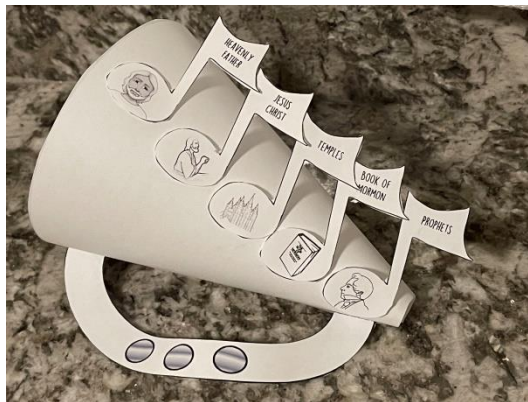




comefollowmekid.com

April 5-11
"You Are Called to
Preach My Gospel"

1. Scripture Hop –Follow instructions on page 3 below for a scripture hop for D&C 33:2.
2. Ezra Thayer Story Tell them that we're going to be talking about missionaries. Missionaries are people who help teach others about the gospel of Jesus Christ. To start, we're going to read about a man named Ezra Thayer. Read the story on page 4 below. Tell them to listen to how many people in the story acted like missionaries and be ready to answer questions at the end.
3. Lift Up Your Voices Trumpet Activity –
 - Open Your Mouths: From the manual: "Invite the children to try to say a phrase like "God loves you" with their mouths closed. Point out that we can't teach people about the gospel if we don't open our mouths. Read Doctrine and Covenants 33:8–10, and invite the children to open their mouths every time they hear the phrase "open your mouths." Why does Heavenly Father want us to open our mouths and share the gospel with others?"
 - Lift Up Your Voices: From the manual: "Whisper something very quietly to the children, such as "Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God," and ask them to repeat what you said. Then say the same phrase in a louder voice. Read Doctrine and Covenants 33:2. Help the children understand that "lift[ing] up [our] voices" means to not be afraid to tell others about Jesus Christ, the Book of Mormon, and other gospel truths."
 - Lift Up Your Voices Trumpet Activity: Follow Directions on pages 5-6 to make a trumpet and talk about gospel truths we could share with others.



4. Missionary Stuffed Animal Gathering and Teaching – Give each person a missionary name tag (on page 7 below). Have each person write their name on it and tape it onto themselves. D&C 33:6 talks about gathering people. Set a timer for one minute and have each person gather as many stuffed animals/dolls as they can. Explain that we can help gather people to the Lord as we share the gospel.
 - Once the stuffed animals are gathered, each person will take turns using their trumpet to share details about a gospel truth of their choice and teach the stuffed animals as much as they can about it.

- Clarify that we don't have to be loud/obnoxious to share our beliefs, and remind them that loving others and being a good friend to them is an important first step to gathering people to the Lord. If we rely on the Spirit, the Lord will help make the teachings of the gospel sound beautiful to those who are ready, even if we ourselves aren't perfect with our words.
5. Song – Watch this [“I Hope They Call Me on a Mission” Sing Along](#) to learn/practice the song. Talk about ways we can be a missionary now and ways we can prepare now to go on a formal mission when we're older if we choose to.
 - [This “I Can Be a Missionary Now” article from The Friend](#) has great examples of kids being missionaries. Share and discuss some of them.
 6. Mom/Dad/Other Family Member Stories – If parents/older family members have served missions, get out pictures and share stories with younger family members. Testify of the blessings the gospel of Jesus Christ brings into our lives, and the joy we feel as we help others receive those blessings as well.
 - Lots more stories about missionary work can be found [here](#).
 - [This page from The Friend](#) also has lots of stuff to talk about mission preparation.
 7. Treat (Open Your Mouths and They Shall Be Filled) – Talk about what the following scriptures mean:
 - D&C 30:11: “You shall ever open your mouth in my cause, not fearing what man can do, for I am with you.”
 - D&C 33:8 “Open your mouths and they shall be filled.”
 - Each person will take turns sharing specific scenarios when they could open their mouths to share the gospel. After they share, another person will fill that person's mouth with some kind of treat (M&M's, Skittles, small marshmallows, etc.).

