

July 29-August 4 Acts 22-28

"A MINISTER AND A WITNESS"

- Heavenly Father and Jesus Care About Me and Will Help Me During Hard Times : When are some times that you might feel close to Heavenly Father and Jesus? Remind them of who Paul was and ask when they think he felt close to the Lord.

 - Show the pictures of the snake, ship, and jail, and tell them to listen carefully while you read the following verses to see if they can figure out which pictures go with each of them (idea from manual). Acts 27:18-26 (ship), Acts 28:1-6 (snake), Acts 23:10-11 (jail). How was it possible to feel close to the Lord even when there were scary things happening?
 - Remind them that Heavenly Father and Jesus love them and want to help them. Especially when we're going through hard times, we can try to remember that and feel their love.
 - Be of Good Cheer Video: Show/discuss <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bible-videos/videos/be-of-good-cheer?lang=eng>.
- Words of God's Servants (I Can Choose to Accept or Reject the Words of God's Servants): Have them look at the ship picture again and explain that we're going to talk more about this story. Read/discuss/summarize how Paul warned that the shipwreck would happen if they didn't listen to him (Acts 27:9-10). Tell them to listen carefully to Acts 27:11, 39-44 to see if they listened to his warning or not and talk about what happened.

 - Remind them that God's servants (prophets, apostles, etc.) give us warnings of things we shouldn't do as well as help us see good things we should do that would help us be happy. They try to guide us toward things that will make us happy and away from things that will hurt us. If we follow the things they teach us, it will help us be happy.
- Prophets' Words Sorting Activity: Cut out the rectangles of things that prophets have told us are either good or bad for us. Read them one at a time and ask if each is something that church leaders have said are good things that will lead us to happiness or not so good things that can hurt us. Let them put them in the correct pile. Remind them that if we choose to accept the words of God's servants, it can help protect us in our lives.

 - Show/discuss video "Blessed and Happy Are Those Who Keep the Commandments of God" <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media-library/video/2016-01-009-blessed-and-happy-are-those-who-keep-the-commandments-of-god?lang=eng> . Just like those people were kept safe from the sharks, following what the prophets teach us can keep us safe from many things that could hurt us.
 - Sing "Follow the Prophet" from the Children's Songbook.
- Paul Shares His Testimony: Remind them of what a testimony is (what you believe in) and what it means to testify. Read/summarize/discuss this story <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/manual/new-testament-stories/chapter-63-paul-finishes-his-mission?lang=eng>. Tell them to pay attention to who Paul testifies to. The people he was talking to could have put him to death. Do you think he was pretty brave?
- Testimony Glove: What are some things we can have testimonies of? Follow instructions from *The Friend* to make a "Testimony Glove" to discuss some of the things we can have testimonies of https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/gospel-library/magazine/fr08oct25_testimony.jpg . Use a real glove or the printable hand outline below. Cut out the five pictures and as you discuss each one, glue/tape them onto the fingers of the hand or glove.

 - Remind them that our testimonies don't have to be perfect right now, but we should keep trying to make our testimonies stronger each day. How can we make our testimonies stronger for each of these five things? What other things can we have testimonies of?

6. I Can Share My Testimony: Remind them of how brave Paul was when he shared his testimony. Is it scary for us to share our testimonies sometimes?
- Print up the “I Can Share My Testimony” sheet made by the talented Crystal Wallace from theredcrystal.org. Cut out the face part and help them put their faces in the hole to practice things they could say about their testimonies and how they could share them.
 - Discuss times when it could also be appropriate to share testimonies in less formal settings (with friends/peers/etc.). Maybe practice ways they could appropriately stand up for the church or for Jesus/Heavenly Father if people are saying bad things about them as well.
 - Share some of the children testimonies from the Church’s website
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/children/resources/type/child-testimonies?lang=eng>
7. Treat (Fruit Popsicles): Make fruit popsicles (or any other treat). Do you think your friends would be happy if you shared with them? How does it make you feel when you share? Share popsicles with friends when we are done making them and talk about how it makes us feel happy when we share good things. Compare this to sharing testimonies. If we do it in the right situation, it can make others as well as us happy.
Recipe: https://www.momontimeout.com/greek-yogurt-berry-smoothie-pops/#_a5y_p=1511502

