

July 22-28 Acts 16-21

"THE LORD HAD CALLED US FOR TO PREACH THE GOSPEL"

1. Child of God Crown- Sing "I Am a Child of God" and talk about what it means to be a child of God. Share/summarize the following quotes from (can say prince/king instead of princess/queen for boys, son instead of daughter, etc):
 - "You are truly royal spirit daughters of Almighty God. You are princesses, destined to become queens. Your own wondrous story has already begun. Your 'once upon a time' is now." (President Dieter F. Uchtdorf)
 - "Like the king's son, each of you has inherited a royal birthright. Each of you has a divine heritage. You are literally the royal daughters of our Father in Heaven. Each of you was born to be a queen." (Elaine S. Dalton)
 - Print up a crown for each kid and have them put it on (don't put jewels on it yet). Talk about how cool it is. Let them look in the mirror and say, "(Name) is a child of God." Remind them that we have a spirit as well as a body. Briefly talk about traits they inherited from Mom/Dad. What things do they do that could be things like what Heavenly Father does? Show picture of Heavenly Father with kids (below). Even though we don't remember being with Him, our spirits used to live with Him. He knew us and still knows us well and loves us. He is close to us now, even if we don't see Him with our eyes.
 - Read/discuss "A Child of God No Matter What" story:
<http://familynight.weebly.com/uploads/3/5/9/1/3591589/2009-01-20-for-little-friends-a-child-of-god-no-matter-what-eng.pdf>
2. Missionary Work- Teaching Others About God – Does being a child of God mean we just sit around in a crown all day doing nothing? What are some things we should do since we know who we are? (treat others kindly, follow the commandments, etc.)
 - Explain that we're blessed to know about Heavenly Father and Jesus, but not everyone knows that they are children of God. Review what missionaries are. One thing that missionaries do is teach people about Heavenly Father and Jesus to help them know who they are.
 - Pictures: Show pictures of stones, gold, silver (below). Which one of these pictures shows what God's body is made of? (None. He has a body with flesh and bones). Explain that Paul went to a place where people weren't sure exactly who God was. They worshiped gods made out of stone, silver, and gold. Paul taught them more about who God is. He taught them that we are all his "offspring" (children).
 - Jewels: Read/summarize Acts 17:22-31. Before you read, tell them to listen carefully to other things Paul taught these people about Heavenly Father. For each thing these verses teach, they can choose a jewel to glue onto their crown (He made the world, gives life and breath to all things, He is not far from us if we try to find Him, etc.). Summarize what these things mean while they glue the jewels onto their crowns. Talk about things we can do to feel close to Him. Add extra jewels for ways they can think of for how to feel closer to Him. You could also use stickers or plastic jewels for this.
 - Map: Show map of Missionary Journeys of Paul. Look up places family members have served missions as well. Do we always have to travel far to share the truths that we know? Print up missionary tags from <https://app.box.com/s/jx6hfi139d9hgqcf18wau66wjksdooh> and talk about ways we can be missionaries now.
 - Kid Examples: Share examples of kids being missionaries:
<http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/magazines/friend-october-2013/2013-10-16-i-can-be-a-missionary-now-eng.pdf>
3. The Spirit will Guide Me in My Efforts to Share the Gospel: Show video "Paul and Silas in Prison":
https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media-library/video/2010-11-65-chapter-61-paul-and-silas-in-prison?lang=eng&_r=1&category=new-testament/new-testament-stories . Read/discuss/summarize the story of

Paul and Silas converting a jailor (Acts 16:16-34). Talk about how we might be surprised at who is actually ready to hear about Heavenly Father and Jesus. It's important to pray and follow the Spirit's guidance. The manual states, "Everyone needs the gospel of Jesus Christ, but some people are more prepared than others to receive it. This is one reason we need the Holy Ghost when we share the gospel- to guide us to those who are ready."