Additional Ideas:

[“Missionaries Shared the Gospel”](#) story from *The Friend*

[“Braden Leads the Way”](#) mission story from *The Friend*

More Great Free Ideas at www.theredcrystal.org

SCRIPTURE Hop

(D&C 33:2)

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.



YE ARE CALLED



TO LIFT UP YOUR VOICES



AS WITH THE SOUND



OF A TRUMP



TO DECLARE MY GOSPEL.

Note: The whole verse says, "For verily, verily, I say unto you that ye are called to lift up your voices as with the sound of a trump, to declare my gospel unto a crooked and perverse generation."



Ezra Thayer



Ezra Thayer lived in Farmington, New York with his wife, Elizabeth, and their children. In 1830, he heard stories about Joseph Smith translating the Book of Mormon. Ezra Thayer didn't believe this could be true, so he got upset when some of his family members started to learn more about the Book of Mormon and believe in it.

Ezra's brother finally talked him into going to listen to the Smiths teach about the Book of Mormon. They traveled 12 miles to go to the Smith farm on a Sunday in early October. There were lots of other people there who also wanted to learn about the Book of Mormon.

As Ezra listened to Joseph Smith's brother, Hyrum, teaching, he was filled with "exquisite joy," and he even cried because he was so touched by Hyrum's words. He immediately knew that the Book of Mormon was true and took a copy of it home.

Some people told him that he was wrong for believing in the Book of Mormon, but he continued to tell people that he knew it was true. He shared his testimony of God and the Book of Mormon, even when it was hard to do.

After receiving his testimony of the Book of Mormon, Ezra Thayer had a dream. In the dream, a man gave him a trumpet and told him to blow it. Ezra told him that he'd never blown on a trumpet, but the man told him to try it. When Ezra put his mouth on it and blew on it, he said that "it made the most beautiful sound that I ever heard."

Ezra later learned that the Lord wanted him to lift up his voice like a trumpet to share the gospel. Ezra obeyed. He held meetings to help teach others, and he shared his beliefs with others. It wasn't easy, but he knew it was what God wanted him to do, and the Lord helped him.

(story summarized from "[Ezra Thayer: From Skeptic to Believer](#)")

Questions:

Who were some people in this story who acted like missionaries? (Ezra's brother, Hyrum Smith, Ezra)

How did Ezra feel about the Book of Mormon when he first heard about it? (angry) How did he feel about it after he listened to Hyrum Smith teaching about it? (Happy. He knew it was true)

How did he lift up his voice like a trumpet? (He shared his beliefs with others, held meetings)

In what ways can we lift up our voices like a trumpet?

How is the gospel like a "beautiful sound"?

