

Primary Program 2013
I am a Child of God

Primary President-

The theme this year in Primary has been "I am a Child of God." This Gospel truth is one that we, as adults, sometimes take for granted. Each Sunday I have felt inspired by your children and their knowledge of who they are and where they came from. What a blessing it is for all of us to know that we are each a Child of God. He loves us so much and has a plan for us to return to live with Him and our Savior, Jesus Christ. Your children have worked so hard to share these songs with you and prepare their parts. It is my prayer that this program will touch our hearts and help all of us remember that we are amazing, because we are each a Child of God.

 **Song**-I am a child of God First Verse **CTR 4 Class** only. All primary join in verse 2 and 3

I am a child of God,
And he has sent me here,
Has given me an earthly home
With parents kind and dear.

Chorus:

Lead me, guide me, walk beside me,
Help me find the way.
Teach me all that I must do
To live with him someday.

I am a child of God,
And so my needs are great;
Help me to understand his words
Before it grows too late.

I am a child of God.
Rich blessings are in store;
If I but learn to do his will
I'll live with him once more.

Narrator 1- Before we were born we lived with Heavenly Father as spirits. We learned and prepared ourselves for the day we would receive a body. Through Heavenly Father's direction, Jesus Christ created the Earth as a place for us to live. The beauty of the earth reminds us of their love for us.

Sunbeam A&B classes- "My favorite creation on earth is _____"

Song- My Heavenly Father Loves Me

Whenever I hear the song of a bird or look at the blue, blue sky,
Whenever I feel the rain on my face or the wind as it rushes by,
Whenever I touch a velvet rose or walk by a lilac tree,
I'm glad that I live in this beautiful world Heavenly Father created for me.

He gave me my eyes that I might see the color of butterfly wings.
He gave me my ears that I might hear the magical sound of things.
He gave me my life, my mind, my heart: I thank him reverently
For all his creations, of which I'm a part. Yes, I know Heavenly Father loves me.

Narrator 2- The earth, in all of its beauty, was created for two very specific reasons. 1. We needed to receive a body and 2. We needed to prove we would obey the commandments. When we lived in Heaven it was easy to choose the right, but on earth we would have to live by faith since we could no longer see our Savior. In Abraham 3:24-25 it says...

Valiant 9A Class- (divide up)

24 And there stood one among them that was like unto God, and he said unto those who were with him: We will go down, for there is space there, and we will take of these materials, and we will make an earth whereon these may dwell;

25 And we will prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them;

Narrator 3- There are two obstacles in this life that we would need to overcome, Physical Death and Spiritual Death. Through Christ's Atonement all mankind will be resurrected and receive a perfect body, that solves our first obstacle. The second obstacle, Spiritual Death or sin, cuts all of us off from Heavenly Father's presence forever, unless someone perfect was willing to pay the price of our misdeeds, so we could repent and live with God again.

Narrator 4-Our Savior, Jesus Christ, loved us enough to suffer for all of our sins, sorrow and burdens so we wouldn't have to do it ourselves. If we could remember that He is always near us, cheering us on, it would help us in all we do.

CTR 6B Class- "If I could see the Savior beside me I would always _____"

Song- If the Savior Stood Beside Me

(Perhaps first verse a small group of kids?)

If the Savior stood beside me, would I do the things I do?
Would I think of His commandments and try harder to be true?

Would I follow His example? Would I live more righteously,
If I could see the Savior standing nigh, watching over me?

If the Savior stood beside me, would I say the things I say?
Would my words be true and kind if He were never far away?
Would I try to share the gospel? Would I speak more reverently
If I could see the Savior standing nigh, watching over me?

He is always near me, though I do not see Him there
And because He loves me dearly, I am in His watchful care
So I'll be the kind of person that I know I'd like to be
If I could see the Savior standing nigh, watching over me.

Narrator 5- I wish we could all see the Savior near us, especially when we are having a hard day. Sometimes heaven feels so far away and I feel very alone. Wouldn't it be great if we could pick up the phone and talk with our Heavenly Father? Actually, we know that we don't need a phone to communicate with Him. He is always listening to our prayers and promises to bless us and comfort us. In D&C 19:38 it says...

CTR 6A- (Divide up this scripture)

Pray always, and I will pour out my Spirit upon you, and great shall be your blessing—yea, even more than if you should obtain treasures of earth and corruptibleness to the extent thereof.

 **Song- A Child's Prayer** (Ask 4 adults to sing the adult part- perhaps a violin?)

Children:
Heavenly Father, are you really there?
and do you hear and answer every child's prayer.
Some say that Heaven is far away,
but I feel it close around me as I pray.

Heavenly Father, I remember now,
something that Jesus told Disciples long ago.
Suffer the children to come to me,
Father in prayer I'm coming now to thee.

Adults:
Pray, He is there. Speak, He is listening.
You are his child, his love now surrounds you.

