

May 6-12 Luke 12-17; John 11

# "REJOICE WITH ME; FOR I HAVE FOUND MY SHEEP WHICH WAS LOST"

1. Dear to the Heart of the Shepherd Song: Play the song and talk about the meaning of the words. Remind them that Jesus is the "Good Shepherd" and wants to be close to us. He loves each of us and knows us by name.
2. What Helps Us be Close vs. Far Away from Heavenly Father and Jesus: Talk about how even though we're not by Heavenly Father and Jesus right now, our hearts and minds can get close to them when we make good choices. Cut out the rectangles on the page below. Read them one at a time and decide if that's something that would help your hearts and minds be close to Jesus or far away. If it's close to Jesus, put it in the circle by Him. If it's something that will make you farther away from Him, put it on one of the outer rings. Then discuss additional ways we can get close to Jesus and Heavenly Father each day.
3. Lazarus: Read/discuss/summarize the story of Lazarus being raised from the dead as told in John 11:1-46 (or use this link to retell the story <http://www.biblewise.com/kids/read/young/jesus-raises.php> ).
  - Were Mary, Martha, and Lazarus close to Jesus? Did they have faith in Him? What kinds of choices do you think they had made in their lives to help them be close to Jesus?
  - What miracle was Jesus able to perform because of their faith in Him and because they had made choices to help them be close to Him?
  - Remind them that when we have faith and our hearts are close to Jesus, he can make miracles happen. Not only does He have a lot of power, but He uses that power to be nice and help people.
4. Musical Envelopes:
  - Tell them that we're going to read some parables that teach us about being close to Heavenly Father and Jesus and how much they love us. Have four numbered envelopes with the parable stories inside of them. Throw some small candy/snacks into each of the envelopes as well to help keep their interest.
  - Sit in a circle and explain that each envelope has a different scripture story inside of it and they'll need to pay close attention to the stories to hear what Jesus taught about being close to Him and God.
  - Play some primary songs (or "Dear to the Heart of the Shepherd") while everyone passes the envelopes around in the circle. When the song gets to the end of a verse, pause it, and whoever has #1 will open it up. Read/summarize/discuss the story in the envelope. Then play another verse/song and follow the same process until they're all open. Share testimonies of Jesus and how much He loves us and wants us to be close to Him.

5. M & M Thankful Game: Remind them that one way to get closer to God is to be thankful for your blessings. List things we can thank Heavenly Father and Jesus for. Take turns pulling M & M's out of a bag and saying something you're thankful for according to the color key.  
(from <https://athriftymom.com/mm-thankful-game-fun-quick-game-of-expressing-gratitude/>)
6. Thank You Notes: Color thank you notes to give people, such as primary teachers, family, friends, mailman, etc.
7. First Day in Heaven Picture: Close by showing the picture in this link <https://turtlesstyle.com/products/first-day-in-heaven-hug-of-god-canvas-wrap>. Talk about how much "rejoicing" (being really happy) there will be when we see Heavenly Father and Jesus again if we have made good choices and repented of bad choices to help us be close to them. Just like Mom/Dad miss kids when we're away from them, Heavenly Father and Jesus miss us, love us all, and do not want us to become lost from them.

Additional Ideas:

Ten Lepers Story from The Friend: <https://www.lds.org/study/friend/2002/06/the-ten-lepers?lang=eng>

Prodigal Son from The Friend <https://www.lds.org/study/friend/2002/04/the-lost-son?lang=eng>

Lost Coin Story <http://www.biblewise.com/kids/read/young/the-story-lost-coin.php>