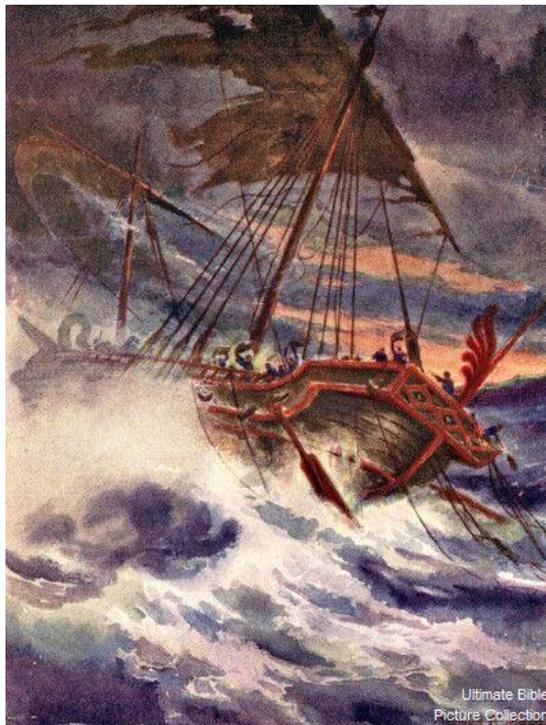
Additional Ideas:

Testimony Toolbox <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2015/04/testimony-toolbox?lang=eng>

How Can I Gain a Testimony Pictures: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2005/11/how-can-i-gain-a-testimony?lang=eng>

More super cute and fun ideas: <https://www.theredcrystal.org/post/a-minister-and-a-witness-july-29-aug-4th>

The Lord Can Be With Us, Even During Hard Times - Show the pictures of the snake, ship, and jail, and tell them to listen carefully while you read the following verses to see if they can figure out which pictures go with each of them (idea from manual). Acts 27:18-26 (ship), Acts 28:1-6 (snake), Acts 23:10-11 (jail). How was it possible to feel close to the Lord even when there were scary things happening? Remind them that Heavenly Father and Jesus love us and want to help us. Especially when we're going through hard times, we should try to remember that and know that they haven't forgotten us and still love us.



Prophets' Words Sorting Activity: Cut out the rectangles of things that prophets have told us are either good or bad for us. Read them one at a time and ask if each is something that church leaders have said are good things that will lead us to happiness or not so good things that can hurt us. Let them put them in the correct pile.

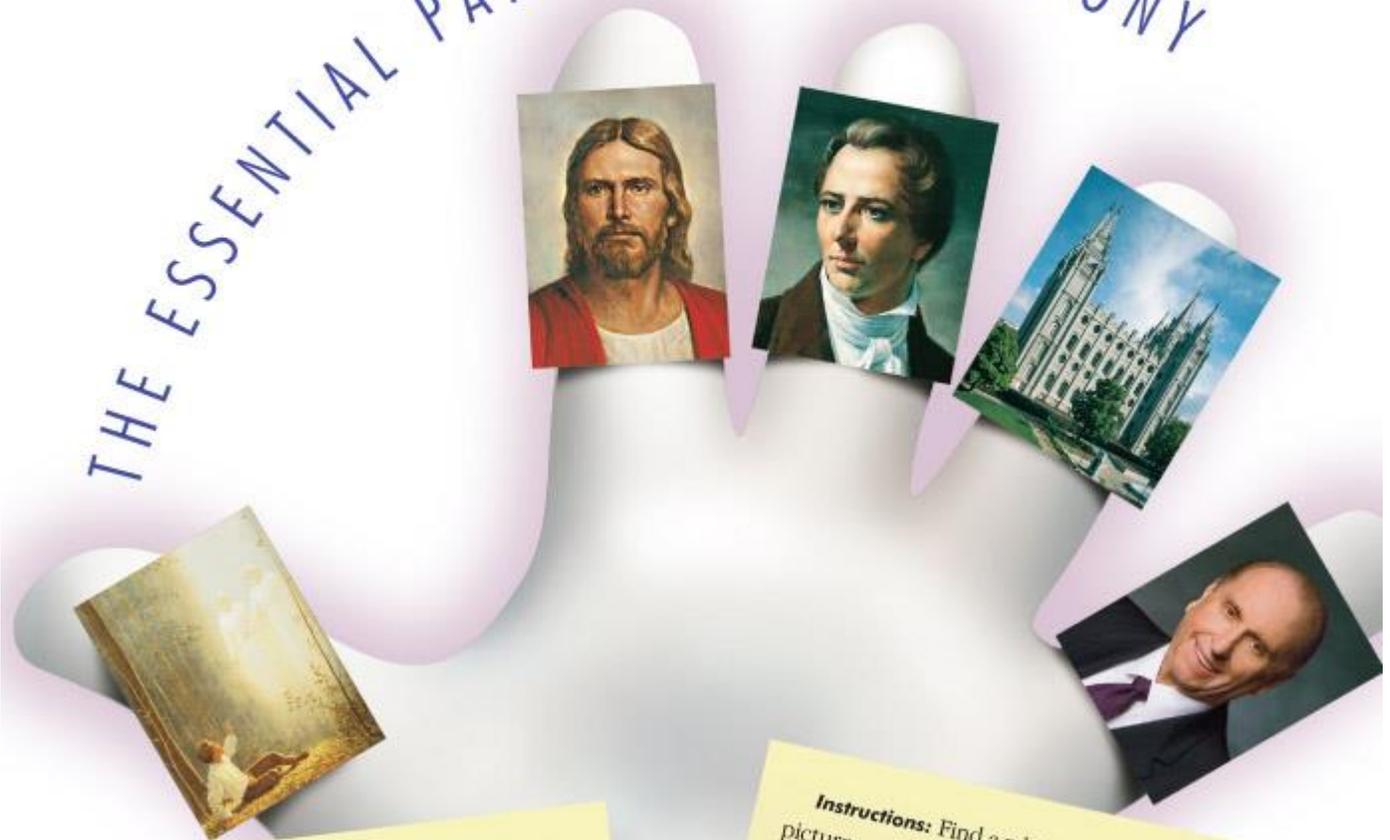
Smoke cigarettes	Read scriptures	Go to church	Be a good friend
Drink alcohol	Steal	Get baptized	Tell Lies
Love others	Use nice words	Obey your parents	Eat healthy food



