

March 9-15 Jacob 1-4

"BE RECONCILED UNTO GOD THROUGH THE ATONEMENT OF CHRIST"

1. Off-Target Ball Toss Activity - Follow directions for "Off-Target Ball Toss" activity from *The Ensign* <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2020/03/family-study-fun?lang=eng>. We're going to adapt this just a little bit for our young kids:
 1. Set out a bucket.
 2. Take turns tossing a ball into the bucket, standing a short distance away.
 3. Now try tossing the ball into the bucket without looking at the bucket. Why was it harder to hit the target when we're not looking at it?
 4. What/who is the target we should be focusing on in life? (Jesus). Place picture of Heavenly Father and Jesus on the bucket.
 5. After Nephi died, Jacob was in charge of teaching the Nephites spiritual things. Jacob said that he "labored diligently" to persuade people to "come unto Christ, and partake of the goodness of God" (Jacob 1:7).
 6. Place the Christ arrows (below) around the bucket/picture while discussing His importance to us.
 7. Throw balls into the bucket again. When someone gets a ball in the bucket, have them say one reason why we love Christ or how He can bless us when look to Him.
2. Blank Arrows (I Can Be Reconciled to God through the Atonement of Jesus Christ) The manual asks, "What has God provided to point you to Christ? How are you using these things to draw closer to God?" Write/draw answers on blank arrows (below) and place around the bucket pointing to it.
 - Can read this poem from *The Friend* to help discuss ways we can find our Savior: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2013/08/i-find-the-savior?lang=eng>
3. Don't Rebel/Chastity/Sin/Reconciliation – Jacob said, "Wherefore we would to God that we could persuade all men not to rebel against God" (Jacob 1:8). Discuss what it means to rebel. What does it mean to be "reconciled unto [God] through the atonement of Christ?" Talk about what we need to do to stay strong in our testimonies and not rebel. Have each family member commit not to rebel, but to stay as close to God and Christ as they can.
 - The manual says, "*The Nephites considered Nephi their "great protector" (Jacob 1:10). He had defended them against attacks from their enemies, and he had warned them about spiritual dangers. Now he was gone, and the task of leading the Nephites spiritually fell to Jacob, whom Nephi had consecrated to be a priest and teacher of the people (see Jacob 1:18). By inspiration, Jacob perceived that his people needed to be taught with "much boldness," for they were "beginning to labor in sin" (Jacob 2:7, 5). These sins were much like what people struggle with today: love of riches and sexual immorality. And yet while Jacob felt that he had to condemn this wickedness, his heart also ached for its victims, whose hearts had been "pierced with deep wounds" (Jacob 2:35). Jacob testified that healing for both groups—the sinner and the spiritually wounded—comes from the Savior Jesus Christ. Jacob's message, like the message of Nephi before him, was a call to "be reconciled unto [God] through the atonement of Christ" (Jacob 4:11).*"
 - Discuss specific things our family sometimes might "begin to labor in sin" with, how we can improve, and how Christ can help us.
 - If you want to focus on chastity and how we should treat our bodies, you can use this "Our Sacred Bodies" kid booklet on pages 6-8 of this lesson plan from last year: <https://emiscrafty.files.wordpress.com/2019/08/cfm30b.pdf> .
4. Faith Unshaken- As we come unto Christ and don't rebel against Him, it helps our faith grow stronger. How can we develop faith that is "unshaken?" Read/discuss Jacob 4:4-11.
 - Song: Sing "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man"
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2020/03/the-wise-man-and-the-foolish-man?lang=eng>