Parable of Lost Sheep Video: <https://vimeo.com/3188992>

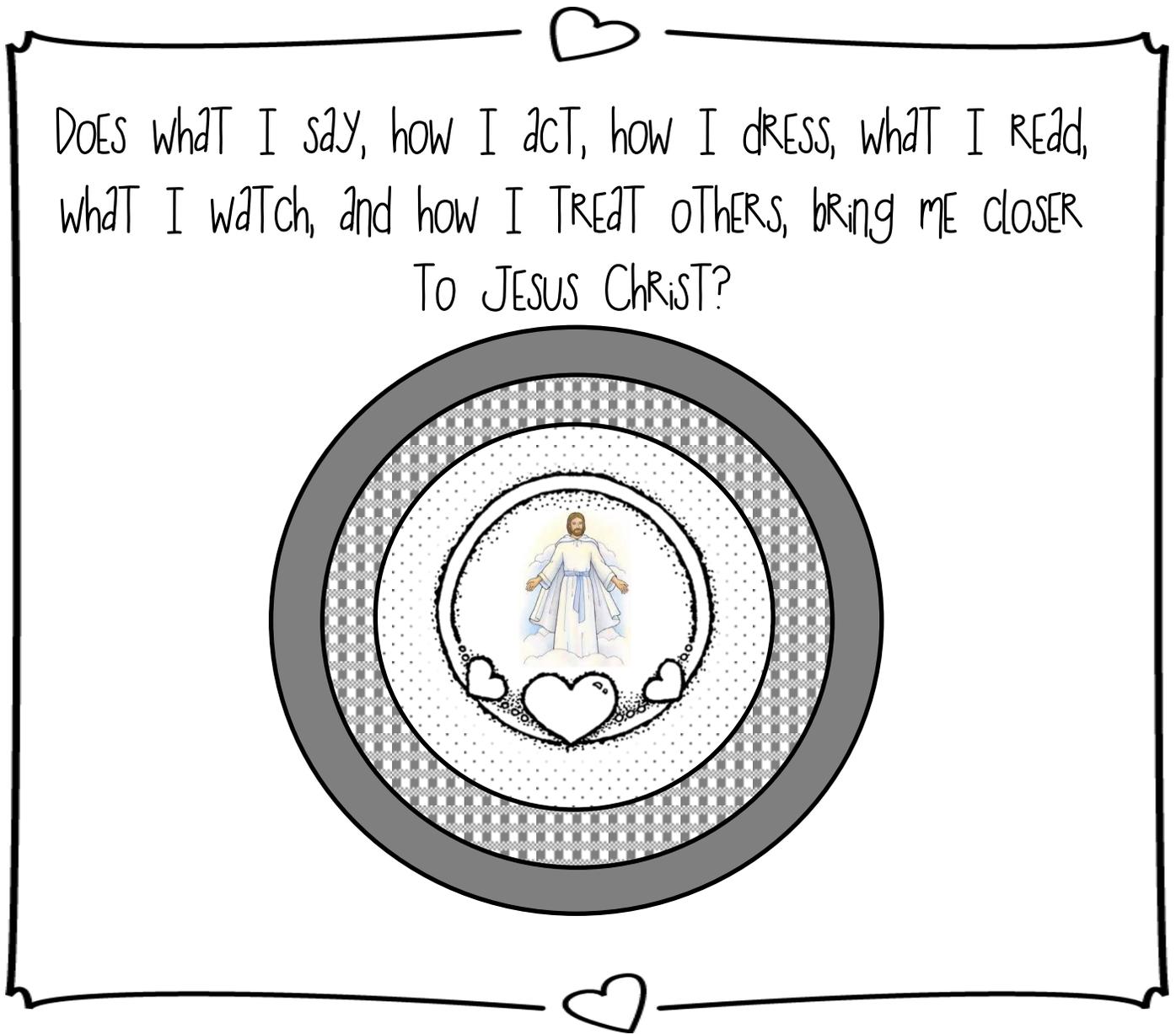
Friend parables: <http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/lds-magazines/friend-july-2011/2011-07-11-jesus-teaches-about-finding-those-who-are-lost-eng.pdf>

Prodigal Son Coloring Page <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/the-Prodigal-Son-feeding-Swine-cute-coloring-page-for-Bible-class-1875311>

Lazarus craft <https://www.samueladvies.nl/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/vp999.pdf> (in German, but the craft still looks super cute)

