



2005 Outline for Sharing Time and the Children's Sacrament Meeting Presentation

I WILL FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

*"For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass
the immortality and eternal life of man." Moses 1:39*

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)

Ways to apply the gospel principle (“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.

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

MESSAGE TO PRIMARY PRESIDENCIES

When our Heavenly Father gave us the plan of salvation in the spirit world, we were so happy we shouted for joy! We rejoiced that the Lord would provide an earth for us where we could receive a body, be part of a family, be tested, and learn to choose the right. We knew we would face trials, but we were glad for an opportunity to learn and to grow. We were grateful that Jesus Christ offered to be our Savior and make it possible for us to repent of our mistakes. This year we have a wonderful opportunity to help all of God's children understand that true joy in this life and in the next comes from following Heavenly Father's great plan of happiness. 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. Seek inspiration as you plan weekly sharing times using this outline and the ["Sharing Time Planning Work Sheet"](#) at the left.
- Music should be used throughout sharing time. Include the music leader in your planning. Half of sharing time should be used for singing.
- Identify the weekly gospel principle you will teach. Discuss ways you can teach the principle and involve the children. See ["Teaching Methods"](#) on the back cover.
- Determine which member of the presidency will teach or oversee each weekly sharing time.
- One sharing time a month should be a class presentation.

GUIDELINES FOR THE SACRAMENT MEETING PRESENTATION

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 Will Follow God's Plan for Me." The sacrament meeting presentation should be no more than 40 minutes long and should follow Church policies and guidelines for sacrament meetings. (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, 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.

GLOSSARY

As you teach the plan of salvation this year, please use and help the children understand correct terms and doctrine. Pay particular attention to the following:


agency Use the term *agency* rather than *free agency* to describe our freedom to choose. *Agency* is the term used in the scriptures (see D&C 29:36; Moses 7:32).


premortal life Use terms such as *premortal life* or *premortal existence* rather than *preexistence* to describe our existence before our birth into mortality on this earth.

Heavenly Father's plan Our Heavenly Father presented the plan of life and salvation in the Grand Council in Heaven. Only one plan was presented. Jehovah (Jesus Christ) sustained the plan of our Heavenly Father. Lucifer (the devil, Satan) attempted to change the plan.

KEY TO SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used throughout the outline:

 *Sharing Time Ideas*. These ideas can supplement the inspiration you receive as you decide how best to involve the children in learning activities during sharing time.

 *Music*. 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>

I WILL FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

"For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man" (Moses 1:39).

Objective: To help children understand Heavenly Father's plan of happiness.

OUTLINE FOR SHARING TIME

The monthly themes in this outline have accompanying scriptures or quotations that the children could memorize. The weekly gospel principles should be taught during sharing times and opening or closing exercises that month. 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

Heavenly Father presented a plan for us to become like Him. *"For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man" (Moses 1:39).*

♪ *"I Will Follow God's Plan" (CS, 164)*

Weekly Gospel Principles

- Heavenly Father presented His plan for us in the Grand Council in Heaven. We were all there and chose to follow His plan (Abraham 3:24–28; *GP, chapter 2*).
- As part of His plan, Heavenly Father provided a Savior so we could live with Him again (Articles of Faith 1:3; Ether 3:14; *Primary 6, lesson 2; Primary 7, lesson 2; GP, chapter 3*).
- As part of Heavenly Father's plan, the earth was created (Moses 2; *Primary 6, lesson 3; GP, chapter 5*).
- Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden and were able to talk to Heavenly Father from time to time. After the Fall, they became the first parents and fulfilled their part of Heavenly Father's plan (Moses 4:6–5:12; *Primary 6, lesson 4; GP, chapter 6*).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Display signs that name the stages of our eternal existence: *Premortal Life, Earth Life, and Life after Death*. Teach the plan of salvation using questions such as "With whom did we live in heaven?" and "What are we supposed to do here on earth?" Write the questions on the backs of paper figures and put the figures in a container. Have children choose a figure, answer the question, and put the figure under the sign that represents the stage of existence the question applies to. Sing a song about each stage of existence: premortal life—

*"I Will Follow God's Plan" (CS, 164); earth life—"Choose the Right Way" (CS, 160); and life after death—"Did Jesus Really Live Again?" (CS, 64). Bear testimony of the plan of salvation and Heavenly Father's love for His children. (See "Teaching with Questions," *TNGC*, 68–70.)*

