

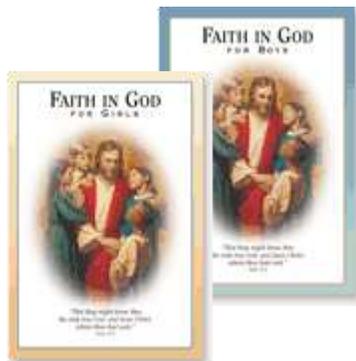
Sandpoint Stake Music Newsletter

March 2015

Hi Music Leaders,

Do you know what the Faith in God program is? Did you realize you assist the 8 to 11 year old boys and girls to achieve this award as you teach the gospel through song?

Although parents and other Primary leaders also have responsibilities, the music leader helps the children too. You are a 2nd witness of the gospel principles being taught.



If you don't have the guide, please ask your Primary President to give you a copy of the Faith in God booklet or

look it up at lds.org. As you browse through it, you will notice references to songs on page 6, 9, & 10. The song *Choose the Right* (Hymn # 239) is specifically listed. Please be sure you teach this song each year, with a discussion about how agency and good choices lead to greater faith.

At 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**.

Did you notice activities about other gospel principles that we frequently sing about? The Holy Ghost? Joseph Smith? Prayer? Faith? Baptism? Service? Tithing? How about the list of My Gospel Standards on the back cover? You teach these gospel principles through song every week. Just take it one step further and remind the Senior Primary of the connection to Faith in God.

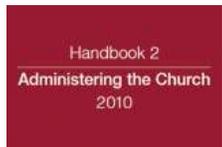
One of the Faith in God requirements is memorizing the Articles of Faith. Many music leaders already teach the Articles of Faith songs. When they are set to music, they are much easier to remember. Please point out to the Senior Primary that this helps them with the requirement for Faith in God

I am going to add a Faith in God line on the monthly song list. Here I'll put one or two recommendations that go along with the theme.

Thanks for your help. It really does take a village (the ward or branch) to raise a child in the gospel.

LeeAnn Kopsa, 2nd Counselor

11.2.4 Ward Primary Music Leader(s) and Pianist(s)
...The melodies, words, and messages of Primary songs can teach children the doctrines of the gospel and stay in their hearts throughout their lives...



SINGING DOCTRINE:

As you teach the music and words of the theme song each week, also highlight doctrine by asking a single question or having the children guess which song from the scripture reference.



Share your specific testimony about a part of the doctrine in one or two concise statements. You don't need to teach everything you know all at once for every song.

Prepare short, quick transitions between songs. Make sure games lead to greater participation. Most of the 20 minutes allotted needs to be spent singing.

MARCH TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

THEME SONG:

Follow the Prophet p 110

Since Sharing Time uses Moses in Week 1, 2, 3, sing verse 5 about Moses. Have the children help make up verses for other prophets discussed in Sharing Time, such as Lehi, Joseph Smith, Isaiah, John the Baptist, Nephi and President Monson.

PRACTICE SONGS:

The Sixth Article of Faith p 126 (Faith in God)

Do popcorn singing. Hand out signs with pictures of Jesus and his apostles in the primitive church, modern apostles (center of Ensign), prophets (first presidency), pastors (bishop), teachers (from your ward or branch), evangelists (picture of the stake patriarch, Glen Marks).

As their picture is sung, ask the children to stand up quickly at their seats, showing their sign, then sit down quickly. With a large Primary, assign a class one picture. With a smaller Primary, assign one or two children each picture.

The first time through, ask the pianist to slow way down so the children have time to stand. Or, start again at the beginning, adding just one at a time, then start over and add two, the start over and add three, etc.

We'll Bring the World His Truth p 172 verse 2

Sing the first line.

Define latter days (now, the last days before Christ comes).

Sing the second line.

Ask what the kingdom is (the church of Christ on the earth)

Ask for righteous ways to build the kingdom (missionary work, good example, temple work, choosing the right, following the commandments, going to church, etc)

Sing the third line.

Ask the children if they know what our prophet today declares. Define declares. Choose a quote from President Monson, or use at least the first line of the following from the Oct 2014 General Conference:

"...missionary work is a priesthood duty, and we encourage all worthy and able young men to serve. We are also very grateful for the young women who also serve. They make a significant contribution, although they are not under the same mandate to serve as are the young men."

Ask what it means to be worthy (the bishop will interview you to see if you are making good choices, keeping your baptismal covenants, and following the commandments)

Sing the chorus.

Latter-day Prophets p 134



For version that includes President Monson, go to lds.org. Click **Resources**. Select **Primary**. Choose **Music**. Choose the **Music for Children** icon on the sidebar. Scroll to Latter Day Prophets (Monson). Click the download symbol and choose **PDF**.

*Note: this is also where you find the music for *Build An Ark*.

Singing in Sacrament Meeting:

The Primary children are often asked to sing a special song in Sacrament Meeting on occasions such as Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Christmas. Welcome these opportunities and even seek them out, if they are not being offered.



This is a great way to give the children experience before the Children's Primary Program. I always love to hear the children sing as part of any Sacrament Meeting. Their sweet voices testify of Christ.

These requests often come the week before. To avoid last minute panic, make early arrangements with the ward music leader and Primary President so you and the children will be adequately prepared.