Lazarus story <http://www.biblewise.com/kids/read/young/jesus-raises.php>

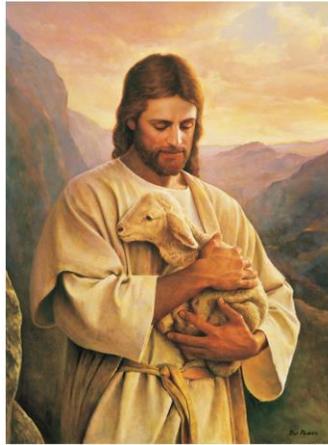
What Helps Us be Close vs. Far Away from Heavenly Father and Jesus: Cut apart the rectangles at the bottom of the page. Read them one at a time and decide if that's something that would help your heart and mind be close to Jesus or far away. If it's close to Jesus, put it in the circle by Him. If it's something that will make you farther away from Him, put it on one of the outer rings. Then discuss additional ways you can get close to Jesus and Heavenly Father each day.



You choose to come to Primary.	You choose to sing reverently in Primary.	You open your eyes during the prayer.	You bring a friend to church.
You don't think about Jesus during sacrament.	You listen carefully to the scriptures.	You laugh when another kid trips and falls.	You listen to songs that have bad words.
You make fun of someone.	You listen quietly at church.	You love other people.	You help other people.



## Parable of the Lost Sheep



Luke 15:3-7

**3** And he spake this parable unto them, saying,

**4** What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

**5** And when he hath found *it*, he layeth *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing.

**6** And when he cometh home, he calleth together *his* friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

**7** I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

*\*Who is the Good Shepherd?*

*\*If our hearts and minds get really far away from Him, it's like we're lost.*

*\*What are some things we might do that would take our minds and hearts far away from Christ?*

*\*If we get lost or far away from Christ, does He want to find us?*

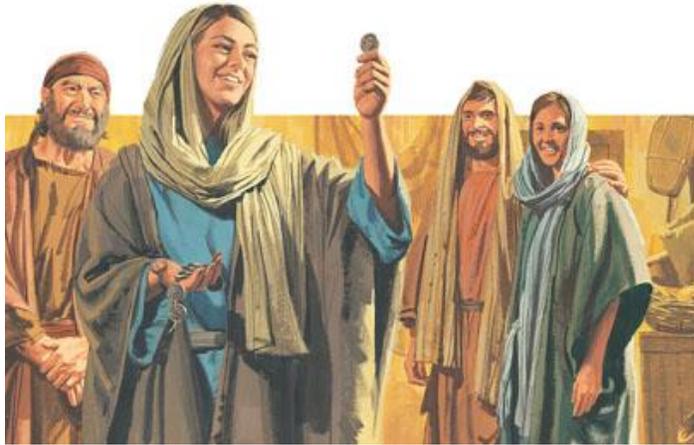
*\*He will "rejoice" (be really happy) when we get close to Him again after being lost.*

*\*Does Jesus love us even after we've made mistakes? How can we get close to Him?*





## Parable of the Lost Coin



Luke 15:8-10

**8** Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find *it*?

**9** And when she hath found *it*, she calleth *her* friends and *her* neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

**10** Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

*\*How would you feel if you lost a coin?*

*\*How would you feel when you found that coin?*

*\*What did the lady in this story do when she found her coin?*

*\*Heavenly Father and Jesus love us more than coins. They feel sad when we're far away from them, and they are really glad (they "rejoice") when they find us again and when we're close to them.*





# The Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-32

## The Parable of the Prodigal Son Luke 15: 11 - 32

[www.happysaints.com](http://www.happysaints.com)

Jesus told a story about God's mercy: A man had two sons. The younger one said, 'Father, give me my share of your estate.'



After taking his money, the son left to a far country and squandered his wealth.



Soon, he had to work in a pig farm to feed himself. He felt sorry for his sins and decided to go home to beg for forgiveness.



As he approached his house, his father came out to hug him. The son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.'



The father told the servants to prepare a big feast as he said, 'My son was dead, and is alive again!'



The elder son was angry when he heard this but his father said, 'Son, all that is mine is yours. We should rejoice for your brother was lost and is found!'



