

1. Watch chapter 9-10 from the animated Complete Learning System, *Samuel the Lamanite* DVD. (Video clip is also provided for viewing online.)

2. Read: 3 Nephi 1:19-21

“And it came to pass that there was no darkness in all that night, but it was as light as though it was mid-day. And it came to pass that the sun did rise in the morning again, according to its proper order; and they knew that it was the day that the Lord should be born, because of the sign which had been given. And it had come to pass, yea, all things, every whit, according to the words of the prophets. And it came to pass also that a new star did appear, according to the word.”

3. Sing: Children’s Songbook #36 ““Samuel Tells of the Baby Jesus”.”

4. The prophets testify of Jesus Christ’s birth, life, atonement and return.

Samuel the Lamanite testified of Jesus Christ and prophesied of His birth. Some of the people believed him and repented, but there were many who did not. “In those days as in ours, some naysayers, called anti-Christ, convinced others that there was no need for a Savior and His Atonement. When Samuel’s prophecy was finally fulfilled and there was a ‘day and a night and a day, as if it were one day,’ (Helaman 14:4) what joy must have filled the hearts of those who had believed in the prophets! ...Those who believed on the words of the prophets recognized the Savior throughout His life and ministry and were blessed to follow Him.” *Robert D. Hales, Ensign, Nov 2004 © 2007 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.*

5. Do modern-day prophets continue to testify of Jesus Christ, as ancient prophets did? (Yes.)

“As we commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ two millennia ago, we offer our testimony of the reality of His matchless life and the infinite virtue of His great atoning sacrifice. None other has had so profound an influence upon all who have lived and will yet live upon the earth...” *The Living Christ: The Testimony of the Apostles © 2000 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.*

6. How would you explain to a member of another Christian faith that “Mormons” are Christian? (Discuss ideas.)

In Oct. 2007 General Conference, Elder Ballard explained it this way, “We believe that Jesus Christ is our personal Savior, and we try to model our lives after Him and His teachings. We commemorate Christ’s atoning sacrifice in our Sunday worship services, similar to taking communion in other churches. ...Joseph Smith taught that Jesus Christ is the core of our belief, and everything else is an appendage to it (see Elders’ Journal, July 1838, 44). The name of the Church is The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.” *M. Russell Ballard, General Conference Oct. 2007 © 2007 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.*

7. What holiday do Christians celebrate to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ? (Christmas.)

Why do we give gifts at Christmas time? (Discuss ideas.)

8. What gift has the Savior given us? (Discuss ideas.)

“For it was the Savior Himself who set the supreme example of giving. He permitted His life to be sacrificed so that everyone, no matter who they are, will have an opportunity to return to our Heavenly Father if they live good lives and are obedient to Jesus’ teachings. What a magnificent and generous gift!” *First Presidency, Friend, Dec. 1978 © 2007 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.*

9. The wise men brought the savior gifts. As true Christians, what gifts can we give our Savior? (Discuss ideas [See Activity for extra help].)