Powerfully Teaching
Your Children
Gospel Principles

Lesson Plan: “What Will Ye that I Should Do?”

Objectives:
- Talk about making wise decisions.
- Emphasize that Heavenly Father gave us our agency to help us learn to make good decisions.

Reinforces Principles of:
- Agency
- Decision Making

Each lesson contains 5 timed 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
Sing Together:  Children’s Songbook #160, “Choose the Right Way”
If you wish to have an online music file to accompany you visit: http://www.lds.org/churchmusic
(Note: Navigate to the Interactive Church Music Player where you can listen to and print Church hymns and children’s songs.)

Prayer:  

Scripture Time:  Ether 2:22-23

22. And he cried again unto the Lord saying: O Lord, behold I have done even as thou hast commanded me; and I have prepared the vessels for my people, and behold there is no light in them. Behold, O Lord, wilt thou suffer that we shall cross this great water in darkness?

23. And the Lord said unto the brother of Jared: What will ye that I should do that ye may have light in your vessels? For behold, ye cannot have windows, for they will be dashed in pieces; neither shall ye take fire with you, for ye shall not go by the light of fire.

Video Clip:  Watch chapter 9-10 from The Complete Learning System The Brother of Jared DVD.
Lesson Summary:

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

The decisions and choices we make can bring us happiness or unhappiness.

The people of Babel called evil good when they made the decision to build a tower to reach God. This decision brought them unhappiness. The Brother of Jared and his family and friends were blessed because they made a choice to choose good in an evil world.

What are some of the decisions in an evil world that we have to make? (Discuss ideas.)

“As we look into the future, we are going to need to be stronger and more responsible for our choices in a world where people ‘call evil good, and good evil.’ (2 Nephi:15:20) We do not choose wisely if we use our agency in opposition to God’s will or to priesthood counsel. Tomorrow’s blessings and opportunities depend on the choices we make today.” James E. Faust, Ensign, May 2004 © Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

Making simple decisions when we are young can help us make bigger decisions as we grow older.

Heavenly Father’s plan involves making decisions. In our premortal lives we made the decision to accept Heavenly Father’s plan. Part of God’s plan was for us to come to earth to be tested according to His commandments and that we would have moral agency to choose. Decision making is a lifelong learning experience. When making important decisions we should always turn to Heavenly Father for help. He has also given us commandments, prophets, scriptures, parents and teachers to help us make good decisions.

After the Brother of Jared and his people built barges using the Lord’s instructions, they were worried about how they would steer them, have air to breath and light to see. Heavenly Father told the Brother of Jared what to do for air and how He would guide them. He also gave instructions on what wouldn’t work to light the barges, but He did not tell him how to light the barges.

Why didn’t the Lord tell the Brother of Jared how to light the barges? (Discuss ideas. Emphasize that the Lord was teaching the Brother of Jared how to make good decisions.)

There are many decisions in our lives, like lighting the barges, that we will need to make that are not between good and bad, but rather choosing the best thing to do at the time. These decisions should be made after carefully studying our options and then doing what we feel is best to do at the time. For many of the decisions we have to make there is not just one right answer.

Was the Brother of Jared’s solution to lighting the barges the only thing that would have worked? (Discuss ideas.)
Points to Ponder: Are some of the decisions we make in life affected by our circumstances and opportunities? (Discuss ideas.)

“The choices we make, however, determine to a large extent our happiness or our unhappiness, because we have to live with the consequences of our choices. ... Some choices present good opportunities no matter which road we take—for example, when deciding which career path to follow or which school to attend. I know one bright and able young man who wanted to become a doctor, but the opportunity did not open up for him; so he chose to follow the law. He has become a very successful lawyer, but I am satisfied he would have been equally successful as a doctor.” James E. Faust, Liahona, May 2004 © Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

What are some of the decisions you had to make today? (Discuss ideas. Examples: What to wear, what to eat, who to play with, to tell the truth or to tell a lie, etc.)

Pick a few of the decisions your family had to make and discuss:

- Why they made the decision?
- Who helped them make the decision?
- Did circumstances or opportunities affect the decision made?
- Was there another decision (good or bad) they could have made?
- Do you feel good about the decision you made? If not, what did you learn?
- Will this decision affect your future happiness?