This story shows how God is like. He is a Father Who forgives us despite our past wrong-doings and He asks us to forgive those who have hurt us. He eagerly waits for us to return to Him everyday!



**"I will be merciful  
and remember their  
sins no more."  
Hebrews 8:12**

[www.happysaints.com](http://www.happysaints.com)

*\*Even though his son had made some bad choices, was his father happy when he came back again?*

*\*Heavenly Father is like the father in this story. Even if we turn away from Him (make bad choices) sometimes, He'll still be excited when we repent and come back to Him (make good choices).*

*\*Heavenly Father and Jesus love us lots and want us to live with them again.*





## The Ten Lepers



Luke 17:11-19

**11** And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

**12** And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

**13** And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

**14** And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

**15** And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

**16** And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

**17** And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

**18** There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

**19** And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

*\*Being thankful for our blessings can help bring us closer to Heavenly Father and Jesus.*

*\*How many people did Jesus heal in this story?*

*\*How many people came back to tell Him thanks?*

*\*Whose heart do you think was closest to Christ?*

*\*What are some things Heavenly Father and Jesus have done for us that we could tell them thanks for?*



M & M Thankful Game: Without looking, pull an M & M out of a bag. Say something you're thankful for that goes along with what the color key says. After you've said what you're thankful for, you can eat your M & M. Remind them to look for things each day that they can tell Heavenly Father and Jesus thanks for.

# M&M

## THANKFUL GAME

 Name a Person You are Thankful for

 Name a Place you are Thankful for

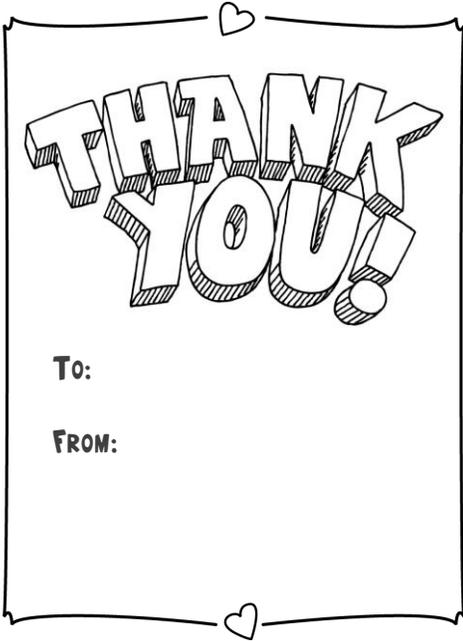
 Name Food you are Thankful for

 Name Something that starts  
with the first letter of your name  
you are Thankful for

 Name a Thing you are Thankful for

A Thrifty Mom.com

Thank You Notes:

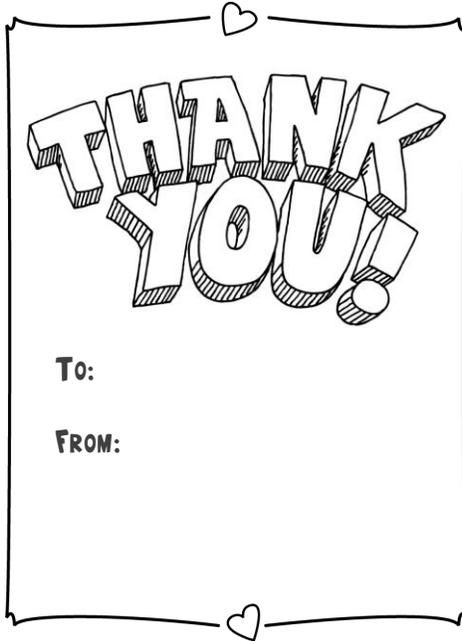


A rectangular card template with rounded corners. At the top center is a small heart icon. The words "THANK YOU!" are written in a large, bold, 3D blocky font with hatching on the sides. Below the text are the labels "To:" and "FROM:" in a simple sans-serif font. At the bottom center is another small heart icon.

