

## September 9-15 2 Corinthians 1-7

# "BE YE RECONCILED TO GOD"

- Epistles of Christ Activity- 2 Corinthians 3:3 says that our lives can be “epistles of Christ.” The CFM manual explains that Paul taught that the lives of the Saints were like letters of recommendation for the gospel from Christ Himself. The manual also suggests having family members write a letter or “epistle” explaining how another family member has been a good example of a disciple of Jesus Christ. If your kids are old enough to read/write, I think that would be a super fun idea. We’re going to do it in a more visual way for my young girls:

  - Attributes of Christ Cards: Cut up the “Attributes of Christ” cards and put them in a bag/bowl. Set out a picture of Christ (could use the picture of Heavenly Father and Jesus in the car repentance activity below). Have the kids pull one card out at a time. As it’s pulled out, talk about how Christ showed that attribute while He was alive, and then put the card on or next to the picture of Christ.
  - Attributes in Family Members: After all of the cards have been pulled out, everyone take turns sharing which of these attributes you’ve noticed in family members. Have one family member start by saying a specific time they’ve noticed another family member showing that attribute (ex: sister showed charity when she bought toys for her friends with her own money). Have them tape that attribute card onto the person after they’ve shared. Give everyone a chance to share multiple times until all of the cards are taped onto family members. Encourage them to keep things as evenly spread between family members as possible.
  - How can our examples be “known and read of all men”? Even though we don’t wear these cards around everywhere, can people see our actions and what kind of people we are? How can that help them want to learn more about Christ and His gospel?
  - Encourage everyone to think about their actions each day and try to be more Christ-like.
  - Self-Evaluation: If you have older kids, they could do this self-evaluation <http://courtneyaitken.blogspot.com/2013/09/its-that-time-again-is-anyone-else.html>
- Through the Atonement of Christ, I can be reconciled to God (Jesus is my friend)- Watch YouTube video for “My Savior, My Friend” song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4Whp8ByJr8> . Because of Christ’s Atonement, He can take away our sins. Remind them that Jesus loves them and as we try to be more like Him, we feel closer to Him and Heavenly Father. Read/discuss/summarize 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. Being reconciled to God means we have a closer relationship to Him.

  - What are some things that could separate us from God? What do we need to do to have a closer relationship to Him? How can Christ help?
- Road to Repentance (Godly Sorrow/Repentance)- When we do things that aren’t Christ-like, how does it make us feel? Read/discuss/summarize 2 Corinthians 7:8-11. Remind them that we all make mistakes and sometimes will do things that aren’t perfect. These verses say that if we have “godly sorrow,” we can become better and learn from those mistakes. Godly sorrow is different from being embarrassed or ashamed. Godly sorrow leads to true repentance. When we repent, does that mean we just say the words “I’m sorry” and then everything is fine? Help them see that repentance means more than that.

  - Cut out the “Road to Repentance” pieces. Have them put them in order and discuss each step in depth.
- Repentance Car Activity-

  - Put the picture of Heavenly Father and Jesus on one side of the room.
  - Put the picture of the world/sin on the other side of the room.
  - Have kids stand in the middle of the room while holding the repentance steering wheel.
  - Let them pretend to drive an imaginary car.
  - Have them listen to scenarios while “driving” their cars and have them act out which direction their cars would be facing. *For example: You lied to your mom about eating your vegetables. Which direction are you facing? Have them point their cars toward the sin sign. If you feel “godly sorrow” for doing this, what will you do? Keep lying about it or change direction to repent? Have them turn their steering wheels to point their car toward Heavenly Father and Jesus. Explain that when we repent, we turn away from sin and turn toward God for forgiveness.*
  - What steps do we need to take now that we’re pointed in the right direction? Set up the “Road to Repentance” pieces in a line that leads to the picture of Heavenly Father and Jesus. Have them drive

their car a little closer to the Heavenly Father/Jesus picture for each specific way they can think of for how to repent (tell my mom the truth, let her know I'm sorry, go back and eat my vegetables, etc.).