Quote:

“In the Book of Mormon, the brother of Jared sets a good example of how the Lord lets us solve our own problems with his guidance. ... We are thinking, reasoning human beings We have the ability to identify our needs, to plan, to set goals, and to solve our problems. ... May each of us use our creative reasoning to do all in our power to solve our problems and then look to the Lord for the reassuring, peaceful confirmation that we have made the right decision.” Robert D. Hales, New Era, Feb 2004 © Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.
Four-year-old Ben opened his dresser drawer and studied the neatly folded clothes. “Should I wear my Utah Jazz shirt or my red sweatshirt with the fire engine on it?” he thought. Ben decided on the sweatshirt and pulled it on over his head. He then put on his denim shorts, his cowboy boots and the toy fireman’s hat Uncle Ted gave him.

Mother held back a chuckle when she saw the choices Ben had made. “It’s too hot to wear your sweatshirt today, Benny,” she said. “You’d be much more comfortable in your basketball jersey.”

“You said I could choose want to wear all by myself today,” Ben said defiantly. “I can’t be a fireman if I’m wearing my basketball jersey!”

“Couldn’t you be basketball player today?” Mother asked.

“I can’t play basketball when I’m helping in the garden, but I can be a fireman,” Ben said. “I’m going to pretend the garden is a forest on fire and I’m going to put it out with the fire hose,” Ben explained.

Mother then suggested that he wear his red and white T-shirt, but Ben was determined to choose for himself. Mother, Ben and Jenny, Ben’s twin, all headed outside to work in the garden. It was a hot August morning and the sun was already beating down on the garden. Ben pushed the sleeves of his sweatshirt up and wiped the beads of sweat from his forehead.

“It sure is hot today,” Mother said. “Are you sure you don’t want to go change out of that sweatshirt?”

“Firemen have to get used to being hot,” Ben said. “Uncle Ted says that sometimes it gets so hot that the bottom of his boots melt.”

Mother gently touched the warm soil with her finger and pulled it back quickly. “Ouch. This ground is sizzling. I hope these rubber garden shoes don’t melt.”

Jenny giggled. “I think Ben’s going to melt!” she said.

Ben stuck his tongue out at Jenny before picking up another weed and putting it in the garden wagon. When they reached the row of tomato plants, Ben pointed at the tomatoes.

“Be careful, Mommy. There are fireballs on those trees, but don’t you worry. Fireman Ben will put them out.”
“But not until we’re done weeding,” Mother added.

Ben tugged at the neck of his sweatshirt. “But I’m hot,” He whined. “Can’t I water now?”

Mother wiped her forehead with her handkerchief. “I know you’re hot, Ben,” Mother said. “But we can’t water before the weeds are pulled or the ground will get too muddy.”

“I’m hot, too, Mommy,” Jenny complained.

“But you’re not as hot as I am!” Ben exclaimed.

Mother looked sympathetically at her children. She then had an idea. The weeding could wait until later. “It’s not time to water the plants, but we can water us,” she said before turning on the sprinkler and slipping off her shoes. Jenny and Ben laughed as they joined their Mother running through the sprinkler in her clothes. After they were cooled off Ben and Mother sat down on the cool grass, while Jenny played in the sandbox.

“Benny,” Mother said. “Do you know why I let you wear you sweatshirt, even though I knew it was too hot?”

Ben shook his head. “I wish you hadn’t,” he said.

“Do you think you would have learned that it was a bad choice if I had?”

Ben shook his head. “No. I would of just been mad.”

“That’s right. Now if you had made the decision to jump off the roof, I wouldn’t have let you, because you’re still too young to make all your own decisions.”

Ben rolled his eyes. “Even I know that you can’t jump off the roof!” He exclaimed.

“Well, that’s a relief,” Mother laughed before continuing. “Ben, Daddy and I love you very much and it is God’s plan for us to teach you how to make good decisions so that we can be a family forever,” Mother explained. “Heavenly Father loves His children so much that His plan provides us with everything we need to make good decisions so we can live with Him again.”

“Jesus wants us to live with Him again, too!” Ben interjected proudly.