Testimony Glove: Follow instructions from *The Friend* to make a "Testimony Glove" to discuss some of the things we can have testimonies of. Use a real glove or the printable hand outline on the following page.

https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/gospel-library/magazine/fr08oct25_testimony.jpg

THE ESSENTIAL PARTS OF A TESTIMONY



MY TESTIMONY

1. I know that God is our Heavenly Father and He loves us.
2. I know that His Son, Jesus Christ, is our Savior and Redeemer.
3. I know that Joseph Smith is a prophet of God. He restored the gospel of Jesus Christ to the earth and translated the Book of Mormon by the power of God.
4. I know that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the Lord's Church on the earth today.
5. I know that this Church is led by a living prophet who receives revelation.

Instructions: Find a white glove.* Cut out the pictures on this page, and mount them on heavy paper. Put the glove on. As you say the five parts of a testimony, one by one, attach a picture to a glove finger, starting with the thumb. You can attach the pictures to the glove using Velcro, tape, glue, safety pins, snaps, or string.

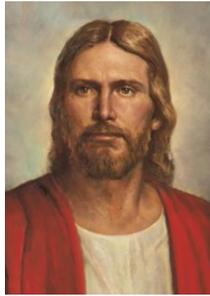
As you develop your testimony, don't be afraid to share it! As you bear your testimony, you can use phrases like "I testify that . . ." or "I know that . . ." Your testimony will grow stronger when you share it with others. ●

**This activity can be adapted to your circumstances. The glove does not have to be white. If gloves are not available, you could make paper gloves or even attach the pictures to your fingers with tape.*

Note: If you do not wish to remove pages from the magazine, this activity may be copied or printed from the Internet at www.friend.lds.org.

LEFT: PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY SARA GRAHAM, KYUNGJEE PARK, AND HARRY KAY SLOUT. ABOVE: THE FIRST VISION AND JESUS THE CHRIST, BY DEL PARSON; DETAIL FROM JOSEPH SMITH, BY AARON OBITTUS; PHOTOGRAPH BY ELDON LINSCHOTEN; PHOTOGRAPH BY SUSAN PHOTOGRAPHY. BACKGROUND © PHOTOSPUN

Testimony Glove Printable: Cut out the five pictures and as you discuss each one, glue/tape them onto the fingers of the hand. Our testimonies don't have to be perfect right now, but we should keep trying to make our testimonies stronger each day.







Cut out

I Can Share My Testimony