- Repeat this with several other scenarios. Remind them that as they truly repent when they make mistakes, they will feel closer to Heavenly Father and Jesus and become more like them.
  - If any families want to get really fancy with this, kids could make cars out of cardboard boxes to go with this as well (like this <http://mykidcraft.com/cardboard-box-race-cars/> ). I'm pretty sure we won't do this just because I don't have time and my girls would probably get too distracted by it, but it could make it extra fun.
5. Saying Sorry/Forgiving – Read/summarize/discuss how Alma felt after he repented in Alma 36:21. Talk about how great our joy can be after we repent. Heavenly Father and Jesus want us to be happy. Look at/read the scenarios from “I Can Say I'm Sorry” from *The Friend*. Point out which kids are repenting and which ones are forgiving. Talk about how forgiving others is important too.  
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/ldsorg/children/resources/topics/repentance/i-can-say-im-sorry-2012-11-friend.pdf> .
- If time/interest: Use this “Pocket Full of Rocks” poem to talk about how we're happier when we forgive others and look for good <http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/magazines/friend-february-2014/2014-02-18-poem-pockets-full-of-rocks-eng.pdf> . Could also make a rock garden after discussing.
6. Righteous Living- The Gospel Topics explanation of repentance states, “It is not enough to simply try to resist evil or empty our lives of sin. We must fill our lives with righteousness and engage in activities that bring spiritual power...This obedience includes actions we might not initially consider part of repentance, such as attending meetings, paying tithing, giving service, and forgiving others.” Discuss additional actions we can do to bring us closer to Heavenly Father and Jesus. Could include the following:
- Comforting others (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)
  - Forgiving others (2 Corinthians 2:7-8, 10)
  - Being honest (2 Corinthians 4:1-2)
7. White as Snow Candy (white candy-coated cinnamon bears)- Follow instructions on the last page here to make treats to remind them that sins can become as clean as white snow (Isaiah 1:18)  
<http://www.ldsfamilyfun.com/media/PDFs/fhe/stepsofrepentance.pdf> .

#### Additional Ideas:

Ways to Say I'm Sorry <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/ldsorg/children/resources/topics/repentance/i-can-say-im-sorry-2012-11-friend.pdf>

Choose the Right Way song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wG9lgA2rp0o>

Choosing to Change Pictures <http://media.ldscdn.org/pdf/magazines/friend-june-2016/2016-06-05-parable-of-the-dandelion-eng.pdf>

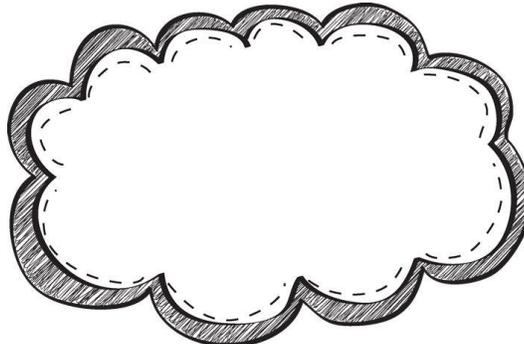
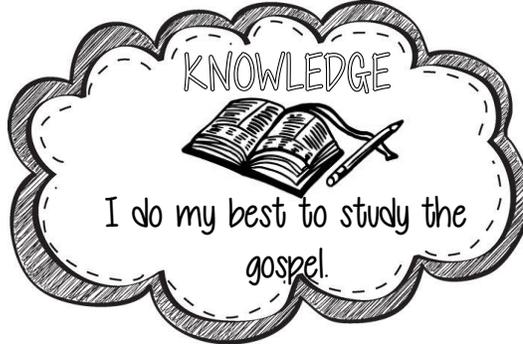
Boy repenting <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/ldsorg/children/resources/topics/repentance/The-Joy-of-Repentance-2001-05-friend.pdf>

Repentance Stories <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/children/resources/topics/repentance?lang=eng>