- ☺ Teach about the Creation. Divide the children into groups and give a scripture to each group: Psalm 65:9 (rain, rivers); Psalm 65:13 (pastures, flocks); Psalm 96:11–12 (sea, fields, woods); Abraham 5:9 (trees); Ecclesiastes 3:1–2 (seasons); Moses 2:16 (sun, moon, stars); D&C 59:16–20 (animals, birds, plants). Have each child in the group draw a picture of the things described in the scripture. Display their pictures in the children's meeting room. Sing songs from the "Nature and Seasons" section of the CS.

FEBRUARY THEME

I am a child of God. *"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" (Romans 8:16).*

♪ *"A Child's Prayer" (CS, 12)*

Weekly Gospel Principles

- I came to earth to receive a body and be tested (*"Proclamation,"* paragraph 3; *Primary 2, lesson 3*).
- Heavenly Father has given me agency, and I am accountable for my choices (Articles of Faith 1:2; 2 Nephi 2:27–29; *Primary 2, lesson 5*).
- I can pray to Heavenly Father and receive answers to my prayers (Alma 34:17–27; *Primary 2, lesson 18; FHE, lesson 7*).
- Heavenly Father loves me, and I show my love for Him when I keep the commandments and show reverence for His creations (John 14:15; *Primary 2, lesson 21; Primary 3, lesson 36*).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Invite a mother to bring her baby to Primary. Demonstrate the differences between what a baby can do with its body and what the Primary children can do with theirs, such as jumping and clapping. Explain that as we grow, we learn to control our bodies. Similarly,

observing gospel principles helps our spirits learn to control our bodies. Display a picture of a temple. Write appropriate principles from “My Gospel Standards” on strips of paper and put them in a box. Let children draw them out one at a time and tell one thing they can do to live the standard and gain control over their bodies. Have the children attach the slips of paper to the chalkboard so they appear to be stairs leading to the temple. Sing songs from the “Morality” section of the “Topics” index in the CS.

- ☺ Teach the children that we show our love for Heavenly Father when we show reverence for His creations. Prepare a small booklet for each child. Create stations by displaying pictures that depict the following: family and friends, country, nature, and our bodies. Have children move to each station. Discuss ways we show reverence for each creation, and then have the children write or draw in their booklet one thing they can do to show reverence for that creation. Sing songs such as “My Country” (CS, 224), “I Think the World Is Glorious” (CS, 230), and “The Lord Gave Me a Temple” (CS, 153). (See “Stations,” TNGC, 179.)

MARCH THEME

Jesus Christ came to earth and is our Savior. *“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).

🎵 “I Believe in Christ” (Hymns, no. 134)

Weekly Gospel Principles

- Jesus Christ organized His Church when He lived on the earth (Articles of Faith 1:6; *Primary 2, lesson 42*; *GP, chapter 16*).
- Jesus Christ taught the gospel and set the example by the way He lived (Matthew 5–7; *Primary 2, lesson 15*; *FHE, lesson 12*).
- Jesus Christ atoned for my sins. I can repent and live with Him and Heavenly Father again (Alma 34:9–17; 3 Nephi 9:21–22; *Primary 7, lesson 30*; *GP, chapter 12*).
- Jesus Christ died and was resurrected. Because He overcame death, I will be resurrected after I die, along with all of Heavenly Father’s children who have lived on earth (John 19:1–18; 20:11–20; Alma 11:42–45; Easter lesson from *Primary 1–4* or *Primary 6*).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Select pictures from the GAK or the Primary manual picture packets that show Jesus Christ living gospel principles. On the back of each picture, put the name of a song that teaches the principle, such as:
 - Jesus working with Joseph (GAK 206 or Picture 2-11)—“Quickly I’ll Obey” (CS, 197).
 - Jesus being baptized (GAK 208 or Picture 1-18)—“Baptism” (CS, 100).
 - Jesus teaching the gospel (GAK 212 or Picture 1-55)—“The Things I Do” (CS, 170) or “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” (CS, 57).
 - Jesus healing a blind man (GAK 213 or Picture 1-43)—“I’ll Walk with You” (CS, 140) or “When We’re Helping” (CS, 198).

