

July 15-21 Acts 10-15

"THE WORD OF GOD GREW AND MULTIPLIED"

1. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints –Ask if they know the full name of our church. Cut out the pictures with words for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Lay them out one at a time and spend a little time explaining in your own words what each part means (see notes from *The Importance of a Name* talk). Have them say the full name of the church a couple of times with the pictures and then see if they can do it without the pictures. Maybe turn the pictures upside-down one at a time until they can say it all.

 - Ask which part of the church’s name they think is the most important. Hold up the Jesus Christ piece and talk about how this is HIS church and what that means.
 - Sing “The Church of Jesus Christ” from the Children’s Songbook. Have them hold up the Jesus picture piece when they hear/sing His name in the song. Emphasize the fact that this is His church.
2. I am Christian- Have them say the word “Christian.” Explain that in Acts 11:26, people who believed in and followed Jesus Christ were called “Christians.” Help them notice that the first letters in the word “Christian” are the same as the letters used to spell “Christ.” Are we Christian?

 - Activity: Cut apart the “I am Christian” scenarios below. Explain that true followers of Christ not only believe in Christ, but they also try to do things the way Jesus would do them. Christ went about doing good. Do we also go about doing, thinking, and saying good things? Have the kids pull the scenario cards out of a bowl one at a time. Read the card out loud to them. If it’s something a true follower of Christ would do, they can place it by the Jesus picture piece and have them say, “I am Christian!” If not, talk about what could have been done better.
 - Video: Watch/discuss “True Christianity” video <https://www.mormonchannel.org/watch/series/mormon-messages/true-christianity> . Discuss how going to church is important, but so is how we spend our time throughout the rest of the week. What were some good things the guys in the video did when they weren’t in church? All of the big and little things we do can help us become more like Christ.
 - If time/interest, follow directions in *The Friend* to make a family poster https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/magazines/friend/2019/07/june-2019-friend-magazine-jesus-christ_2245503.pdf?lang=eng
3. Peter’s Dream- Have the kids look at their stuffed animals/dolls. Are they all the same? Explain that just like all of our stuffed animals/dolls are different, all people are different from each other. When Peter was the prophet, some people thought that God only loved some kinds of people, but Peter got “revelation” (a message from Heavenly Father) that let him know that God loves all of His children, even though they’re all different from each other.

 - Show picture of Peter’s dream. Read/summarize how in Peter’s dream in Acts 10: 11-12 he saw a sheet with lots of different animals in it. Look at the animals in the picture. Are they all the same or different?
 - Explain that these animals were different than the animals Peter was used to. This revelation helped Peter realize that Heavenly Father loves all of His children no matter what they look like or where they’re from.
 - Can anyone be a Christian if they want to? Watch music video <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media-library/video/2017-01-020-i-belong-to-the-church-of-jesus-christ?lang=eng& r=1> and tell them to pay attention to how different all of the kids in it are. Do you think God is glad that all of the kids singing are in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints? Or does He wish that some of them weren’t in the church? Explain that anyone who lives the gospel can get the blessings of the gospel. Read/summarize Acts 10:34-35. Explain that God loves everyone, no matter where they’re from or what they look like. Help them realize that each of them is important to Heavenly Father. We are all children of God.
 - Briefly discuss other modern-day revelations prophets have received (2 hour church, missionary age, emphasis on the name of the church, etc.) and remind them that God speaks to His prophets and apostles to help them guide the church. What other kind of revelations do you think could possibly be given in the future? Will you have faith to believe in them?

4. **No Matter What!:** Read story from *The Friend* <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2018/09/no-matter-what?lang=eng>. Encourage them to also look for ways to help others feel Heavenly Father and Jesus's love for them. Maybe even point out that the real name of the kid who this story is about is Christian. ☺ Did he act like a true follower of Christ (a Christian)?
5. **Praying in Faith Paper Chains (Peter in Prison)**- Part of being a true follower of Christ (a Christian) includes praying for not only ourselves, but also other people. Tell them we're going to learn another story about Peter. Have them pay close attention to who prays and what happens because of it.
 - Print up these SUPER cute Peter in Prison paper chains made by Crystal Wallace from this link https://www.therecrystal.org/post/july-15-21-the-word-of-god-grew-and-multiplied?fbclid=IwAR2XqlhcrevsOqwA_2ZhXporjmJpQq04IObn_FLGXsYalaezuxW20lrDwc . Cut them apart and mix them up.
 - Have the kids find #1 first. When they find it, read the description of what it says and glue it into a link for our paper chain while discussing it. Keep going in order until they have all 7. Connect them all to each other to form a paper chain with 7 links.
 - Once it's all put together, have them take turns wearing the chain on their arms to represent the chain Peter was in while in prison. Look at the pictures on the links to see if they can remember the story in their own words and try to retell it. While retelling, they can act out when the chains fell off of Peter.
 - Remind them that Heavenly Father hears our prayers, and sometimes miracles can happen because of them (if it's His will). Share personal stories of miracles we've seen through the prayers of many people.
6. **Who Can I Pray For?** Encourage family members to think of someone specific to pray for each day this week (sick people, church leaders, teachers, family members, neighbors, friends, themselves, etc.). Show picture of the kid praying with the empty thought bubble over his head. Print it up, put it in a sheet protector, and each day have them draw a picture of a specific person they'd like to pray for with a dry erase marker/crayon. Hang it in their bedroom to remind them. Also point out that sometimes God might actually want us to DO something to help that person as well. Remind them that loving others and wanting to help them is another thing true followers of Christ do.
7. **Edible Play-Dough:** Make edible play-dough from this recipe <https://www.survivingateacherssalary.com/diy-edible-homemade-play-dough-recipe-with-koolaid-rainbow-colors/> (or just do sugar cookie dough to make cookies with). Let them make whatever cool things they want to with it. Talk about how the dough can change and become really cool things. Compare this to how we can change and try to become more like Jesus every day through our faith and actions (not just on Sundays at church, but every day of the week as we try to be true followers of Him). If you have older kids, you could share this quote with them as well: "The Final Judgment is not just an evaluation of a sum total of good and evil acts- what we have *done*. It is an acknowledgment of the final effect of our acts and thoughts- what we have *become*." (Elder Dallin H. Oaks).