- Tower/Tree Activity -Choose one of the following to do:
 - (From *The Friend*): The prophet Jacob taught that God can help us make our faith “unshaken” (Jacob 4:6–7). What’s one thing you can do to help your faith grow strong? Now build a tower out of blocks or other things at home. How strong can you make it?
 - (From the manual): One way to help your family understand what it means to be “unshaken” in their faith would be to find a large tree nearby and ask family members to shake individual branches. Then let them try to shake the trunk. Why is it harder to shake the trunk? What can we learn from Jacob’s teachings about how to develop faith that is “unshaken”?
 - Video: Watch/review/discuss “Spiritual Whirlwinds” <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media-library/video/2017-01-003-spiritual-whirlwinds?category=march-9-15-jacob-1-4&lang=eng>
5. Sharing- As our faith grows stronger, we’ll become more like Christ. Review attributes of Christ. Read/summarize/discuss Jacob 2:12-21. One of the most important things Christ does that we should also do is to love others. Jacob 2:17-19 says to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, relieve the sick and afflicted and “be free with your substance.” Discuss kinds of substances (things) we have that we can be “free with” (share with) others? (time, love, toys, hope, food, the gospel, etc.)
- Story: Read/discuss “Harry Shares” from *The Friend*: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2020/03/harry-shares?lang=eng>
 - If time/interest- Sharing Activity (From *The Friend*): Read [Jacob 2:18](#) together and play a sharing game. Give each person a toy and set a timer. When it dings, everyone should run to someone else and say, “God is happy when I share!” and trade toys.
6. Callings (God Calls Church Leaders to Help Me Follow Jesus Christ)- Explain what callings are and talk about how Jacob served faithfully in His calling. Why did he serve so faithfully in his calling? (Because he wanted to bring people closer to Christ).
- How do people get callings now? Share and discuss this article from *The Friend*: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2011/05/article-of-faith-5?lang=eng>
 - Are callings always easy? Talk about all of the work their teachers and people with callings at church do (they have to prepare lessons, help the kids feel comfortable in their classes, etc.).
 - From the manual: “*Invite the children to name some Church leaders they know, like Primary leaders, bishopric members, and prophets and apostles. Help the children think of ways these leaders bless us.*”
 - Thank You Notes: Choose one or more people to write thank you notes to (there is a printable card below if you need one).
7. Treat – Make a favorite treat to go with the thank you notes. These chocolate-covered cookie dough hearts could be a fun recipe to try: <https://www.mommymusings.com/chocolate-covered-cookie-dough-hearts-recipe/>

Additional Ideas:

Support Articles and Activities from *The Ensign* <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2020/03/come-follow-me-book-of-mormon-support-articles-and-activities/jacob-1-4?lang=eng>

Lilly’s First Calling from *The Friend* <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/friend/2020/03/lilys-first-calling?lang=eng>

5 tips to help you draw closer to Christ <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/new-era/2019/10/a-remarkable-future-is-before-you?lang=eng>

More Great Ideas: www.theredcrystal.org

Book of Mormon Videos: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/come-follow-me/individuals-and-families/book-of-mormon-2020/book-of-mormon-videos?lang=eng>

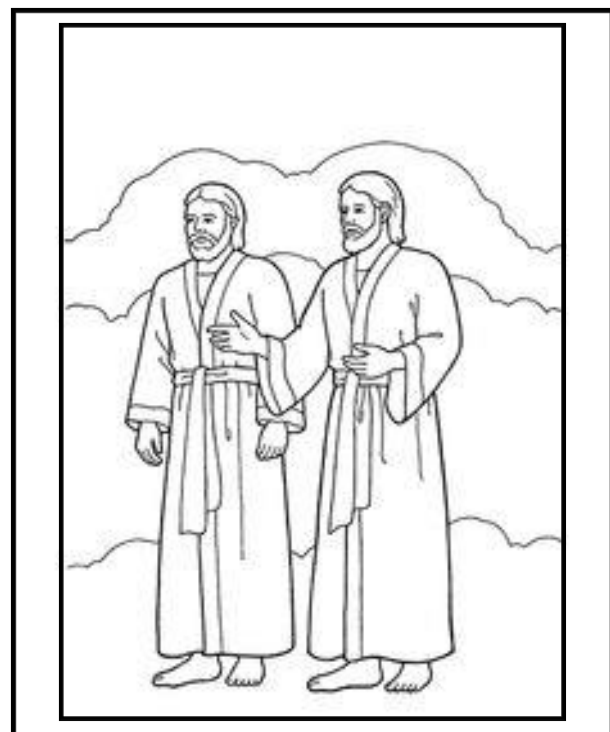
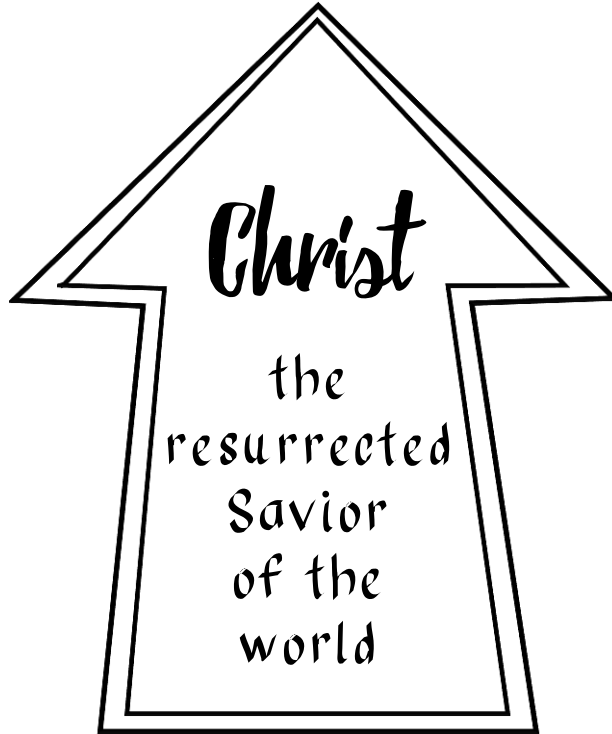
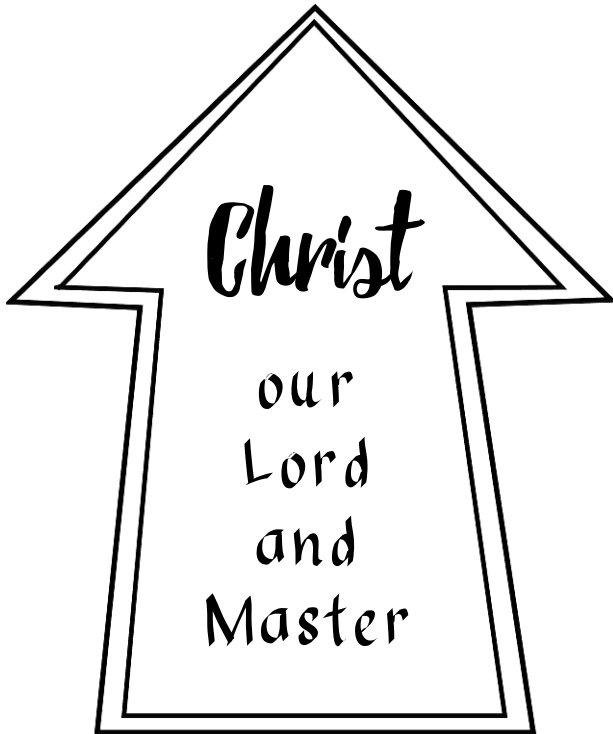
Videos for this week: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media-library/video/march-9-15-jacob-1-4?lang=eng>

Music Website: <https://musicforlatterdaylife.org/> (This website looks great. It has weekly lists of church songs that go along with Come, Follow Me topics to aid you as you study them)

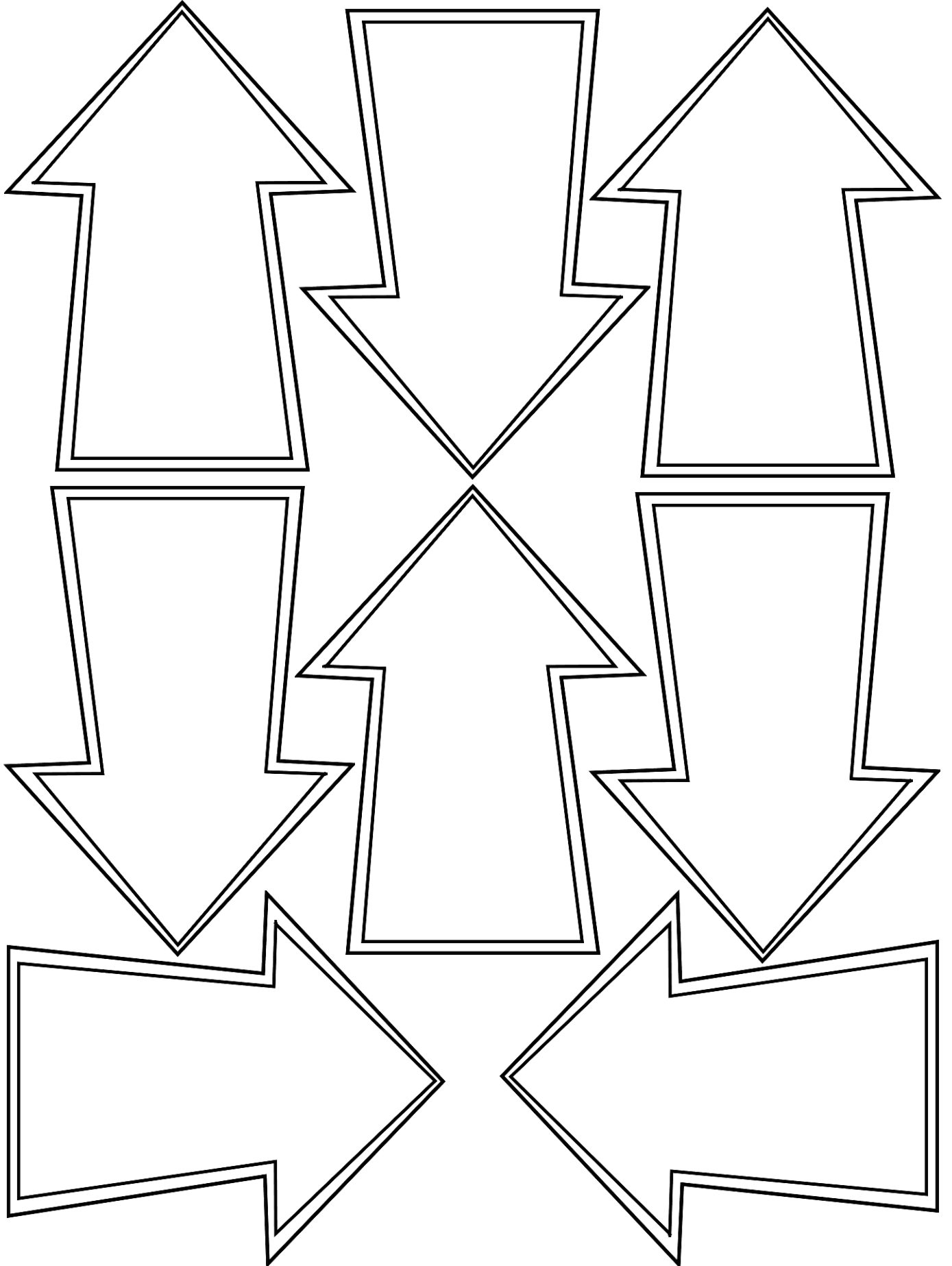
BALL TOSS ACTIVITY

(adapted from *The Ensign Family Study Fun* activity)

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