Sing “I’m Trying to Be like Jesus” (CS, 78). Give each class a picture and have the teacher discuss the following questions with the class: “What is Jesus Christ doing in this picture?” “How can we follow His example?” Ask each class to share the picture and story of Christ’s example and what they can do to follow Him. Sing the songs. Invite the children to choose a way they will follow Jesus Christ’s example this week.

- ☺ Write *Repentance* in large letters on a sturdy piece of paper and cut it into four pieces to make a puzzle. On the back of each puzzle piece, write one of the following things we must do to repent, with its accompanying scripture: *feel sorry* (Psalm 38:18), *ask forgiveness* (Enos 1:2–5), *right the wrong* (Exodus 22:1), *don’t repeat the wrong* (Mosiah 4:10). Using GAK pictures 227, 230, 234, and any others that may be appropriate, talk about the Atonement and repentance. Divide the children into four groups and give each group a piece of the puzzle. Have each group look up the scripture, talk about what it means, and share what they learned with the group. Then put the puzzle together. Sing “Repentance” (CS, 98) or “Help Me, Dear Father” (CS, 99).
For older children, cut each puzzle piece into pieces to be put together to find the scripture reference.

APRIL THEME

I will follow Heavenly Father’s plan for me and do my part to have an eternal family. *“Sacred ordinances and covenants available in holy temples make it possible for individuals to return to the presence of God and for families to be united eternally”* (“Proclamation,” paragraph 3).

♪ “Teach Me to Walk in the Light” (CS, 177)

Weekly Gospel Principles

- Heavenly Father planned for me to come to a family (“Proclamation,” paragraphs 1, 7; *Primary 1*, lesson 23; *Primary 2*, lesson 6).
- I can learn to live the gospel in my home (D&C 68:25, 28; *Primary 1*, lesson 27; *Primary 3*, lesson 28).
- “I will honor my parents and do my part to strengthen my family” (“My Gospel Standards,” paragraph 7. Also see Exodus 20:12; Colossians 3:20; *Primary 2*, lesson 30).
- My family can be together forever through the blessings of the temple (D&C 138:47–48; *Primary 1*, lesson 26; *Primary 3*, lesson 35).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Display a picture of a home. Divide the children into groups and give each group a piece of paper and a picture of a family member, such as a parent, grandparent, child, or baby. Have each group list some of the ways the family member they were given contributes to the family. Then have the groups take turns acting out some of the ways their family member contributes, while the rest of the children guess which family member it is. Sing a song about that family member, such as “Mother Dear” (CS, 206). Display the pictures and lists by the home. Sing Primary songs about home.

For older children, read sentences 4 and 5 of paragraph 7 of the “Proclamation.” Divide the children into groups and give each group a principle from sentence 5. Have them find and sing a song from the CS that teaches the principle and then share how they can live that principle in their families.

- ☺ Prepare paper cut-outs that can be put together to form a home, such as a roof, walls, windows, and a door. Prepare a case study for each cut-out, in which the children must decide how to honor their parents. Divide the children into groups and give each group a part of the home and a case study to solve. Have the groups take turns sharing their case studies and their solutions and adding their cut-outs to a chalkboard or poster to build the home. Sing songs from the “Home and Family” section of the CS. Teach that as we honor our parents, we are strengthening our homes and families. (See “Case Studies,” *TNGC*, 161–62.)

MAY THEME

Jesus Christ restored His Church in the latter days.

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

♪ “The Priesthood Is Restored” (CS, 89)

Weekly Gospel Principles

- Priesthood authority and many true doctrines were lost at the time of the Great Apostasy. The First Vision prepared Joseph Smith for the Restoration of the gospel (Joseph Smith—History 1:7–20; *GP*, chapters 16, 17).
- Joseph Smith translated the Book of Mormon. Its teachings restored many true doctrines (Joseph Smith—History 1:29–54, 59–60; Articles of Faith 1:8; *Primary 5*, lessons 6, 7).
- Priesthood authority was restored by heavenly messengers (Joseph Smith—History 1:68–73; Articles of Faith 1:5; *Primary 5*, lesson 8).
- We are blessed with living prophets in Jesus Christ’s restored Church (D&C 21:1–5; 1:38; *Primary 3*, lesson 8; *Primary 5*, lesson 15).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Play a matching game by listing scriptures that teach restored doctrines on one side of the chalkboard and songs from the CS that teach the same doctrines on the other side but in a different order. For example:

- D&C 13 (priesthood authority)—“The Priesthood Is Restored” (CS, 89)
- D&C 20:72–74 (baptism)—“Baptism” (CS, 100)
- Articles of Faith 1:9 (revelation)—“On a Golden Springtime” (CS, 88)

Have the children look up the scriptures, identify the doctrines, and match them to the songs. Sing the songs.

