

October 21-27 1 and 2 Thessalonians

"BE NOT SOON SHAKEN IN MIND, OR BE TROUBLED"

1. Second Coming Surprise from Ensign – Follow instructions for the activity for October 21-27
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2019/10/family-study-fun?lang=eng>.
2. Song – Sing/discuss “When He Comes Again” song from Children’s Songbook
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZaprybu8EE>
3. Apostasy Light vs. Dark Block Activity - Read/summarize/discuss 1 Thessalonians 5:4-5 “Ye brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.” Help them understand that because we have the light of the gospel, we don’t need to be afraid of the Second Coming.
 - Remind them that good things come from Christ and Heavenly Father. Dark/evil things come from Satan. Explain that one of the signs that Christ will be coming is what’s called “The Restoration.” This activity will help explain what The Restoration is.
 - Blocks: Choose pictures of ten gospel truths to tape onto building blocks. Put them together to make a pyramid (with 4 at the base) and explain that these are some of the things Jesus taught about when He was alive.
 - Apostasy: Explain that many years after Jesus died, some of the things He taught got lost/hidden. Let one person knock down the pyramid. Mom/Dad/ or another person hide all of the pieces in a dark room to represent the teachings of the church being lost (don’t let the other kids see where they’re hidden). Explain that this period of time was called the “Apostasy.”
 - Restoration: Who is the “Light of the World?” (Jesus). Did He want these things to stay lost forever? (No). Let the kids take turns taking a flashlight into the dark room to find one piece at a time until all of the pieces are “restored.” Build them back into a pyramid again and explain that this is called “The Restoration.”
4. YouTube Video with Quotes from Church Leaders – Watch/discuss this video with what church leaders have said about the Second Coming <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgaesQ2EE8w> .
 - Scripture: Read/discuss/summarize 1 Thessalonians 4:7 “For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.” How can we stay holy and clean?
 - Preparation Pictures: Show pictures of praying, reading scriptures, following the prophet, and living righteously daily (below). Have them explain to you how each thing can help us prepare to see Jesus Christ.
 - Everyone choose one way they will try to better prepare to stand before the Lord.
Could share the following quote: “*What if the day of His coming were tomorrow? If we knew that we would meet the Lord tomorrow – through our premature death or His unexpected coming – what would we do today? What confessions would we make? What practices would we discontinue? What accounts would we settle? What forgiveness would we extend? What testimonies would we bear? If we would do those things then, why not now?*” (Dallin H. Oaks)
5. Heart Activity- Cut out the heart envelope and glue the tab on the bottom. Cut the scripture strips apart and put them in a pile. Take turns choosing one from the pile. As they’re chosen, discuss how doing that will help our hearts be holy and prepare us to stand before the Lord at His Second Coming, and then place it inside of the heart.
 - Read/discuss/summarize Moroni 10:32-33 and remind them of how important the grace of Christ is as we strive to be good people.

6. Be Not Shaken/Let No Man Deceive You Role-Play - 2 Thessalonians 2:2 says, “be not shaken in mind, or be troubled.” 2 Thessalonians 2:3 says, “Let no man deceive you.” In 2 Thessalonians 2:15, Paul tells us to “stand fast” and hold onto the things we’ve been taught.
- Everyone take turns role-playing being a deceiver and trying to get other people to do the opposite of what they should do to prepare for Christ’s Second Coming (could make them a nametag that says “Deceiver”). Another person will role-play standing fast and choosing the right.
Some possibilities of what “The Deceiver” could say:
You shouldn’t believe in Jesus because you’ve never seen Him.
Jesus isn’t going to come again because He’s not real.
Reading the scriptures is a waste of time.
Nobody’s listening when you pray, so you shouldn’t pray anymore.
You should be mean to people if you don’t like them.
The things prophets and apostles teach in conference aren’t important.
 - Read 2 Thessalonians 2:15-17 and emphasize how it says that God and Jesus loves us and can give us hope and comfort and help us do good things, even when it’s hard.
7. Sunshine Cupcakes – Use candy corn and yellow frosting to make sunshine cupcakes to remind them that Jesus brings light to our lives. Instructions: <https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/sunshine-cupcakes/>
- 2 Thessalonians 2:8 explains that the Lord will destroy wickedness from Satan with the BRIGHTNESS of His coming. Remind them that Christ brings light and happiness. Satan gives us darkness, confusion, and unhappiness. The Second Coming will be happy for us if we have faith in Christ and have followed His commandments.

