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November 29-December 5

"The Vision of the Redemption of the Dead"

1. Scripture Hop – Follow instructions on page 3 below for a scripture hop for D&C 138:11. Show picture of Joseph F. Smith (on page 4 below). Explain that he was the 6th President of the Church, and this scripture verse is talking about a time when he pondered the scriptures to try to understand them better. Talk about how understanding the scriptures is hard sometimes, but that the Holy Ghost can help open our eyes to understand them better.
2. Search, Ponder, and Pray Blindfold Activity – Follow instructions on page 5 below.
 - Sing and learn "[Search, Ponder, and Pray.](#)"
3. Eyes Opened Scripture Pondering Activity –
 - Show pictures on page 6 below while explaining that after Jesus Christ was crucified, He visited His faithful Saints in the spirit world. He told them to teach the gospel to those who had not received it.
 - Follow instructions on pages 7-8 below to practice pondering and understanding scripture verses while learning details about Joseph F. Smith's vision about this.
4. Video – Watch and discuss "[What About Grandpa?](#)" Latter Day Kids video.
5. Joseph Smith's Family Paper Chain Activity – Explain that Joseph Smith (the 1st prophet of our times) also had a vision about life after earth life. His vision was about the celestial kingdom. From the manual:
 - *In a vision, Joseph Smith saw members of his family together in the celestial kingdom. How can you use his vision to teach the children that families can be together forever?*
 - *Show a picture of someone in your family, and talk about how much you want to be with him or her in the celestial kingdom. Explain that Joseph Smith's brother Alvin died as a young man and Joseph missed him very much. Read [Doctrine and Covenants 137:1, 5](#), and ask the children who Joseph Smith saw in his vision of the celestial kingdom (see also [Doctrine and Covenants Stories, 152–53](#)). Invite the children to stretch their arms out wide to show how much they love their families, and ask them to share why they want to be with their families in the celestial kingdom.*
 - TheRedCrystal has a super cute paper chain activity to use with Joseph Smith's family. Follow [these directions from her webpage](#) to make and discuss this.
6. My Family Paper Chain – Let the kids make a paper chain for their own family while listening to/singing "[Families Can Be Together Forever.](#)"
7. Celestial Kingdom Description Treat – Make cupcakes with gold sprinkles after reading [Doctrine and Covenants 137:1–5](#). Talk about what they think the celestial kingdom might look like based on these verses. What do you find in these verses that helps you look forward to living there? What are we doing now to prepare to live in the celestial kingdom with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ?

Additional Ideas:

More Great Free Ideas at www.theredcrystal.org

Fun Family History Activities

To help encourage kids to listen to daily family scripture study, give them time to draw what is being read about each day and discuss their drawings.

SCRIPTURE Hop

(D&C 138:11)

Cut apart the following strips and spread them out far enough in a room so that the kids will need to hop from one strip to another. Make sure to keep them in the correct order. Have them stand by the first one and help them say the top line out loud. Explain what it means. Then have them jump to the next one and do the same thing until they've jumped on each of them, said them out loud, and discussed them one at a time. Then have them start back at the beginning and practice saying the phrases from this verse in order while hopping from strip to strip again. Try going a little faster each time. Repeat as many times as wanted/needed. These can also be used as flash cards, taped onto the wall to practice throughout the week, etc.



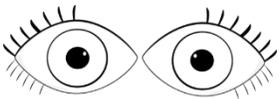
AS I PONDERED OVER



THESE THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN,



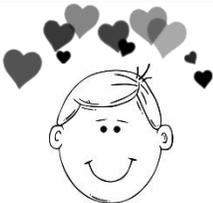
THE EYES OF MY UNDERSTANDING



WERE OPENED,



AND THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD



RESTED UPON ME.



Joseph F. Smith, by A. Salzbrener



Search, Ponder, and Pray

Blindfold Activity



We cannot expect to be given answers or to understand the gospel without putting in the work. To receive understanding like Joseph F. Smith did in the 138th section of the Doctrine and Covenants, we need to search the scriptures and ponder upon the truths we have been given. Additionally, we need to pray faithfully to receive divine understanding of what is written.

- 1- Invite one of the kids to wear a blindfold while you hold an object up. Tell them to describe the object you are holding.
- 2- Since they cannot see it, give them an opportunity to share how they might discover what the object may be (taste, touch, smell, listening, etc.).
- 3- Give them an opportunity to try different methods to figure out what the object is and describe what they think the object is.
- 4- If they haven't figured out what the object may be, begin to give them clues or little descriptions as to what the object is.
- 5- Compare the object to the gospel and our understanding of it. Were you able to learn more about it through studying and thinking about it?
- 6- Discuss how when we search, ponder, and pray, the Holy Ghost can open our spiritual eyes to help us understand the scriptures better and see the answers we are trying to receive.