- ☺ Prepare a box of objects or pictures related to ordinances or responsibilities of the priesthood, such as a temple recommend, a fast-offering envelope, a baptismal suit, a sacrament tray, a home teaching message, and so on. Invite a Melchizedek Priesthood holder and an Aaronic Priesthood holder to Primary. Have children take turns holding up one of the objects, and invite the priesthood brethren to share an experience related to the object. Ask them to share their testimonies of the blessings of the priesthood. Sing “The Priesthood Is Restored” (CS, 89).

JUNE THEME

I will follow Heavenly Father's plan for me in faith. "We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Articles of Faith 1:4).

♪ "Faith" (CS, 96) or "I'll Follow Him in Faith" (Friend, Jan. 2003, 24)

Weekly Gospel Principles

- Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the first principle of the gospel. He is my Savior. He lives and loves me (2 Nephi 9:20–23; *GP*, chapter 18).
- I learn about Jesus Christ as I read the scriptures. My faith grows as I learn about Him (Ether 12:6–22; *Primary 2*, lesson 9; *FHE*, lesson 11).
- My faith grows when I am obedient to the commandments (Alma 32; *Primary 3*, lesson 16; *Primary 6*, lesson 21).
- Heavenly Father blesses me when I am faithful (Hebrews 11; Moroni 7:25–37; *Primary 5*, lesson 42).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Invite two or three people in advance to dress in simple costumes representing someone who knew the Savior when He lived on earth. Ask each to be prepared to tell or read a story about Jesus that built their faith. Help the children identify ways that Jesus Christ strengthened the faith of those around Him by teaching, healing, blessing, and serving them. Ask the children how these stories can strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ. Sing "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" (CS, 57). (See "Stories," *TNGC*, 179–82.)
- ☺ Have the children read or tell scripture stories that illustrate obedience to God's commandments, such as Adam offering sacrifices (Moses 5:5–7), Nephi returning to Jerusalem for the brass plates (1 Nephi 3:7), or Daniel refusing the king's meat and wine (Daniel 1:3–17). Have the children make a list of commandments. Let each child draw a picture of himself or herself keeping a commandment. Display the pictures around the room or put them together in a roller box. Have the children sing "Faith" (CS, 96) or "Keep the Commandments" (CS, 146) while looking at the pictures. Bear testimony that our faith grows as we are obedient. (See "Roller Boxes," *TNGC*, 178–79.)

JULY THEME

I follow Heavenly Father's plan by repenting and being baptized. "And he commandeth all men that they must repent, and be baptized in his name, having perfect faith in the Holy One of Israel, or they cannot be saved in the kingdom of God" (2 Nephi 9:23).

♪ "When I Am Baptized" (CS, 103)

Weekly Gospel Principles

- "I will choose the right. I know I can repent when I make a mistake." Through repentance, I can be forgiven and be happy again ("My Gospel Standards," paragraph 3; Alma 7:14–16; *GP*, chapter 19).
- Jesus Christ was baptized when He lived on the earth. When I am baptized, I am following the example of Jesus (D&C 20:73–74; *Primary 2*, lesson 12; *Primary 7*, lesson 6).
- When I am baptized, I covenant with Heavenly Father to remember Jesus Christ and keep His commandments (Mosiah 18:8–10; *Primary 4*, lesson 12; *GP*, chapter 20).
- When I partake of the sacrament worthily, I remember and renew my baptismal covenant (3 Nephi 18:1–11; *Primary 2*, lesson 38).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Teach "My Baptismal Covenant" from the *Faith in God* guidebooks, pages 2–3. Choose pictures from the GAK or the Primary manual picture packets that represent keeping the commandments, such as going to church, loving others, and so on—one picture for each letter of the word *baptism*. On the back of each picture, put one of the letters of *baptism*, and display the pictures on one side of the chalkboard. On the other side of the chalkboard, list scriptures that teach the commandments represented by the pictures, such as going to church (D&C 59:9), loving others (John 13:34), and so on. Pair an older child with a younger child. Have the older child read the scripture and the younger child choose the picture that matches. As pictures are selected, turn them over until *baptism* is spelled out. Sing "When I Am Baptized" (CS, 103).
- ☺ Use scriptures and pictures to tell the story of the Last Supper (Luke 22:7–20; GAK 225 or Picture 1-70). Teach the meaning of the sacrament bread and water. Explain that the bread represents the Savior's body and the water represents His blood. Because He sacrificed His body and shed His blood, the Savior made it possible for us to be resurrected and be cleansed of our sins so we can have eternal life with Him. Explain that when