**THANK YOU!**

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FROM:

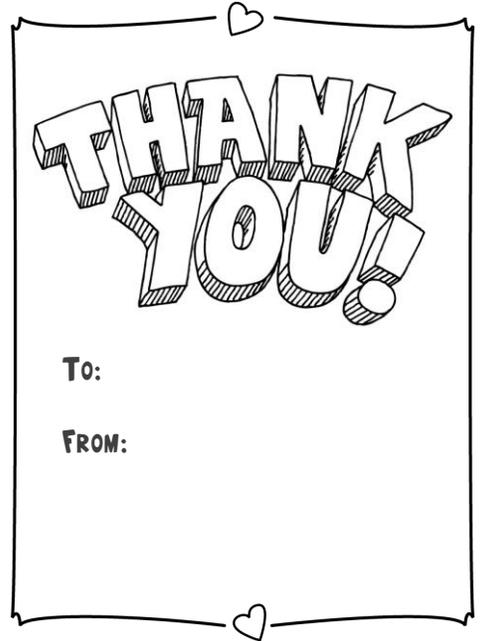


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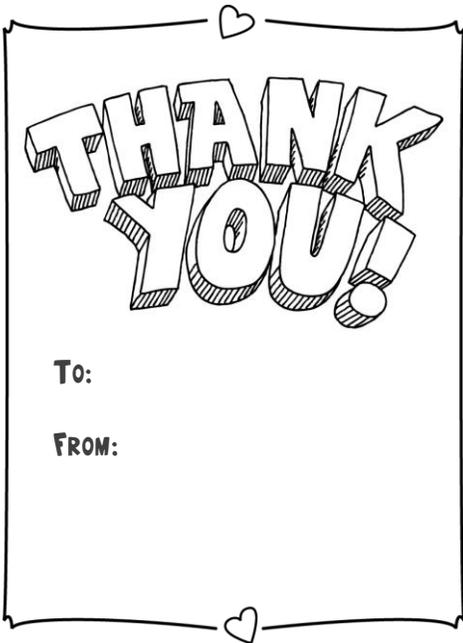


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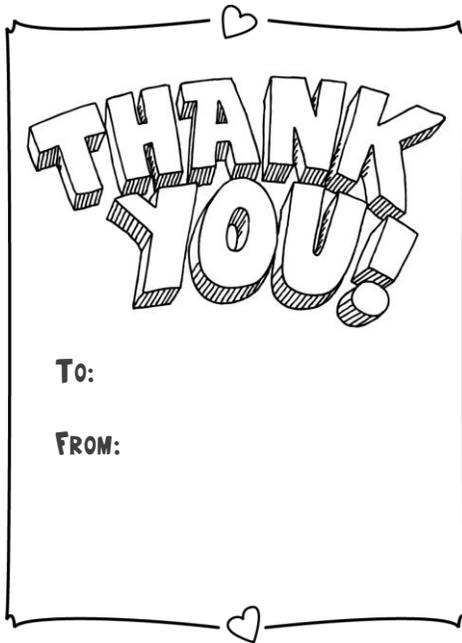


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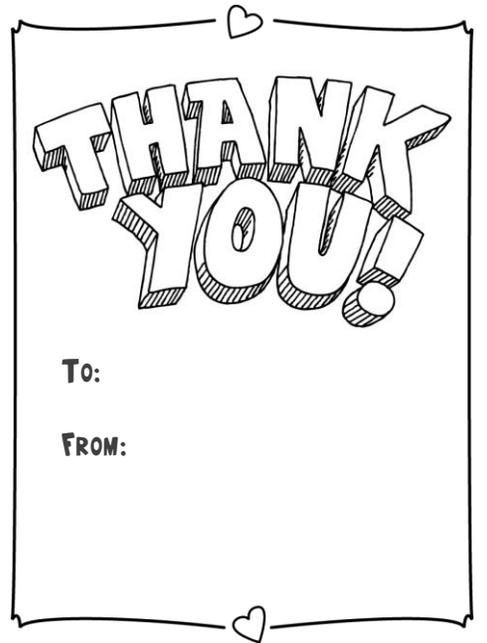


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