Additional Ideas:

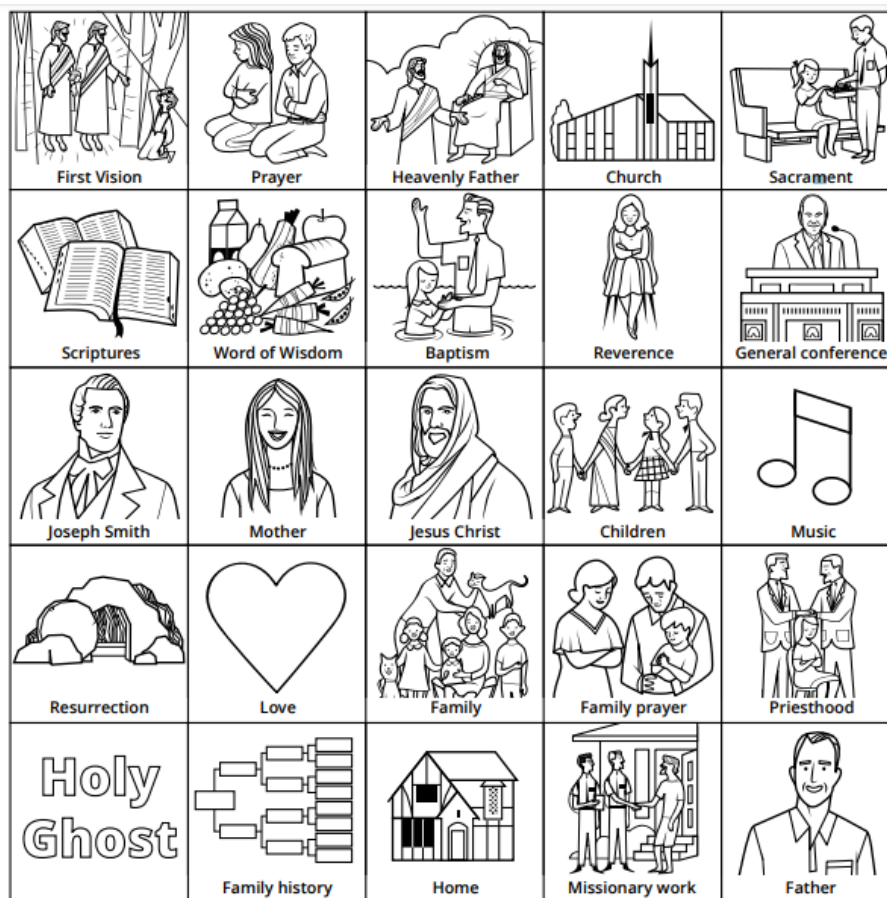
- The manual suggests finding a phrase in 1 Thessalonians 5:14-25 for your family to focus on and make it into a poster to display in your home. Then add notes to the poster when you see family members following that counsel.
- More Great Ideas: https://www.theredcrystal.org/post/come-follow-me-oct-21-27-be-not-soon-shaken-in-mind-or-be-troubled?fbclid=IwAR1bUA8ngVKFOxrEv5bNGXAYDeqUb1Ld_uxo-2mJd9mGdpDUcS9kC4nc_Yo

Apostasy Light vs. Dark Block Activity - Read/summarize/discuss 1 Thessalonians 5:4-5 “Ye brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.” Help them understand that because we have the light of the gospel, we don’t need to be afraid of the Second Coming.

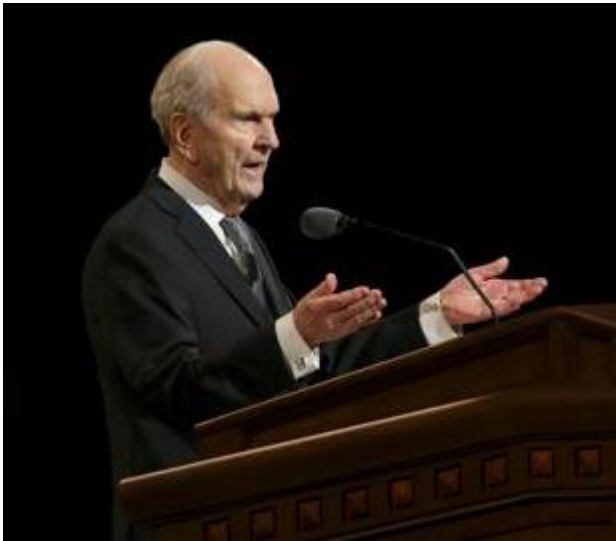
- Remind them that good things come from Christ and Heavenly Father. Dark/evil things come from Satan.
- **Blocks:** Choose pictures of 10 gospel truths to tape onto building blocks. Put them together to make a pyramid (with 4 at the base) and explain that these are some of the things Jesus taught about when He was alive.
- **Apostasy:** Explain that many years after Jesus died, these things He taught got lost/hidden. Let one person knock down the pyramid. Mom/Dad/ or another person hide all of the pieces in a dark room to represent the teachings of the church being lost (don’t let the other kids see where they’re hidden). Explain that this period of time was called the “Apostasy.”
- **Restoration:** Who is the “Light of the World?” (Jesus). Did He want these things to stay lost forever? (No). Let the kids take turns taking a flashlight into the dark room to find (restore) one piece at a time until all of the pieces are “restored.” Build them back into a pyramid again and explain that this is called “The Restoration.”