we partake of the sacrament, we are remembering the Savior’s sacrifice. Read the sacrament prayers. Discuss the promises we make when we are baptized, and explain that we renew these promises when we partake of the sacrament (D&C 20:77, 79; GAK 603, 604 or Picture 1-8). Sing a song from the “Sacrament” section of the “Topics” index in the CS or *Hymns*. Pass out paper hearts on which the children can write or draw one thing they will do this week to remember Jesus Christ. Have them keep the paper hearts where they can be a daily reminder.

AUGUST THEME

The Holy Ghost is a gift from Heavenly Father. *“And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things”* (Moroni 10:5).

🎵 **“The Holy Ghost”** (CS, 105)

Weekly Gospel Principles

- The Holy Ghost is the third member of the Godhead and testifies of Jesus Christ (Articles of Faith 1:1; John 15:26; [Primary 3, lesson 20](#); *FHE*, lesson 16).
- I receive the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands. As I keep the commandments, Heavenly Father promises that the Holy Ghost can be my constant companion (Articles of Faith 1:4; 2 Nephi 32:5; [Primary 2, lesson 13](#); [Primary 3, lesson 12](#)).
- “I will remember my baptismal covenant and listen to the Holy Ghost.” The Holy Ghost can guide, warn, protect, and comfort me (*“My Gospel Standards,”* paragraph 2; 1 Nephi 4:1–6; [Primary 1, lesson 7](#); [Primary 3, lesson 26](#)).
- I can feel the influence of the Holy Ghost. My life is blessed as I recognize and follow His promptings (D&C 6:14–15, 22–23; 8:2; 9:8–9; *FHE*, lesson 15).

Sharing Time Ideas

- 🕒 Invite returned or full-time missionaries to share how they received their own testimonies through the Holy Ghost as well as experiences of people they have taught who received testimonies through the Holy Ghost. Have children read the scriptures in the fourth weekly gospel principle above or turn to the Topical Guide in the scriptures and read the entries under “Holy Ghost, Source of Testimony.” Help them identify ways the Holy Ghost speaks to us. Invite two or three children to bear their testimonies of a time they have felt the Holy Ghost. Have the children memorize or sing the

first article of faith (Articles of Faith 1:1; CS, 122). (See *“Memorization,” TNGC, 171–72.*)

- 🕒 Bring five objects that symbolize the functions of the Holy Ghost (whistle—warns us; flashlight—enlightens us; quilt—comforts us; helmet—protects us; compass—directs us). Divide the children into five groups and give each group an object. Explain the function of the Holy Ghost that each object represents. Then have each group think of an experience or scripture story that illustrates a time the Holy Ghost has blessed someone in the way their object represents. Have the children share the experiences. Sing a Primary song about the Holy Ghost.

SEPTEMBER THEME

I follow Heavenly Father’s plan when I choose the right.

“We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul—We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things” (Articles of Faith 1:13).

Weekly Gospel Principles

- As I pray and study the scriptures, I learn what Heavenly Father wants me to do (Alma 37:1–12, 37; [Primary 1, lesson 41](#); [GP, chapter 10](#)).
- I choose the right when I pay tithing gladly. It is one way I show gratitude for Heavenly Father’s blessings (Malachi 3:8–12; [Primary 2, lesson 33](#); [Primary 5, lesson 45](#)).
- “I will be honest with Heavenly Father, others, and myself” (*“My Gospel Standards,”* paragraph 4. Also see Exodus 20:15–16; [Primary 2, lesson 34](#); [GP, chapter 31](#)).
- “I will use the names of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ reverently. I will not swear or use crude words” (*“My Gospel Standards,”* paragraph 5. Also see Exodus 20:7; [Primary 3, lesson 43](#)).