4. Scriptures Help Teach Us About Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ- Acts 17:11 describes a group of people describes as "noble." Read this verse and listen carefully to what made these people "noble." One thing it mentions is that they searched the scriptures each day. How can we be better at "searching" the scriptures?
 - Acts 18:28 states that the scriptures helped people understand who Jesus is. Right now we don't remember Heavenly Father and Jesus, but the scriptures are one way we can learn more about them and feel close to them. How can we make our scripture study more meaningful so we can feel closer to them?
 - Potato Head Reverence: Follow directions here <http://www.littleldsideas.net/primary/sharing-time-ideas/reverence-sharing-time-ideas/family-home-evening-reverence/> , except use the potato head body parts to talk about how our eyes, ears, mouths, feet etc. should look and sound while we're doing scripture study. Emphasize that doing these things can help us feel closer to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Maybe set Mr. Potato Head up in a corner during scripture study so they can "earn" putting pieces onto him if their ears are listening to the scriptures, feet are sitting where they should, etc. *If you don't have a potato head, you can print pieces for it from here <https://therapyfunzone.net/blog/magnetic-mr-potato-head/> .*
5. The Incredible Influence of You Object Lesson: Follow directions here (using milk, dish soap, cotton swabs, and food coloring) to show how even our small actions can affect many people. <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/new-era/2015/07/fhe-object-lesson-the-incredible-influence-of-you?lang=eng>.
 - In Acts 20:35, it says, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Spend some time talking about this. What are some things we could give others that would affect them in a positive way? We have lots of things we could give others, and it doesn't always have to be something that costs money (our knowledge of God and Jesus, or even simpler things like smiling, being kind to a sad friend, etc.).
 - Brainstorm someone we could give service, time, or gifts to. Possible ideas: set up a free lemonade/snow cone stand, send a care package to a missionary, offer to give a neighbor a ride to church, give a picture of Jesus to somebody, write letters to grandparents, hand out compliment cards (<https://kidsactivitiesblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Compliment-Cards.pdf>) etc.
6. I Can Be a Missionary Board Game: Remind them that the best way to be a missionary is to love others and be kind to them. Take turns pulling game cards out one at a time (from <https://cknscratch.com/primary-3/i-can-be-a-missionary>). Roll a die, move forward if it's a good way to be a missionary or backward if it isn't.
7. Treat (Sprinkle Donuts): Talk about what it means to "Sprinkle the World with Kindness." Eat sprinkle donuts or make cookies/cupcakes to decorate with sprinkles.

Additional Ideas:

I Am a Child of God Picture Frame <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2004/01/i-know-heavenly-father-loves-me?lang=eng>

I Am a Child of God Scripture Box <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/liahona/2004/01/sharing-time-i-am-a-child-of-god?lang=eng>

I Am a Child of God Crown Frame <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/liahona/2005/02/sharing-time-i-am-a-child-of-god?lang=eng>

Missionary Practice Answering Questions <http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/magazines/friend-november-2012/2012-11-27-i-can-choose-to-be-a-missionary-now-eng.pdf>

I Will Prepare Certificate

https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/magazines/friend/2011/03/fr11mar11_certificate.pdf

10 Ways to be a Missionary Now <http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/magazines/friend-september-2012/2012-09-08-be-a-missionary-now-eng.pdf>

Who Is Jesus? Video of little boy teaching friend <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/children/videos-music/little-friends?lang=engwho-is-jesus&videoid=1397363534001> (scroll to the very last video)

Purple Lydia Craft <http://theconfidentjournal.blogspot.com/2016/11/sunday-school-craft-lydia-seller-of.html?spref=pi&m=1>

Pin the Tag on the Missionary Game <https://sunbeamsinging.wordpress.com/2012/11/03/pin-the-tag-on-the-missionary/amp/>

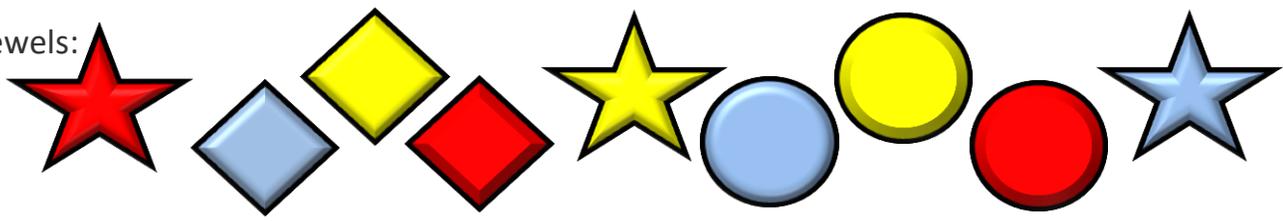
Ways to Study Scriptures <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2005/09/ways-to-study-the-scriptures?lang=eng>

