



Prepare for His Return

Objectives:

- **Emphasize that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ will be a joyous occasion and we do not need to be troubled.**
- **Talk about how we can prepare for the Second Coming.**

Reinforces Principle of:

- **Second Coming**

Each lesson contains 5 activities:

(Choose the activities that fit your family's schedule.
Additional resources are provided as extra time may be available.)

Reverence Time: Song, prayer, scripture and video clip

Lesson Time: Lesson summary and points to ponder

Story Time: Story

Activity Time: Object lesson or activity

Treat Time: Prayer, theme related recipe & music video



Reverence Time

Approximate Time: 5 minutes

Sing Together: Children's Songbook #82 "I Wonder When He Comes Again" verse 2.
If you wish to have an online music file to accompany you visit:
<https://www.lds.org/music/library/childrens-songbook/when-he-comes-again>

Prayer:

Scripture Time: Luke 21:36

36. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Video Clip: Watch a clip (20:06 - 24:14) from *Signs of the Times* (The Animated New Testament) in the Living Scriptures Streaming Library



Lesson Time

Approximate Time: 10 minutes

Lesson

(For younger children, it may be helpful to summarize the following ideas):

Summary:

The Second Coming

What is the Second Coming?

Jesus Christ *first* came to earth as a baby, born in a manger and was not widely accepted as the Messiah. When He comes the *second* time, it will be in power and great glory. “When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:” (Matt. 25: 31-32.)

What does “he shall separate them one from another” mean? (Christ will judge all mankind and separate the righteous from the evil.)

Signs of the Times.

Before the Second Coming there will be many trials and tribulations. Heavenly Father has given us signs to watch for so that we will be ready to stand before our Savior. If we are faithful we will know what the signs are and will be watching for them. “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” (Luke 21:36.)

How can we know what the signs to watch for are? (Through scripture study.)

Prepare for the Second Coming

Is it important to prepare for the Second Coming?

“Will you be among those who are faithful to the end?...Can you live in the world and not partake of the sins of the world?...We know you can... We have every confidence that you, the rising generation,' will not falter: You were valiant spirits reserved for this exceptional time.”

Ezra Taft Benson, New Era, May 1982 © 2007 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

Look forward to the Savior's return.

How can we have hope and not be afraid when the last days are upon us?

Sometimes we might feel like we will never be good enough, but he Lord counseled us to not lose hope and look forward to the day of His return, “be not troubled...And it shall come to pass that he that feareth me shall be looking forth for the great day of the Lord to come, even for the signs of the coming of the Son of Man.” (D&C 45:35, 39)

Points to Ponder:

What did the Lord mean when he said “feareth me”?

(Feel awe or reverence for.)

Do we need to prepare for the Second Coming?

The Lord instructed the Prophet Joseph Smith, “Prepare ye, prepare ye for that which is to come, for the Lord is nigh.” (D&C 1:12.)

What can we do to prepare for the Second Coming?

“Let us be sure we thoroughly understand the most important things we can do to prepare ourselves for our Lord's second coming to earth and, by our obedience and faithfulness, escape his punishment....This means a searching of our souls, an admittance of wrongdoing, and repentance where needed. It means keeping all of God's commandments.....It means being honest in all our doings, in business and at home.” *Delbert L. Stapley, Ensign, Nov. 1975 © 2007 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.*

Have some of the signs of the Second Coming already been or now being fulfilled?

“Many of these signs are being fulfilled. Wickedness is everywhere. Nations are constantly at war. Earthquakes and other calamities are occurring. Many people now suffer from devastating storms, drought, hunger, and diseases. We can be certain that these calamities will become more severe before the Lord comes.” *Gospel Principles, Unit Nine © 2007 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.*

Are all the signs of the Second Coming frightful?

(Discuss some of the joyful signs: Restoration of the Gospel, the coming forth of The Book of Mormon, the coming of Elijah, the gospel preached to all the world, the building of the New Jerusalem, etc.)

Quote:

“It's all in the holy scriptures, and of all the great events of the history of the world, as far as the prophets have foretold, the greatest is the preparation for the coming of the Savior in the latter days, when He will come in power and great glory, with all the holy angels, as King of kings and Lord of lords.” *LeGrand Richards, Ensign, May 1977*



Story Time

Approximate Time: 1 minutes

“Daddy!” five-year old Callie hollered. Father entered the room and sat down on the edge of Callie's bed. “I can't sleep, 'cause I'm scared!” she confided.

Father gathered Callie into his arms and held her tight. “I'll check under your bed for you Callie if you want, but you know there are no such things as monsters!”

“It's not *monsters* I'm afraid of!” Callie sobbed. “I don't want to *starve* before Jesus comes back to earth!”

“Oh, Callie! If you always follow the prophet, you'll be prepared for His return. You don't need to be afraid. When Jesus comes again it will be a very *joyful* day!” Father promised.

“But, Caleb said that a lot of bad things are going to happen!”