He hears your prayer, He loves the children,
of such is the Kingdom, the Kingdom of Heav'n

Narrator 6- Jesus Christ is our perfect example. When he lived on the earth he was baptized even though he had no sins. We too must follow his example and be baptized. It is required of us if we want to live with Heavenly Father again.

CTR 7- (Those who have been baptized)

“When I was baptized _____ (How you felt) _____”

Song- When I am baptized

I like to look for rainbows whenever there is rain
and ponder on the beauty of an earth made clean again.

Chorus:

I want my life to be as clean as Earth right after rain
I want to be the best I can,
and live with God again.

I know when I am baptized my wrongs are washed away,
and I can be forgiven and improve myself each day.

Chorus

Narrator 7- Christ gave the Priesthood to his Apostles when he lived on the earth. Following His death and resurrection, all of the apostles were killed and that Priesthood power left the earth and could no longer bless people.

Narrator 8- In the year 1820 a young boy named Joseph Smith wanted to know which church he should join. He was reading the scriptures and his heart began to swell. He knew he needed to ask God. In James 1:5 it reads...

CTR 5- If any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him.

Narrator 9- Joseph Smith went into a grove of trees and knelt down to pray. God the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ, appeared to him. They told him not to join any of the churches because none of them had the fullness of the Gospel.

Narrator 10- Joseph Smith would receive the Priesthood and all the keys necessary to establish the church in our dispensation, exactly the way Christ set up the church when he was on the earth. The church would be called, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter -day Saints.

CTR 7 (Those who have not been Baptized)

Because the Priesthood was restored _____ Name a blessing _____

Song- I belong to the Church of Jesus Christ

I belong to the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I know who I am. I know Gods Plan.
I'll follow Him in faith. I Believe in my Savior Jesus Christ I 'll Honor His name.
I'll do what is right, I'll follow His light. His truth I will proclaim.

Narrator 11- After the death of the prophet Joseph Smith the keys were not taken from the earth, instead they were passed to Brigham Young. Today we are led by President Thomas S. Monson. He is the 16th prophet since the restoration of the Church.

 **Song- Latter Day Prophets**

Latter day prophets are number one, Joseph Smith, then Brigham Young-
John Taylor came third we know; then Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow.
Joseph F Smith, remember the "F"; Heber J Grant and George Albert Smith
David O McKay was followed by Joseph Fielding Smith.
Then Harold B Lee, Spencer W Kimball, Ezra Taft Benson, Howard W Hunter
Gordon B Hinkley, Thomas S. Monson... These are the Latter Day prophets.

Narrator 12- Today there are almost 15 million members in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints living all over the world. We are strong as a group, but we are also strong individually. Heavenly Father knows everything about us. He loves us very much.

CTR 8A- "Heavenly Father know that I _____ (something special about you) _____."

 **Song- One in a Million**

We're a million children strong
Around the world today—
Each one a special child of God,
Unique in ev'ry way.

Chorus-

We're one in a million, Growing in faith and might!
We're one in a million, walking in His light!
Uniquely individual— One of a kind—
We'll be what Heav'nly Father has in mind.

I'm learning to be kind,
Obedient, and true.
I try to show I love the Lord
In all I say and do.

I'm one in a million, Growing in faith and might!
I'm one in a million, walking in His light!
Uniquely individual— One of a kind—
We'll be what Heav'nly Father has in mind for me, I'll be what Heav'ly Father has in mind.

Narrator 13- Heavenly Father wants us to succeed! He wants us to be happy. He gave us families so we can help each other and bless each other's lives. I am so thankful to know that my family is forever. This is one of my greatest blessings.

CTR 8B- I'm thankful for my family because _____

 **Song-** Families can be together forever

I have a family here on earth. They are so good to me.
I want to share my life with them through all eternity.

Chorus: Families can be together forever Through Heavenly Father's plan.
I always want to be with my own family, And the Lord has shown me how I can.
The Lord has shown me how I can.

While I am in my early years, I'll prepare most carefully,
So I can marry in God's temple for eternity.

Narrator 14- Life will not be easy, but by doing the things we know we should, including daily scripture reading, saying our prayers and obeying the words of our prophets, we are promised we will have the Spirit with us to lead us and comfort us. Let us remember each of us is truly a Child of God. Let us fear not! Let us be joyful! Let us have the courage to make good choices in all we do. Let us all press on!

Remarks by Bishop-

 **Closing Song- Let us all Press On**

1. Let us all press on in the work of the Lord
That when life is over we may gain a reward
In the fight for right let us wield a sword
The mighty sword of truth!

Chorus-Fear not, though the enemy deride.
We will be victorious, for the Lord is on our side.
We'll not fear the wicked, nor give heed to what they say
For the Lord alone we will obey!

Chorus

2. We will not retreat, though our numbers may be few
When compared with the opposite host in view
But an unseen power will aid me and you
In the glorious cause of truth!

Chorus

(Congregation joins in)

3. If we do what's right we have no need to fear
For the Lord, our helper, will ever be near
In the days of trial His saints He will cheer
And prosper the cause of truth!

Chorus