We’ll probably use priesthood, sacrament, scriptures, General Conference (to represent prophets), Heavenly Father, baptism, Jesus Christ, love, family prayer, and missionary work, but you can use whichever ones you feel would best help your family understand the point.

Pictures from *The Friend* <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/ldsorg/content/english/pdf/conference-squares-eng.pdf?lang=eng>

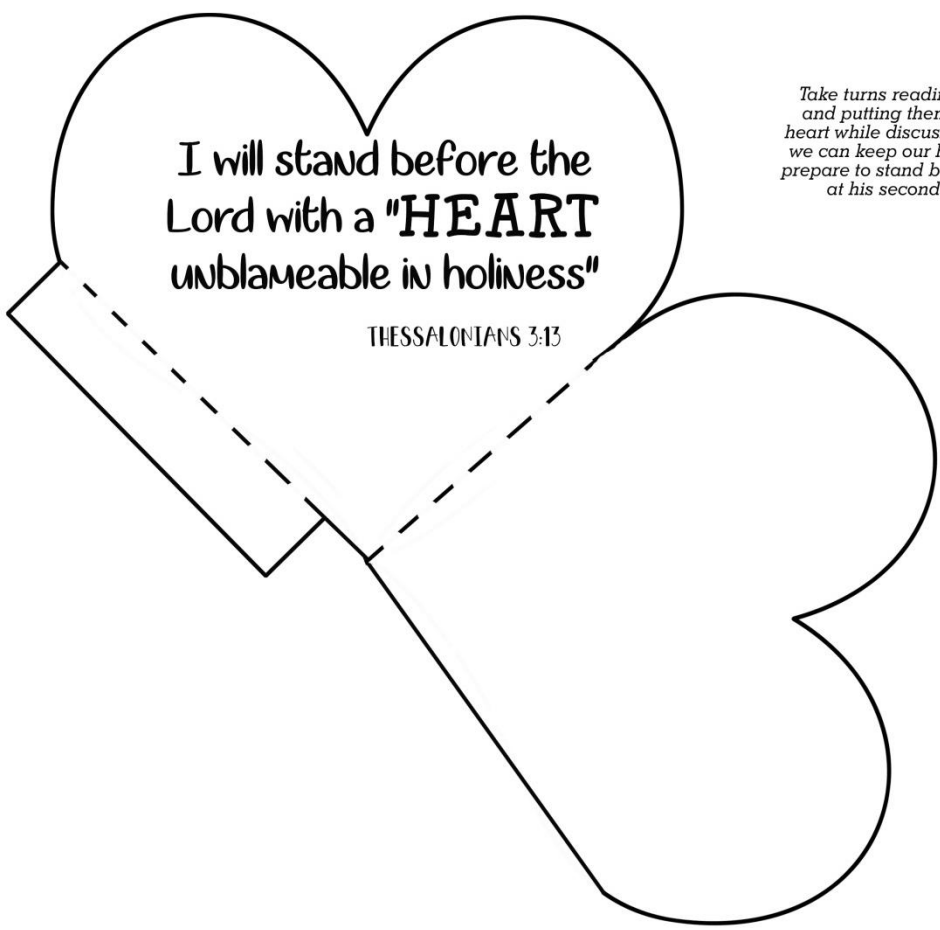


Preparation Pictures: Show pictures of praying, reading scriptures, following the prophet, and living righteously daily. Have them explain to you how each thing can help us prepare to see Jesus Christ.



Heart Activity- Cut out the heart envelope and glue the tab on the bottom. Cut the scripture strips apart and put them in a pile. Take turns choosing one from the pile. As they're chosen, discuss how doing that will help our hearts be holy and prepare us to stand before the Lord at His Second Coming, and then place it inside of the heart.

Created by Crystal from www.theredcrystal.org



Take turns reading the strips and putting them inside the heart while discussing the ways we can keep our hearts holy to prepare to stand before the Lord at his second coming.

“Put on the breastplate of faith and love”
1 Thessalonians 5:8

“Be Patient toward all men”
1 Thessalonians 5:14

“Rejoice evermore”
1 Thessalonians 5:16

“Pray without ceasing”
1 Thessalonians 5:17

“In everything give thanks”
1 Thessalonians 5:18

“Quench not the Spirit”
1 Thessalonians 5:19

“Despise not prophesyings”
1 Thessalonians 5:20

“Hold Fast that which is good”
1 Thessalonians 5:21

“Abstain from all appearance (footnote:kinds) of evil”
1 Thessalonians 5:22

“Comfort one another”
1 Thessalonians 4:18

“Belief of the truth”
2 Thessalonians 2:13

“Love of the truth”
2 Thessalonians 2:10

“Have Faith, charity, and patience”
2 Thessalonians 1:3-4

“Love God”
2 Thessalonians 3:5