Sharing Time Ideas

- 🕒 Select several scripture stories of the Lord directing His followers as they prayed or read the scriptures, such as Lehi going into the wilderness (1 Nephi 1:5–6; 2:1–5), Nephi and the broken bow (1 Nephi 16:17–31), or Joseph Smith and the First Vision (Joseph Smith—History 1:5–20). Write the following questions on papers and tape them to the floor: “Who was the story about?”

“What did he do to find out what Heavenly Father wanted him to do?” “What did Heavenly Father want him to do?” “What happened because of his obedience?” and “What can I learn from this story?” Read or tell one of the scripture stories. Then have children take turns throwing a bean bag onto one of the papers on the floor and answering the question. Sing “[Search, Ponder, and Pray](#)” (CS, 109). Explain that just as the Lord’s followers before us have done, we can learn what Heavenly Father wants us to do when we pray and study the scriptures.

- ☺ Ask the children to name blessings we receive from Heavenly Father. As they name blessings, write them on the chalkboard. Sing “[Thanks to Our Father](#)” (CS, 20). Emphasize that everything we have comes from Heavenly Father. Ask the children to name several ways we can thank Him. Then show President Gordon B. Hinckley’s tithing message from the video-cassette *Sharing Time with President Gordon B. Hinckley* (53331) or the February 8, 2003, “Special Satellite Broadcast for Children” (see also *Ensign*, May 2003, 117–19). Teach the principle of tithing and explain that paying tithing is one way to show gratitude for our many blessings. Invite the bishop to share his testimony of the blessings of paying tithing and attending tithing settlement. Sing “[I Want to Live the Gospel](#)” (CS, 148).

OCTOBER THEME

I follow Heavenly Father’s plan when I choose the right.

“Choose you this day whom ye will serve; . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15).

Weekly Gospel Principles

- “I will do those things on the Sabbath that will help me feel close to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ” (“[My Gospel Standards](#),” paragraph 6. Also see Exodus 20:8–11; D&C 59:9–19; *Primary 2, lesson 37*; *Primary 7, lesson 14*).
- “I will keep my mind and body sacred and pure, and I will not partake of things that are harmful to me. I will dress modestly to show respect for Heavenly Father and myself” (“[My Gospel Standards](#),” paragraphs 8, 9. Also see 1 Corinthians 3:16–17; D&C 89; *Primary 3, lessons 14, 38*).
- “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” (“[My Gospel Standards](#),” paragraphs 10, 11. Also see D&C 88:118; *Primary 1, lesson 28*; *GP, chapter 35*).

- “I will seek good friends and treat others kindly” (“[My Gospel Standards](#),” paragraph 12. Also see John 13:34–35; *Primary 1, lessons 33, 34*; *Primary 2, lesson 32*).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Teach the blessings of keeping the Sabbath day holy. Divide the children into two groups. Have one group draw pictures of things they do on Saturday to prepare for the Sabbath. Have the other group draw pictures of Sabbath-day activities that help them feel close to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Have children in the first group tell about their activities and display their pictures on a wall or under a banner labeled *Saturday*. Sing “[Saturday](#)” (CS, 196). Then have children in the second group share their Sabbath-day activities and display their pictures on a different wall or under a banner labeled *Sunday*. Sing “[Choose the Right Way](#)” (CS, 160). Older children can draw pictures on the banners while younger children guess what activity they are illustrating. Help them memorize Doctrine and Covenants 59:9–10. (See “[Memorization](#),” *TNGC*, 171–72.)
- ☺ Teach that our bodies are sacred. Give each class an envelope containing the letters of a word or phrase, such as *rest, exercise, alcohol, tobacco, pure thoughts, drugs, healthy food, modest clothes, good music, and tattoos*. (When two words are included in one envelope, clip the letters of each word together.) Display *Do* and *Don’t* signs on the chalkboard. Have each class glue the letters of their word or phrase in order on a strip of paper and display it under the appropriate sign. Turn over the *Do* sign to reveal a picture of Christ, and have the children recite the scripture for this month. Sing “[The Lord Gave Me a Temple](#)” (CS, 153). Invite a panel of Primary leaders to share appropriate experiences and their testimonies of keeping our minds and bodies pure.