Tips for Teaching Repentance <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/liahona/2019/02/10-tips-for-teaching-repentance?lang=eng>

Turning from a Wrong to a Right Craft <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/1997/04/sharing-time-repentance-turning-from-wrong-to-right?lang=eng>

More great ideas <https://www.theredcrystal.org/post/come-follow-me-be-ye-reconciled-to-god-sept-9-15>



Road to Repentance (Godly Sorrow/Repentance)- Cut apart the road pieces. Have them kids put them in order and discuss each one in depth. When we do things that aren't Christ-like, how does it make us feel? Read/discuss/summarize 2 Corinthians 7:8-11. Remind them that we all make mistakes and sometimes will do things that aren't perfect. These verses say that if we have "godly sorrow," we can become better and learn from those mistakes. Godly sorrow is different from being embarrassed or ashamed. Godly sorrow leads to true repentance. When we repent, does that mean we just say the words "I'm sorry" and then everything is fine? Help them see that repentance means more than that.

1

Feel Sorry

2

Ask Forgiveness

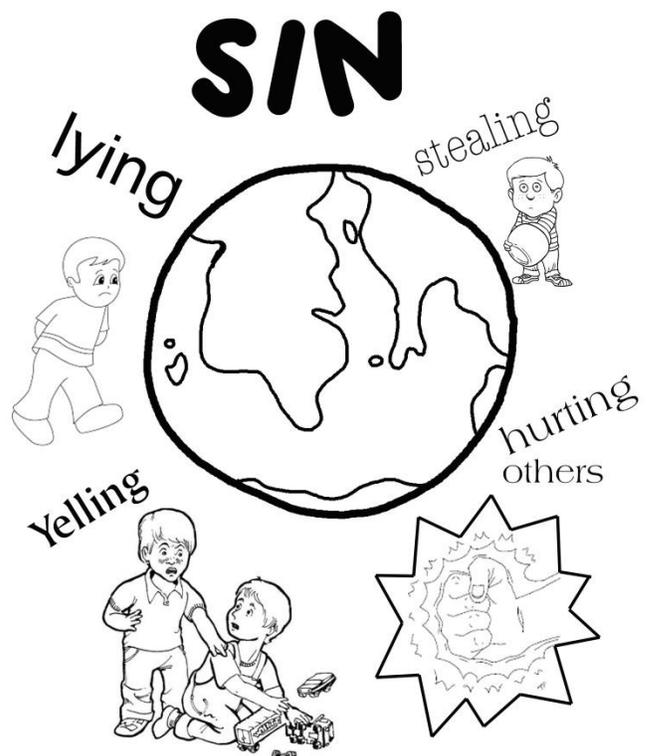
3

Fix the Wrong

4

Don't Repeat the Wrong

Repentance Car Activity: Put the picture of Heavenly Father and Jesus on one side of the room. Put the picture of the world/sin on the other side of the room. Have kids stand in the middle of the room while holding the repentance steering wheel. Let them pretend to drive an imaginary car. Have them listen to scenarios while “driving” their cars and have them act out which direction their cars would be facing. *For example: You lied to your mom about eating your vegetables. Which direction are you facing? Have them point their cars toward the sin sign. If you feel “godly sorrow” for doing this, what will you do? Keep lying about it or change direction to repent? Have them turn their steering wheels to point their car toward Heavenly Father and Jesus. Explain that when we repent, we turn away from sin and turn toward God for forgiveness.* What steps do we need to take now that we’re pointed in the right direction? Set up the “Road to Repentance” pieces in a line that leads to the picture of Heavenly Father and Jesus. Have them drive their car a little closer to the Heavenly Father/Jesus picture for each specific way they can think of for how to repent (tell my mom the truth, let her know I’m sorry, go back and eat my vegetables, etc.). Repeat this with several other scenarios. Remind them that as they truly repent when they make mistakes, they will feel closer to Heavenly Father and Jesus and become more like them.



Repentance Steering Wheel:

