



March 8-14

## "Strengthen the Church"

comefollowmekid.com

1. Scripture Hop – Follow instructions on page 3 below for a scripture hop for D&C 25:12. Talk about how we can be better at paying attention to words of songs as we sing so they feel like prayers.
2. Mystery Person Puzzle – Tell them we're going to learn about a really cool person today, but we're going to do a puzzle to see if they can guess who it is! Print up pages 7 and 8 below for this.
  - Have the Emma Smith picture pieces cut out and put in a paper bag. Without looking, everyone will pull one piece out at a time. As they pull each piece out, have them find the matching number on the white clue chart. Before you tape the piece on the number where it belongs, read the hint for that number and talk about what it means. Once the puzzle's all put together, summarize who Emma Smith was and how we can be inspired by her.
  - Show pictures of Emma Smith on page 4 below and explain that she was Joseph Smith's wife. What kind of person do you think she was?
  - If you want one that's way cuter and includes specific things the Lord told Emma, do the Emma Smith puzzle found [here](#) (created by Crystal from [www.theredcrystal.org](http://www.theredcrystal.org)).
3. Emma Smith Video – Watch and discuss one of the following videos about Emma Smith:
  - [Chapter 13: Joseph and Emma](#) (this one is geared more toward younger kids...the other videos below are awesome but have some parts that might be a little too graphic for super young kids)
  - [An Elect Lady](#)
  - [Emma \(Featuring Mindy Gledhill and Dan Truman\)](#)
4. Afflictions – Explain that Emma went through lots of hard things in her life. Sing "[There is Peace in Christ](#)" and talk about how we can feel peace even though we might go through hard things. Some things that happened to Emma during this time period included:
  - Enemies of the church tried to ruin the water when she was going to get baptized by making it less deep.
  - After the water was fixed, some people shouted threats and made fun of her and others who were getting baptized.
  - When Joseph Smith was getting ready to confirm her and the other new members of the church, he was arrested for teaching people about the Book of Mormon.
  - Even through these trials, Emma was patient and remained faithful. How can we follow her example?
5. Poster Punch Singing Activity – One of the things Emma was asked to do is described in D&C 25:11-12. Read and discuss these verses. The Lord has said that music is important, so we're going to sing some songs for this activity. Remind them to pay attention to the words as they sing so that the words have more meaning to them.
  - You can either go the super simple route with this and hide the song cards from pages 5 and 6 below around the room, or turn them into a "Poster Punch" game (instructions for making the game found [here](#)). Cut out the song cards and put them into the cups on the poster (covered with tissue).

- Let everyone taking turns punching the tissue out of one cup, reading that card, and singing the song for it. *The poster punch game is something I've seen before but never felt like I had the time/energy to put together, but for some reason, this week I'm feeling like it's doable and am excited to try it out. Plus, I'm also thinking we'll reuse the poster for general conference next month (we'll probably do something like put small treats/prizes into the different cups, and they can choose one if they're good for certain talks or chunks of time).*
- After singing these songs, talk about how they are like “a prayer unto [God]” and testify of the importance of good music.
- The “[Name That Song](#)” activity in The Friend is a super simple activity that could also be done for this.



#### Links for Songs:

[I'm Trying to be Like Jesus](#)  
[Keep the Commandments](#)  
[I Pray in Faith](#)  
[Search, Ponder, and Pray](#)  
[Lift Up Your Voice and Sing](#)

6. [Cinnamon Crown Cake](#) – Read and discuss D&C 25:15. Explain that the “crown of righteousness” represents the blessing of returning to live with God, our Heavenly King. Use [this recipe](#) to make cinnamon crown cake.
- The manual also has [this super cute crown craft](#) that could go along with this.
  - Another treat idea could be to do the marshmallow experiment found [here](#) to talk about patience (D&C 24:8 “be patient in afflictions”).

Since our kids are both girls, we'll probably also talk a little about the meaning of these quotes from President Nelson and how important women (and girls 😊) are:

*We, your brethren, need your strength, your conversion, your conviction, your ability to lead, your wisdom, and your voices. The kingdom of God is not and cannot be complete without women who make sacred covenants and then keep them, women who can speak with the power and authority of God! (President Russell M. Nelson)*

*Today, let me add that we need women who know how to make important things happen by their faith and who are courageous defenders of morality and families in a sin-sick world.*

## Additional Ideas:

“A Plea to My Sisters” talk by President Nelson

“An Especially Noble Calling”

More Great Free Ideas at [www.theredcrystal.org](http://www.theredcrystal.org)

# SCRIPTURE Hop

(DEc 25:12)

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.



FOR MY SOUL dELIGHTETH



In THE song of THE hEART;



YEd, THE song of THE RiGHTEOUS



IS A PRdYER unTO ME,



And iT shall BE ANSWERED



With A bLESSing upon THEIR hEads.



*Emma Smith*, by Lee Greene Richards



*Emma Smith with her children. Time to Laugh*, by Liz Lemon Swindle



*Emma's Hymns*, by Liz Lemon Swindle

Poster Punch Singing Activity – Cut these cards apart and place them inside of cups on a punch board (instructions for making the poster found [here](#)). Take turns punching one out, reading that card, and singing the song for it.

## I'm Trying to be Like Jesus

- What words would you use to describe Jesus?
- What kinds of things did Emma Smith do that were like Jesus?
- What can we do to be like Him?
- Sing the song. 😊

## Keep the Commandments

- D&C 25:1 tells us to “cleave” to covenants that we’ve made. This means to hold on to the promises we make with Heavenly Father and never let go.
- We make promises when we are baptized, take the sacrament, and go to the temple. How can we prepare for these things?
- Find an object to “cleave” to (hold tightly) while singing. Can it sometimes be hard to hold tightly to our promises?
- Sing the song while holding the item. 😊

## I Pray in Faith

- D&C 23:6 explains that the Lord wants us to pray “in [our] family, and among [our] friends, and in all places.”
- How can we make our prayers more meaningful?
- Sing the song. 😊

## Search, Ponder, and Pray

- D&C 26:1 says, “Behold, I say unto you that you shall let your time be devoted to the studying of the scriptures.”
- How can we make our scripture study time more meaningful?
- Sing the song. 😊

## Lift Up Your Voice and Sing

- The Lord said that sacred music “is pleasing unto me.”
- How can listening to uplifting music help us feel the Spirit?
- Sing the song. ☺

## Choose a Church Song to Sing!

Explain why this song is meaningful to you.

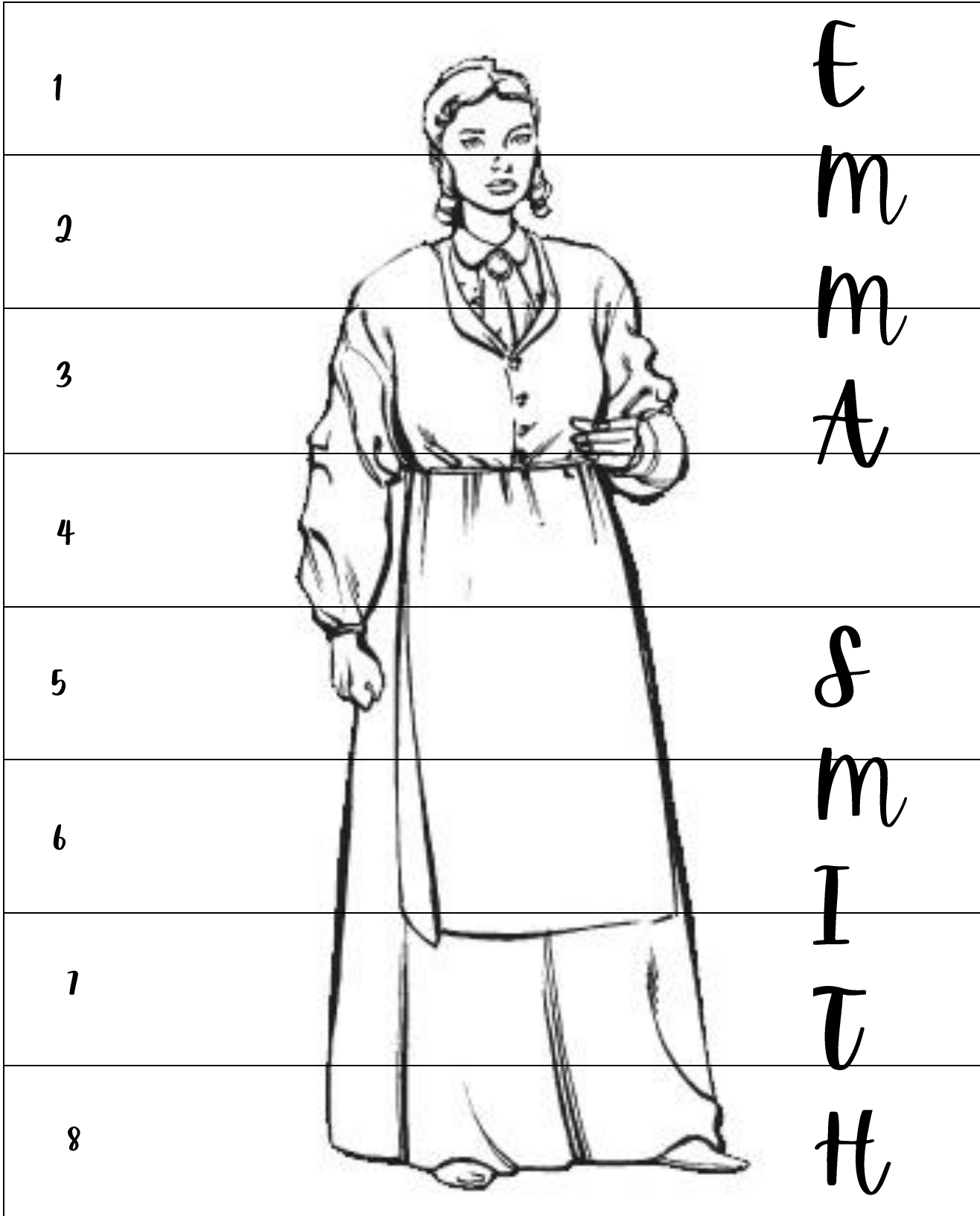
## Choose a Church Song to Sing!

Explain why this song is meaningful to you.

## Choose a Church Song to Sing!

Explain why this song is meaningful to you.

Emma Puzzle: Cut these pieces apart and put in a paper bag.



# Mystery Person Puzzle

DON'T cut this one apart. Tape pictures onto this sheet as they're pulled out of the bag to find out who it is.

1- "An elect lady" (D&C 25:3)

2- She comforted Joseph Smith in his afflictions (D&C 25:5)

3- She studied and shared scriptures (D&C 25:7)

4- She "[laid] aside the things of this world, and [sought] for the things of a better." (D&C 25:10)

5- She made a selection of hymns for the church to use (D&C 25:11)

6- She was "undaunted, firm, and unwavering, unchangeable, affectionate" (quote from her husband Joseph Smith, Jr.)

7- She was "ambitious, her whole heart was in the work of the Lord, and she felt no interest except for the church and the cause of truth." (quote from her mother-in-law Lucy Mack Smith)

8- "I have never seen a woman in my life, who would endure every species of fatigue and hardship, from month to month, and from year to year, with that unflinching courage, zeal and patience, which she has always done." (quote from Lucy Mack Smith)



# Tours:

Some missionaries at the Mormon Battalion Site are offering free virtual tours and are wanting to get the word out about them. We did it, and even our young kids loved it! If you'd like to sign up, here is the link: <https://calendly.com/mormonbattalionhs>



After we did this tour, we received an email with links to many other virtual tours that seem like they would be great! Here are those additional links for anyone else who might be interested:

- Live virtual tours of New York and Pennsylvania church history sites (Sacred Grove, Priesthood Restoration site, Peter Whitmer farm, Book of Mormon publication site, etc.) [Schedule Appointment with New York & Pennsylvania Historic Sites \(as.me\)](https://www.as.me/schedule-appointment-with-new-york-pennsylvania-historic-sites)
- Historic Nauvoo Virtual Tours: <https://www.nauvoohistoricsites.org/live/>
- Joseph Smith Birthplace Virtual Tour: <https://calendly.com/josephsmithbirthplace>
- Kirtland Area Historic Sites: <https://go.oncehub.com/historickirtlandtours>
- Independence Virtual Tour  
<https://calendly.com/missouriareahistoricsites/independence?month=2021-03>
- Liberty Jail Virtual Tour (should open in April):  
<https://calendly.com/missouri/libertyjail?month=2021-03>
- Mormon Trail Center at Winter Quarters: <https://calendly.com/trailcenterschedule>
- St. George Area Historic Sites: <https://calendly.com/sghstabernacle/virtual-tour?month=2021-03>
- Mormon Battalion Site: <https://calendly.com/mormonbattalionhs>