Read Matthew 25:37–40 and remove the cover sheet from the picture. Discuss how we can serve Heavenly Father by serving others. Ask the children to think of the needs of their family and friends. Then ask what services they can give and add these to the columns, such as a friend is lonely/I will play with him. Help the children memorize Matthew 25:40 (see “Memorization,” *TNGC, 171–72*). Sing “I’ll Walk with You” (*CS, 140–41*).

3. The prophets and apostles teach me how to serve (*Primary 6, lesson 8*; refer to recent general conference addresses).

4. Because others serve me, I too want to serve (D&C 59:5–6; Matthew 22:35–40; *Primary 7, lesson 20; Primary 3, lesson 45*).

Discuss ways other people serve us, and write them on the chalkboard. Explain that as others serve us, we should serve others. Sing “I’m Trying to Be like Jesus” (*CS, 78–79*). Read Galatians 6:2. Explain what a burden is, and discuss how we all have burdens to carry in this life. Ask the children

to name some burdens they have, such as difficulty reading or loneliness. Label a rock with each burden, and place them in a backpack or basket. Have the children remove one rock at a time and discuss ways we could help a person bear that burden. Suggest that each child write a letter of appreciation to someone (see *Faith in God* guidebook, 9).

NOVEMBER THEME

I am thankful to know that we are all children of God. *“Thou shalt thank the Lord thy God in all things”* (D&C 59:7).

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. I am thankful to be a beloved child of God (Moroni 10:17–18; *Primary 3, lesson 30; “Gratitude,” TTF, 78–79*).

Explain that although we are all children of God, we are all different. Have each child make a paper puppet that resembles himself or herself (see “Puppets,” *TNGC, 176–77*). Have the children write on the front of their puppet, “I am thankful to be me because I can _____.” Sing “We Are Different” (*CS, 263*). Teach that we all have different talents or gifts that come from Heavenly Father. Display the puppets in front of the Primary. Point out that each one is different and special. Ask, “Who should we thank for these special talents?” Read D&C 6:10. Ask, “How can we thank Heavenly Father for our talents?” Sing “I’m Thankful to Be Me” (*CS, 11*).

2. I am thankful for my body. I know my body is a temple (1 Corinthians 3:16–17; Articles of Faith 1:13; *“My Gospel Standards”; “Body Piercing,” “Modesty,” and “Word of Wisdom,” TTF, 27, 106–8, 186–88*).

3. Heavenly Father loves all of His children (Mark 10:13–14; 2 Nephi 26:33; 3 Nephi 17:11–23; *Primary 7, lesson 40; Primary 3, lesson 30*; articles from the *Friend*).

Display a world map. Locate Jerusalem on the map. Display [GAK 216](#). Tell the story of Jesus blessing the children and read Mark 10:16. Locate the Americas on the map. Display [GAK 322](#). Tell

the story of Jesus blessing the children in the Americas and read 3 Nephi 17:21. Sing “I Think When I Read That Sweet Story” (CS, 56). Discuss how children speak different languages. Using “Children All Over the World” (CS, 16–17), make word strips for “Thank You” in the six languages. Have six children attach the word strips to a location on the map where that language is spoken. Sing “Children All Over the World.” Sing “Holding Hands Around the World” (Friend, July 2002, 44–45).

4. I can show respect and kindness to all of God’s children (Ephesians 4:32; Alma 1:29–30; “Charity,” TTF, 27–29; Primary 3, lessons 31, 44; “I’ll Walk with You” [CS, 140–41]).

DECEMBER THEME

I love my Savior, Jesus Christ, and His restored gospel. *“And we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophesy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies”* (2 Nephi 25:26).

Weekly Gospel Principles

1. The prophets foretold Jesus Christ would come to the earth (Isaiah 53; 1 Nephi 11; Jacob 4:4; Alma 7:9–13; Helaman 14:1–8; Primary 6, lesson 46).
2. The prophecies were fulfilled. Jesus Christ was born and the righteous rejoiced (Luke 2; 3 Nephi 1:8–21; Primary 3, lesson 47; Primary 7, lesson 4; FHE, 156–60).
3. Jesus Christ restored His gospel through the Prophet Joseph Smith (D&C 1:17, 30; 20:1–2; Joseph Smith—History 1:16–19, 30, 33–34; “Restoration of the Gospel,” TTF, 135–39; GP, chapter 17).

