

Sandpoint Stake Music Newsletter

June 2015

Dear Music Leaders,

Recently we saw a simple but effective incorporation of Faith in God as we visited in the Priest River Ward. Sister Annette Marks taught about Joseph Smith's first vision during Sharing Time. After, she challenged the children to teach it to their family during FHE as part of the Faith in God requirement. That's all it takes. Teach as you normally would, and point out the Faith in God requirement. But you must be aware of what they are. I'll continue to put tips in the newsletter to make this easier.

I loved Sister Rosemary Wixom's talk from Sunday am General Conference about a young mother's reactivation. Given hope by Mother Teresa's story, she started with basic gospel truths found in Primary songs and a desire for her children to have temple marriages. "That's when belief came back to my heart." As she played Primary songs, she thought "Here are the truths I love".



I, too, know that the gospel is found in Primary songs and I have felt comfort and guidance in the words many times as the melody plays over and over in my head and in my heart. Primary songs are my favorites. This is my desire for each child in the Sandpoint Stake to know the songs and the gospel meaning. This can be a powerful source of comfort and guidance throughout their lives.

Love,
LeeAnn Kopsa, 2nd Counselor
Sandpoint Stake Primary



Elder Wilford W. Andersen Of the Seventy

I enjoyed the words of Elder Anderson at our Stake Conference in April, as well as General Conference.

Do you remember how he related the story of Elijah as he was taken up by the chariots of fire and the mantle of the prophet fell to Elisha? Then Elisha picked up the mantle and parted the River Jordan.

Elder Anderson said, "It is the mantle that made the difference, not the charisma of the leader."

This was so encouraging to me. I have felt inadequate in every calling, but especially as music leader. I had to learn to rely on the Spirit for guidance and work hard at the same time. That is also the calling where I had the most growth.

Like Elisha, we must move forward in our callings with faith in Jesus Christ, conforming to His will, and doing our part. We must also sustain the Lord's leaders, recognizing that the Lord is with them in their callings.



From lds.org, click **Resources**. Select **Primary**. On the left sidebar, choose **Leader Resources**. In the right column, click on the picture of Handbook 2, or scroll down and choose from the Primary sections.

11.8.5

Portrayals of Deity in Role-Playing Activities

... God the Father and the Holy Ghost are not to be portrayed in any way. The Savior should not be portrayed by children except in a nativity scene...see 13.6.13...additional guidelines

As we teach about the Holy Ghost as a member of the Godhead this month, please remember the guidelines and use only the approved resources, including lds.org.

JUNE TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

THEME SONG: *The Holy Ghost* p 105

Place the scripture references on the board. Assign different groups/classes to look up each scripture. Have the older children and teachers help the younger ones. Have the pianist play the song through once or twice while the children look up the scriptures.

Verse 1: Tell the children that Jesus knew that he could not stay with his disciples always. They were very sad. They didn't understand and wanted to be with him. He told them the Father would send them a wonderful gift. Ask the children to listen for what that gift is. **Have a child read John 14:16-17.** Write COMFORT next to the scripture on the board. Sing the first two lines.

Ask how we know when the Holy Ghost is with us? Tell Elijah's experience when he went upon the mountain before the Lord. A strong wind brake in pieces the rock, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. **Have a child read 1 Kings 19:12.** When Elijah heard the voice, then he went out and talked to the Lord. Write STILL SMALL VOICE on the board. Sing the first three lines.

Tell the children that although sometimes we heard actual words in our mind, most frequently we know the Holy Ghost is there by the way we feel. **Have a child read D&C 8:2.** Ask what it feels like to have the Holy Ghost dwell in your heart? **Have another child read John 14:27** Write OUR HEARTS REJOICE on the board.



(Teach another day)

Verse 2:

Ask those who have received the gift of the Holy Ghost to stand. Ask one of them to tell how it happened and by what authority OR ask if a child can recite the **fourth article of faith** from memory. Write CONFIRMED BY SACRED PRIESTHOOD POWER on the board. Sing the first line.

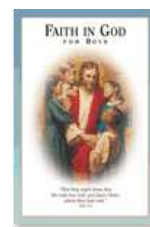
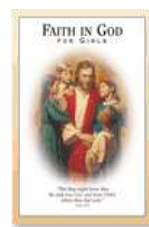
Ask if anyone knows another way the Holy Ghost helps us. Take all answers. Have a child read 2 Ne 32:5. Another word for show is guide. Write GUIDE on the board. Sing the first two lines.

Ask what we need to do. Have a child read **Moroni 10:4-5.** Remind the children that it's important to seek, study, pray and then do what the Lord asks of us. Write LISTEN and DO WHAT'S RIGHT on the board. Sing the final two lines. Then sing the entire second verse. Then sing the whole song from the beginning.

FAITH IN GOD

I hope that considering the Faith in God focus is becoming a regular part of your preparation for Singing Time each month.

Did you notice that the suggestions for the June theme song include the required scriptures on page 6 of the Faith in God booklets?



At [lds.org](https://www.lds.org), go to **Resources** and choose **Primary**. Click on **Faith in God** on the left sidebar. Choose **Faith in God for girls or for boys**.

Consider briefly sharing one of your experiences with the Holy Ghost as you sing this month. In what way has He helped you? As you feel the Spirit, identify that it is present and what it feels like so the children will know what to look for.

Articles of Faith 1 and 4 specifically refer to the Holy Ghost. You might sing the songs that go with these articles of faith this month.

When you coordinate songs with the weekly theme, it gives you even more opportunity to reinforce the doctrine being taught.