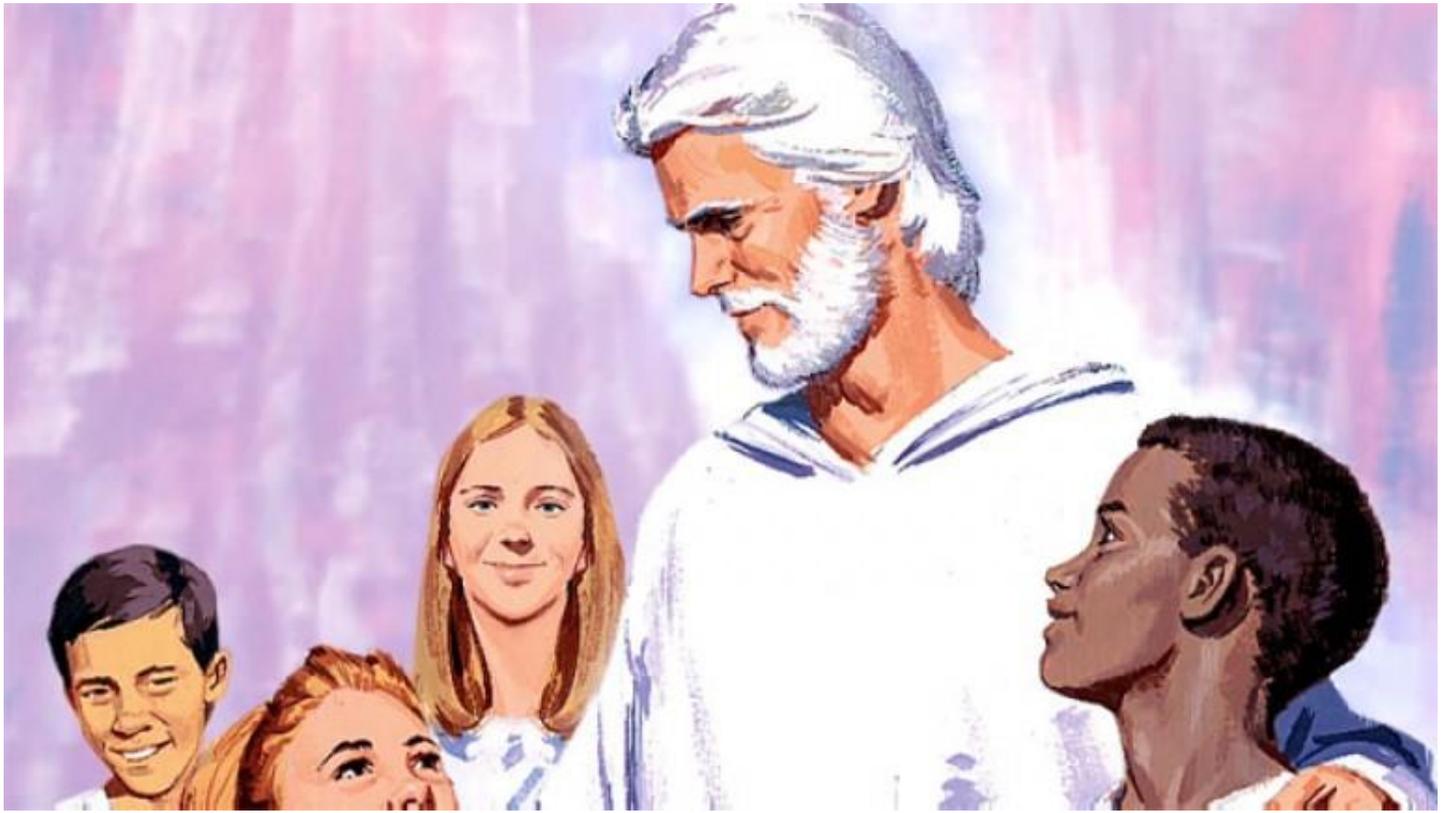
CROWN TEMPLATE 2
(BLANK)

I Am a Child of God

www.firstpalette.com

Jewels:

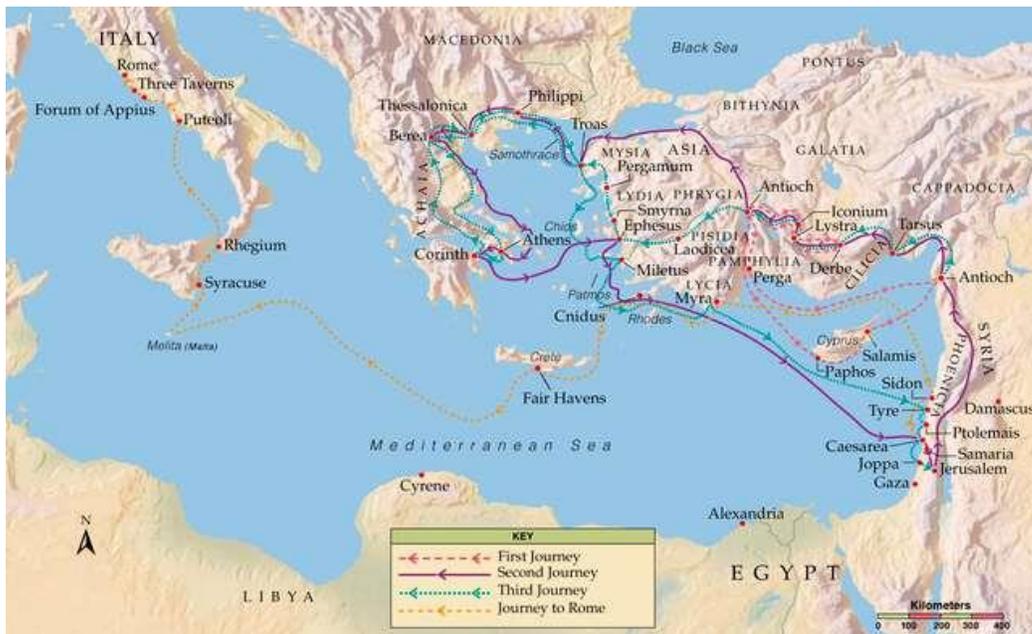




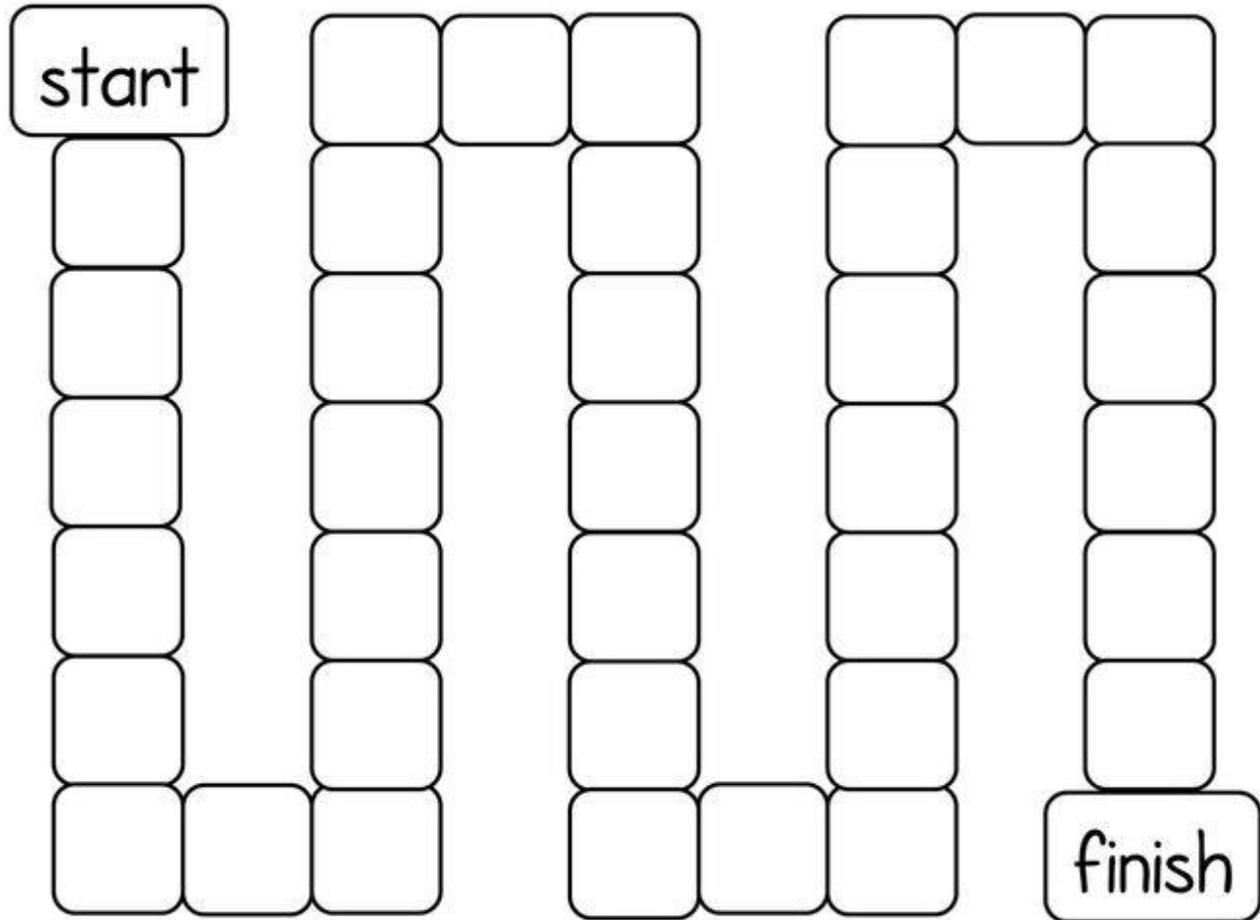
Missionary Work- Teaching Others About God



Missionary Journeys of Paul (from lds.org)



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Game board from http://www.printablee.com/postpic/2012/11/printable-game-board-templates_259739.jpg

Pass-Along Cards:



*Heavenly Father loves YOU!
No matter what you look like
No matter how much money you have
He loves you when you're happy
He loves you when you're sad
He will always love YOU!*



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