Additional Ideas:

"The Church of Jesus Christ" song booklet: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2003/01/sharing-time-i-belong-to-the-church-of-jesus-christ?lang=eng>

Body activity for song: <https://sunbeamsinging.wordpress.com/2012/09/19/flip-chart-the-church-of-jesus-christ/amp/>

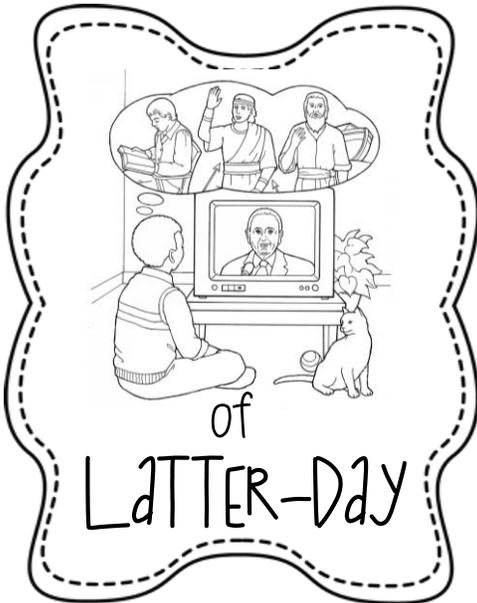
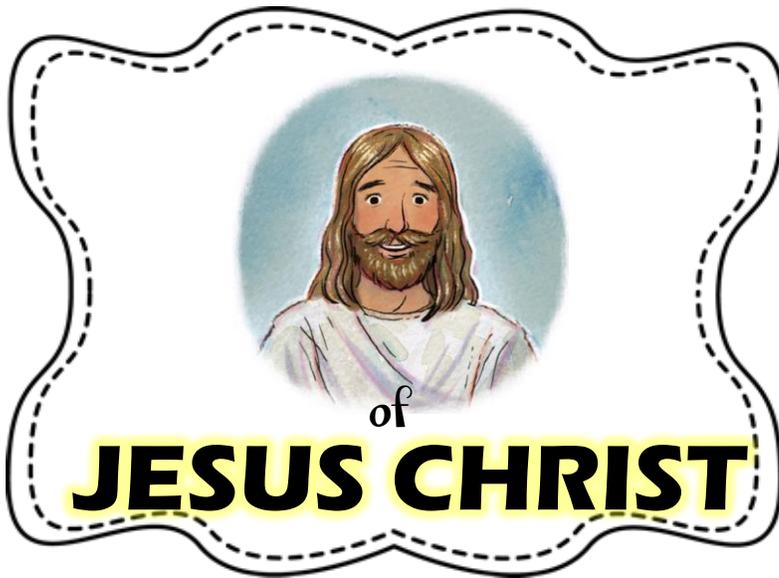
The Friend "I'm Cristian!" pages:

https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/magazines/friend/2019/07/june-2019-friend-magazine-jesus-christ_2245516.pdf

We Are All Children of God Search:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/magazines/friend/2011/04/fr11mar34-map.pdf>

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints –Ask if they know the full name of our church. Cut out the pictures with words for the name of our church. Lay them out one at a time and spend a little time explaining in your own words what each part means (see notes from *The Importance of a Name* talk). Have them say the full name of the church a couple of times with the pictures and then see if they can do it without the pictures.



The name the Savior has given to His Church tells us exactly who we are and what we believe.

The word **THE** indicates the unique position of the restored Church among the religions of the world.

The words **CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST** declare that it is His Church. In the Book of Mormon, Jesus taught: “And how be it my church save it be called in my name? For if a church be called in Moses’ name then it be Moses’ church; or if it be called in the name of a man then it be the church of a man; but if it be called in my name then it is my church, if it so be that they are built upon my gospel.” (3 Nephi 27:8)

OF LATTER-DAY explains that it is the same church that Jesus Christ established during His mortal ministry but restored in these latter days.

SAINTS means that its members follow Him and strive to do His will, keep His commandments, and prepare once again to live with Him and our Heavenly Father in the future. SAINT simply refers to those who seek to make their lives holy by covenanting to follow Christ.

(M. Russell Ballard *The Importance of a Name*)

I am **CHRISTian**

I believe in Christ and do my best to be like Him.

Cut apart the following scenarios. Mix them up in a bowl, and read them out loud as they're pulled out one at a time. If the kids decide that the statement is something that a true follower of Christ would do, they can set it by a picture of Jesus and say, "I am a Christian."

You go to church and then forget about Jesus until the next Sunday when you go to church again.	You tell someone at school you're better than them because you go to church and they don't.	You kindly invite an interested friend to come to church with you.	You listen reverently to the speakers and your teacher at church.
You put on dress-ups and dance in the middle of the living room during scripture study instead of listening to the scriptures.	You fold your arms, close your eyes, and reverently listen to the words of a prayer.	You see your neighbor bringing in groceries and offer to help them carry their bags.	Your friend scrapes her knee while you're playing outside with her. You help her clean it off and put a Band-Aid on it.
You yell at your sister.	You help Mom/Dad wipe off the table.	You surprise another family member by making their bed for them.	You go to church but say mean things to a kid in your church class.

Who Can I PRay For?



Carlos Bautista | <http://ministry-to-children.com>