NOVEMBER THEME

I can share the gospel so that others can follow

Heavenly Father’s plan. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

Weekly Gospel Principles

- I share the gospel through my example as I try to follow Jesus (John 13:15; Matthew 5:16; *Primary 2, lesson 29*; *FHE*, lesson 26).
- I share the gospel as I serve others (Mosiah 2:17; *Primary 7, lesson 34*).

- I share the gospel as I bear testimony of Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon, the Restoration, and the living prophet (“The Testimony of Three Witnesses” and “The Testimony of Eight Witnesses,” Book of Mormon; Mosiah 18:9; [Primary 7, lesson 43](#)).
- I want to be a missionary now (Matthew 5:16; D&C 4; [Primary 7, lesson 44](#)).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Teach five essential things that we each can gain a testimony of: Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon, the Restoration, and the living prophet. Prepare a copy of the song “[I Am a Child of God](#)” (CS, 2) to represent a testimony of Heavenly Father. Select pictures of the following from the GAK or the Primary manual picture packets to represent the other four things: Jesus Christ, Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon, the Restoration (for example, a temple), and the President of the Church. Divide the children into five groups. Give a child from each group one of the pictures to hold up for the Primary to see, but do not let these five children see the pictures. One at a time, have the children holding the pictures guess what their picture is by asking their group questions that can be answered with a yes or no. Discuss these things we need to gain a testimony of and sing corresponding songs from the CS.
- ☺ To teach mission preparation, make a game board with a path divided into many squares of six different colors. Place a picture that represents sharing the gospel at the end of the path. Prepare a cube with six colored faces that match the colors on the game board. On each face of the cube, write one of the following:
 - Tell a personal story of obedience.
 - Express gratitude for your blessings.
 - Recite an article of faith.
 - Repeat one of “[My Gospel Standards](#).”
 - Sing a song from “The Gospel” section of the *Children’s Songbook*.
 - Tell one thing you will do to be a missionary now.
 Choose children to roll the cube and do what it says in order to move a game piece ahead to corresponding colored squares. Play the game for a set period of time and see how far you can go before the clock runs out. Reinforce the need to prepare now for missionary service.

DECEMBER THEME

Heavenly Father’s plan brings us many blessings. “*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*” (D&C 14:7).

Weekly Gospel Principles

- I am grateful for Heavenly Father’s plan. It teaches me how to be happy (2 Nephi 2:24–25; [Primary 3, lesson 2](#); [GP, chapter 2](#)).
- I am grateful for the Prophet Joseph Smith. This year we celebrate his life and the 200th anniversary of his birth (Joseph Smith—History 1:1–75; [Primary 5, lessons 1, 5, 36, 37](#)).
- I am grateful for the birth of the Savior. He lives today, and He will come again (Luke 2:1–22; [Primary 2, lesson 43](#); [Primary 7, lesson 46](#)).
- I am grateful for the gift of eternal life (Moses 1:39; D&C 76:92–96; [Primary 6, lesson 1](#)).

Sharing Time Ideas

- ☺ Explain that Joseph Smith wrote the Articles of Faith. Create a matching game by writing the numbers 1 through 13 twice on 26 pieces of paper (one number on each paper). Place the papers on a game board so the numbers can’t be seen. Divide the children into groups. One at a time, have a child from each group choose two papers to turn over. If the numbers match, have that group say that article of faith. Then remove those two papers from the game board. Continue until all the papers are removed. Then sing the third verse of “[On a Golden Springtime](#)” (CS, 88). (See “[Matching Game](#),” [TNGC, 169](#).)
- ☺ Review what the children have learned this year by singing “[I Will Follow God’s Plan](#)” (CS, 164). Using ideas from the song, write five to eight gifts from Heavenly Father on separate pieces of paper, such as *my life, home on earth, God’s light*, and so on. Put each paper into a box and wrap the boxes as gifts. Distribute the gifts among the children. Have the children pass around the boxes while singing “I Will Follow God’s Plan.” Stop the music anytime and open one gift. Discuss how that object or idea is a gift because of the plan of salvation. Continue until all the gifts have been opened. Bear testimony of Heavenly Father’s plan for His children.

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

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.