The Burial of Christ, by Carl Heinrich Bloch, used by permission of the National Historic Museum at Frederiksborg in Hillerød, Denmark



Jesus Christ commissioned righteous spirits to preach the gospel in the spirit world, *The Commissioned*, by Harold I. Hopkinson

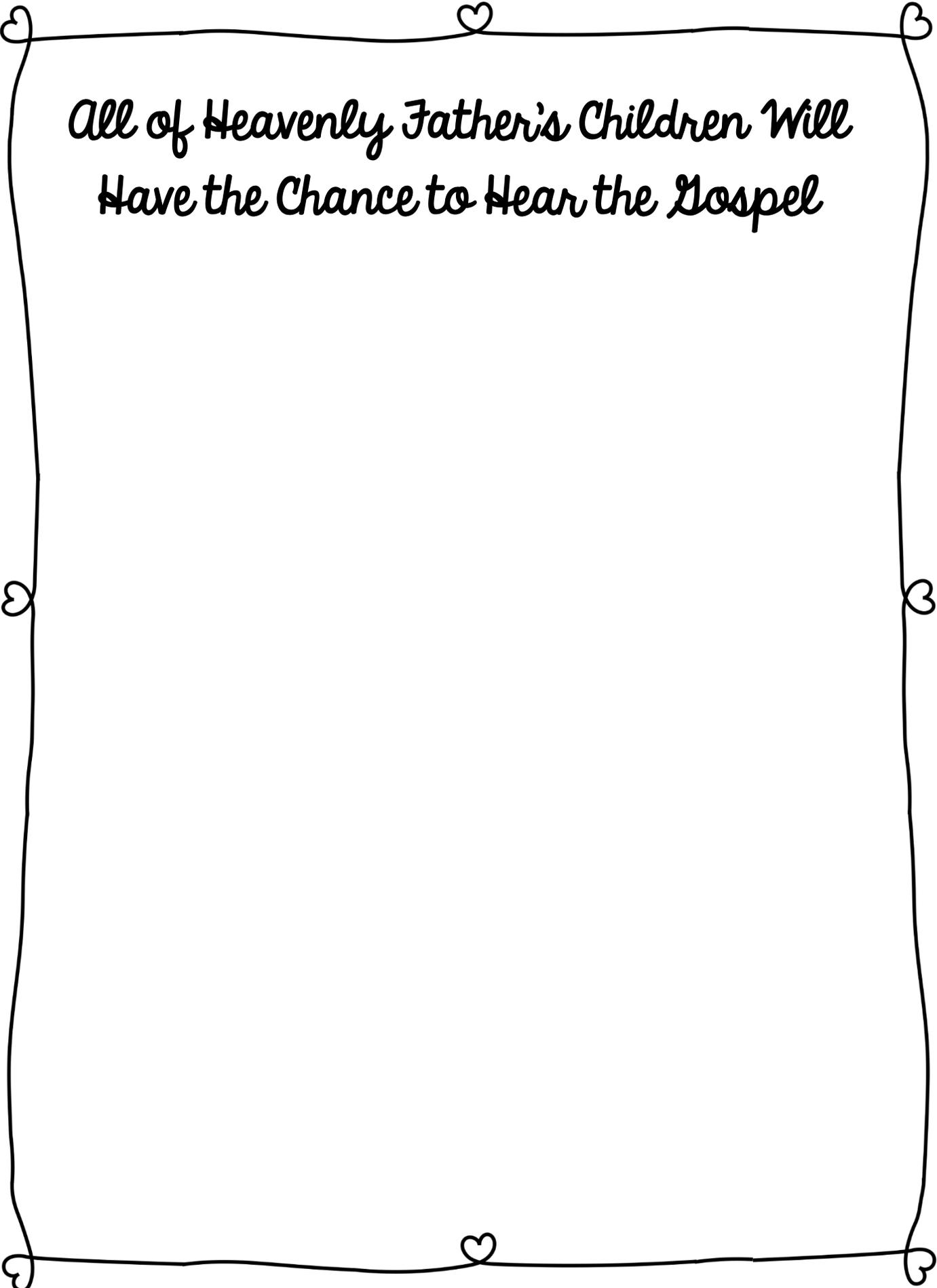
"Eyes Opened"

Scripture Pondering Activity

Practice listening carefully to the scriptures as we learn. Have each kid cover their eyes with their hands. Explain that we're going to learn about some of the cool details from Joseph F. Smith's vision that he had. Ask a question from D&C 138 (possible questions listed below). Then read the verse out loud while they listen for the answer. Repeat the verse and give additional clues as needed. Tell the kids to uncover their eyes when they know the answer. After answering the questions, give them some time to draw a picture of this vision. Discuss it in more detail as they draw.

**For younger kids with short attention spans, you might want to cut the question strips apart and let them choose one from a pile. You could also hide them around the room and take turns finding and answering them. Some of these are tricky, so you might also want to offer a small prize (a Skittle, M & M, etc.) if they can figure out the answer. Be ready to give clues to help them.*

- In Joseph F. Smith's vision, who does he see being taught the everlasting gospel?
D&C 138:11,19
- In Joseph F. Smith's vision, how did the righteous spirits feel when Jesus visited them in the spirit world? **D&C 138:24**
- In Joseph F. Smith's vision, how were the wicked spirits taught the gospel?
D&C 138:30
- What are some things that the missionaries teach about in the spirit world?
D&C 138:32-33
- In Joseph F. Smith's vision, he sees Eve. What word does he use to describe her? Who is she with? **D&C 138:39**
- In Joseph F. Smith's vision, what do the spirits need to do to be redeemed?
D&C 138:58
- Who blessed Joseph F. Smith with this vision of the work for the dead? **D&C 138:60**



*All of Heavenly Father's Children Will
Have the Chance to Hear the Gospel*