“Callie, Caleb was wrong to scare you,” Father said as he tucked Callie back into her bed. “There are bad things that are already happening and will happen before Jesus comes again, but Jesus taught that we don't need to be troubled. Tomorrow for FHE we can talk about Jesus' Second Coming with the whole family.”

Callie wiped her tears on the sleeve of her nightgown. “Will you sing me a song so I can go to sleep?”

“I'll do anything for you, Princess,” Father said. Then he began singing, “I wonder when he comes again, Will herald angels sing? Will earth be white with drifted snow, or will the world know spring?...”

“Daddy!” the sleepy little girl said when he had finished, “That's my favorite song! It *will* be wonderful when Jesus comes again. *Won't* it?”

Father kissed Callie on the forehead. “Yes, princess. *It will!*” he said before leaving the room.

The next evening, Father and Mother gathered the family together for FHE. They talked about the signs of the second coming and how their family can be prepared and not be troubled.

“Callie. Do you know why we have food storage?” Father asked.

Callie thought about it for a moment and then looked at her older brother, Caleb, who looked down sheepishly. Suddenly a warm comforting feeling came over her. She knew she didn't need to be afraid of the things to come, as long as she was doing what's right.

“Cause the *prophets* told us to. So when the *famines* come we won't starve!”


by Margie Nauta Lee © 2018 Living Scriptures, Inc.



Activity Time

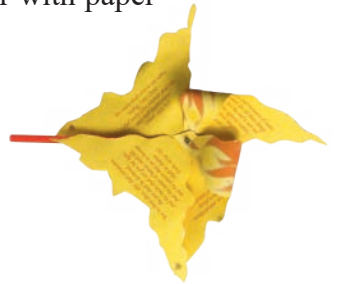
What you need: A copy, for each child, of the “The Sun” windmill cutout (artwork included with this lesson), scissors, glue/tape, drinking straw, nut and screw or brad.