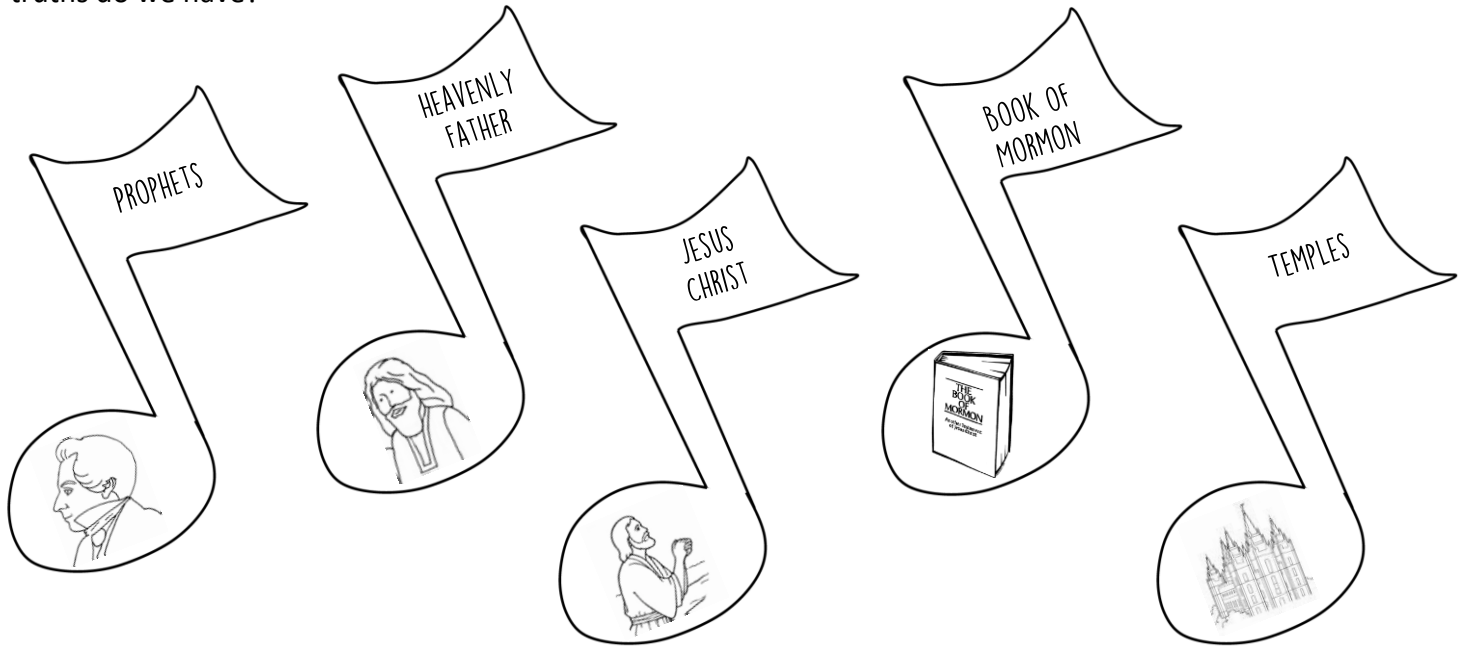
How can the Lord help us as we try to share the gospel?



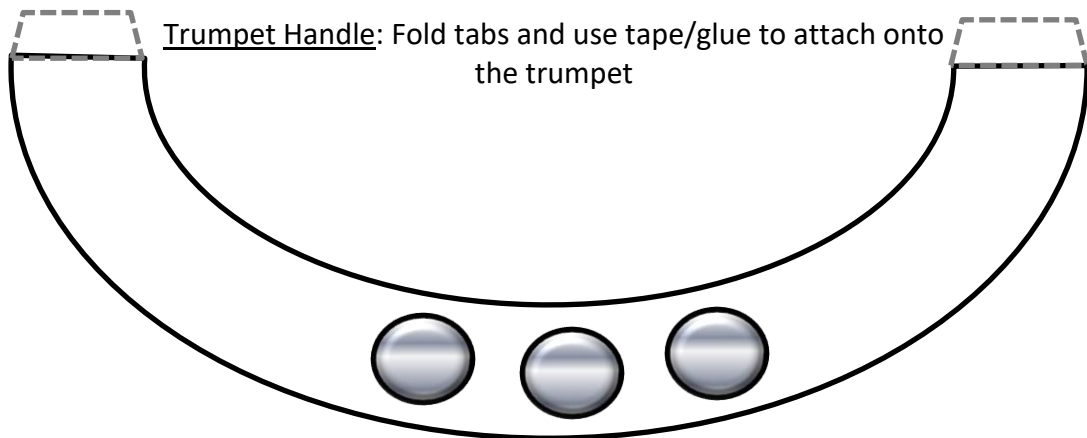
Lift Up Your Voice Trumpet Activity



What are some things we learn from the gospel of Jesus Christ? Cut out the music notes. Discuss each of the teachings on them while coloring them. Why is each an important part of the gospel? How might learning about these truths sound beautiful to someone who hasn't heard them before? What other beautiful gospel truths do we have?



- After discussing each music note, review D&C 33:2.
- What kind of sounds does a trumpet make?
- How can we lift up our voices like a trumpet to declare the gospel?
- Make a trumpet with the pieces below. Cut out the trumpet page, tape or glue the edges together, and attach the handle. Glue the music notes onto the trumpet. Add your own drawings of additional gospel truths onto the trumpet. Then practice using the trumpet to share what you know about different truths we learn from the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Trumpet: Cut on the black lines. Roll edges toward each other and tape/glue to create trumpet shape.

Edge #1: Connect this edge to edge #2 using tape or glue.

Edge #2: Connect this edge to edge #1 using tape or glue.

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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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>