“That’s right. It was part of Heavenly Father’s plan for Jesus to come to earth to teach us what is right. We also have prophets, the scriptures, teachers and the Holy Ghost to help us make right choices. Heavenly Father also knew that it would be best for us to learn how to make right choices for ourselves. His plan gave us our agency to choose for ourselves. Today you used your agency when you chose to wear your sweatshirt.”

“If it’s hot tomorrow I will choose my basketball shirt!” Ben exclaimed.

Mother ruffled Ben’s hair. “You’re learning, Ben. Just like Heavenly Father planned!”

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What you need: A copy of the “Learning to Choose” activity (boy or girl paper doll and wardrobe for each child (artwork included with this lesson,) scissors, glue, cardstock and tape. Optional: Laminating sheets.

Preparation
1. **Print** out the artwork.
2. Glue boy and girl patterns and stands to cardstock.
3. Optional: Laminate all pages.
4. Cut out.
5. Use double sided tape or pieces of rolled tape to attach clothes to paper dolls.

Activity: (Younger children will need help from an older sibling or parent.)

1. **Explain:** One of the first decisions that we learn to make is what clothes we are going to wear. This might seem like a simple decision, but like every decision there are consequences. Learning to dress ourselves when we are young helps us to learn how to make good decisions. We can learn how making little decisions will help prepare us for making bigger decisions and using our agency wisely.

2. **Ask:** Why is it important what we choose to wear? (Discuss ideas. Example: Dress appropriately for the occasion and for the weather, dress modestly, dress comfortably, etc.)

3. **Ask:** What are some the consequences that we face when we choose what to wear? (Discuss ideas. Example: Too hot or cold, not showing respect or disappointing Heavenly Father, uncomfortable, etc.)

4. Give each child a paper doll and set of clothes. Give examples and then have your children dress their paper dolls appropriately and inappropriately. Example: What would you wear to church? What wouldn’t you wear to church? Discuss reasons and consequences. You may want to use this opportunity to discuss Elder Holland’s advice, “...From ancient times to modern we have always been invited to present our best selves inside and out when entering the house of the Lord—and a dedicated LDS chapel is a ‘house of the Lord.’ Our clothing or footwear need never be expensive...but neither should it appear that we are on our way to the beach.” **Jeffrey R. Holland, Ensign, Nov 2005 © Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.**
Approximate Time: 15 minutes

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 1-2 minutes per crepe

“Choose the Right” Stuff-ed Crepes

**Crepe Batter**
1 1/2 c. milk  
3 eggs  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2/3 c. flour

**Chicken Filling & Sauce**
(13 oz.) canned chicken breast  
(or 1 c. shredded chicken)  
(4 oz.) cream cheese  
2 Tbs. finely diced onion  
1 c. shredded cheese  
(10 3/4 oz.) condensed Cream of Mushroom soup  
1/2 c. sour cream

**Fruit Filling & Topping**
( oz.) Pie filling  
1/4 c. powdered sugar  
Whipped cream topping

Crepe batter: Beat milk, eggs and salt until foamy. Add flour and beat until smooth. Put in refrigerator while you prepare chicken filling.

Chicken Filling and Sauce: Mix chicken, softened cream cheese and onion together. Heat in microwave for 1 min. Mix in 1/3 cup cheese. Cover with foil and place in a warm oven (250 degrees). Make sauce by combining soup and sour cream in a small sauce pan. Heat on medium until bubbly. Cover and reduce heat to low while you cook the crepes.

Crepes: Heat 8 inch skillet on medium heat. Coat pan with cooking spray or butter. Pour 1/8 c. batter into center of pan. Tilt the pan with a circular motion so that the batter coats the surface evenly. Cook until the edges start to brown and curl (about 1 minute). Loosen with a spatula and turn. Cook until golden (30-45 sec.) Stack the finished crepes on a plate. Keep covered with a dry cloth until ready to eat.

**Treat Time:** Put crepes, chicken filling, pie filling, powdered sugar, remaining cheese, whipped topping and cheese on table. Give each family member two crepes. “Choose the right” stuff for each crepe.  
(Chicken: Sauce and cheese. Pie filling: Powdered sugar and whipped topping.)  
Encourage children to use their own ideas to put their crepes together. Explain: You can assemble them several ways, but some ingredients taste better together than others. This is like the guidance God gives us to help us make good choices.

**Closing Prayer** and blessing on the food.

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