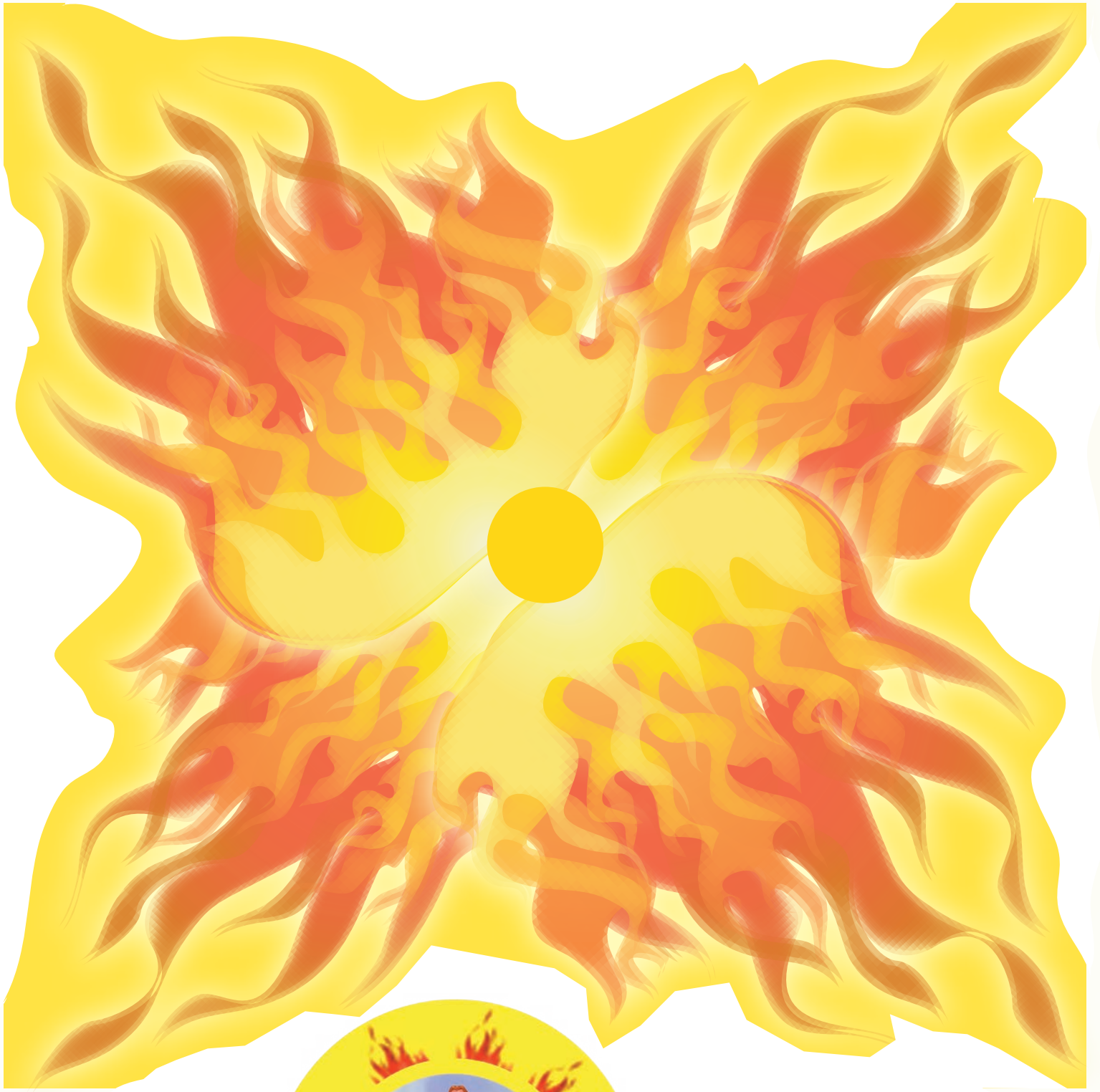
Preparation

1. Print out the artwork.
2. Match up and glue parts A & B together and parts C & D together with print side out.
3. Cut out all pieces. Cut along red dotted lines. Use paper punch to make holes in corners (red dotted circles).
4. Punch a hole in the top of the drinking straw.  Place brad/bolt through hole in straw.
5. Place brad/bolt into center hole of windmill with scripture side facing up.
6. After reading and discussing each scripture, fold up corner with paper punch inward to center and place through brad or bolt.

Activity:

1. Read scripture #1.
Ask: Has this sign started to be fulfilled?
Talk about some of the false prophets and the destruction and heartache that their followers have faced.
2. Read scripture #2.
Explain that if we are being obedient, we don't need to be troubled by this sign or any of the signs of the second coming. Discuss how important it is for the signs to be fulfilled.
3. Read scripture #3.
Explain what famine, pestilences, and earthquakes are. Talk about the importance of listening to the prophet and working on our 24 hr. emergency kits and food storage.
4. Read scripture #4.
Ask: Has this sign come to pass?
Ask: What other time in history was darkness over the whole land?
(Place nut on bolt to secure.)
5. Read scripture #5 (printed on the circle).
Talk about how no one knows, except Heavenly Father, the day and hour when the Savior will come again, not even the Savior Himself.
Discuss how we need to know and watch for the signs of the Second Coming, and prepare ourselves for the joyous day.
Tape or glue “The Son” in the center of the windmill.





1
2
3
4
5

“For many shall come in my name,
saying, I am Christ, ...
And many false prophets shall rise,
and shall deceive many.”
(Matt. 24:5, 11.)

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days
shall the sun be darkened
and the moon shall not give her light,
And the stars shall fall from heaven,
and the powers of
the heavens shall be shaken.”
(Matt 24:29)

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars:
see that ye be not troubled: for all these things
must come to pass, but the end is not yet.
For nation shall rise against nation,
and kingdom against kingdom...”
(Matt. 24:6-7)

“...and there shall be famines, and pestilences,
and earthquakes, in divers places.
All these are the beginning of sorrows.”
(Matt. 24:7-8)

5
“And then shall they see
the Son of man
coming in the clouds
with great power and glory.”
(Luke 21: 27)



Treat Time

Approximate Time: 35 minutes

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 10 minutes

Chill Time: 15 minutes

“The Sun” Treats (Lemon Chiffon Cream Tarts)

Crust

3 ounces cream cheese, softened

1/2 cup butter, softened

1 cup all-purpose flour

15 drops yellow food coloring

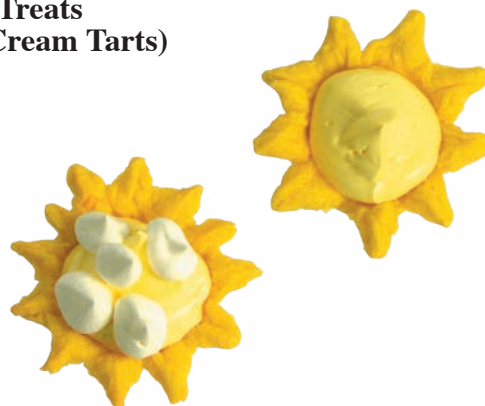
Filling

1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk

1/3 cup lemon juice

2 (10 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, softened

20 drops yellow food coloring



Crust: Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Blend with electric mixer, cream cheese with the butter. Stir in flour just until mixed well. . Chill for 15 minutes. Dough can be made ahead and chilled for up to 24 hours.

Treat Time: Divide dough into 12 balls. Give each family member one ball. Press or roll into a four inch circle. Pinch around edges into points to make sun rays. Press into muffin cups. Pierce bottoms and sides of crusts with fork. Bake for 10 minutes, or until light brown. Prepare filling while crusts bake.

Filling: Mix together until smooth the sweetened condensed milk, lemon juice and 15 ounces whipped topping. Reserve 5 ounces of whipped topping for garnish. Pour into baked shells. If you are not going to eat immediately, cool crust before adding filling. Top your suns with clouds (the reserved 5 ounces of whipped topping).

Closing Prayer and blessing on the food.