Use scriptures and songs to tell the story of the Restoration of the gospel (see “Music with Narrative,” TNGC, 174–75). Display GAK 416. Read Joseph Smith—History 1:67. Explain how translating the Book of Mormon restored true doctrine. Sing “Search, Ponder, and Pray” (CS, 109). Read Joseph Smith—History 1:68–69 and show GAK 407. Teach about the restoration of the Aaronic Priesthood. Sing “I Pray in Faith” (CS, 14). Read Joseph Smith—History 1:70. Teach about the restoration of the ordinances of the Church. Sing “When Jesus Christ Was Baptized,” verse two (CS, 102). Read Joseph Smith—History 1:73. Teach about the blessing of having the gift of the Holy Ghost. Sing “The Holy Ghost” (CS, 105). Testify that the Restoration of the Church through Joseph Smith is a great blessing.

4. Because I know that I am a child of God and that Jesus Christ is my Savior, I will . . . (Mosiah 5:7; 3 Nephi 27:21).

Have the children stand and sing “Do As I’m Doing” (CS, 276) and follow the song leader. Ahead of time, assign a child to do different actions. Teach the need to follow the right leader. Scramble and display the words of 3 Nephi 27:21: “For that which ye have seen me do even that shall ye do.” Have the children put the words in the correct order by referring to the scripture. Ask, “Who does this scripture teach us that we should follow?” (Christ) Choose GAK pictures that show some of the works of Jesus. Briefly tell the story of each picture, and discuss how we can follow Jesus. Have children draw a picture of what they will do to follow the Savior and complete the sentence, “Because I know I am a child of God and I know Jesus Christ is my Savior, I will _____.” Testify that we can follow the example of Jesus Christ. Sing “I’m Trying to Be like Jesus” (CS, 78–79).

IF THE SAVIOR STOOD BESIDE ME

Thoughtfully ♩ = 90-100

Words and music by Sally DeFord

1. If the Sav - ior stood be - side me, would I do the things I do? Would I
 2. If the Sav - ior stood be - side me, would I say the things I say? Would my
 3. — He is al - ways near me though I do not see Him there, And be -

think of His com - mand - ments and try hard - er to be true? Would I fol - low His ex -
 words be true and kind if He were ne - ver far a - way? Would I try to share the
 cause He loves me dear - ly, I am in His watch - ful care. So I'll be the kind of

am - ple? Would I live more righ - teous - ly if I could see the Sav - ior stand - ing nigh,
 gos - pel? Would I speak more rev - 'rent - ly if I could see the Sav - ior stand - ing nigh,
 per - son that I know I'd like to be if I could see the Sav - ior stand - ing nigh,

1. 2. watch - ing o - ver me? 3. watch - ing o - ver me.

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Red. _____ *

SHARING TIME PLANNING WORK SHEET

Date: _____

Monthly theme: _____

Weekly gospel principle: _____

How can I introduce the gospel principle? (“Beginning the Lesson,” *TNGC*, 93; “Attention Activities,” *TNGC*, 160)

How can I teach the gospel principle and involve the children?

- Scriptures (“Teaching from the Scriptures,” *TNGC*, 54–59)

- Songs (“Music,” *TNGC*, 172–74; “Using the Songbook,” *Children’s Songbook*, 300–304)

- Teaching methods that involve the children (“Methods of Teaching,” *TNGC*, 158–84)

How can I help the children apply the gospel principle to their lives? (“Methods of Teaching,” *TNGC*, 158–84)

Conclusion and testimony (“Concluding the Lesson,” *TNGC*, 94–95)

Evaluation: Did we accomplish what we wanted to have happen? How could we improve?

Note: Copies may be made as needed for the Primary presidency and teachers.

CLASS PRESENTATIONS

One sharing time a month should be a class presentation. This is an opportunity for the children in your class to teach a gospel principle to others. The experience will reinforce the principles you have been teaching and allow the children to gain confidence as they participate in a group presentation.

- Teachers and class members plan and present the class presentation.
- The presentation should support one of the weekly gospel principles for that month.
- Interesting ways to teach the gospel principle are referenced in *Teaching, No Greater Call (TNGC)* as listed below.
- The Primary presidency and music leader should be available to assist the class if needed.

TEACHING METHODS

The following is a list of methods that can be used to teach a gospel principle and involve the children in sharing time. (See “Methods of Teaching,” *TNGC*, 158–84.)

Activity Verses	Drawing Activities	Pictures
Application Techniques	Examples	Puppets
Attention Activities	Flannel Boards	Questions
Audiovisual Materials	Games	Readers’ Theaters
Brainstorming	Guest Speakers	Recitations
Buzz Sessions	Lectures	Role Playing
Case Studies	Likening	Roller Boxes
Chalkboards	Maps	Scriptures
Choral Readings	Memorization	Stations
Comparisons and Object Lessons	Music	Stories
Demonstrations	Music with Narratives	Visuals
Dioramas	Overhead Projectors	Work Sheets
Discussions	Panel Discussions	
Dramatizations	Paper Stand-Up Figures	

The annual outline for sharing time and the children’s sacrament meeting presentation is available on the Church’s official Web site at www.lds.org.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

ENGLISH

