Lesson 21: I Can Be Reverent

To encourage you to show reverence for Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
Note to Teachers

Put up the next slide while waiting for class to begin to see if you can get the students in the reverent state they should be in a primary class.
While your waiting for the class to begin, please talk to your neighbor reverently, listen to the music.

Class will begin shortly
Let's sing along to the song “Reverently, Quietly”
Reverently, Quietly

Rev'rently, quietly, lovingly we think of thee;
Rev'rently, quietly, softly sing our melody.
Rev'rently, quietly, humbly now we pray,
Let thy Holy Spirit dwell in our hearts today.

Words and music: Clara W. McMaster, 1904-1997. (c) 1959 IRI.
The child in this picture is getting ready to talk with Heavenly Father in prayer.
How do we get ready for prayer?
How do we get ready for prayer?

We fold our arms, close our eyes, and bow our heads.
Why do we fold our arms, close our eyes, and bow our heads to get ready for prayer?
When we do these things, it is easier for us to feel Heavenly Father near us as we pray.
Just as it is important to know that our earthly parents are listening when we talk with them, it is important to feel that Heavenly Father is near us when we pray.
OUR OPENING PRAYER WILL BE GIVEN BY

(Enter name here)
I am grateful that we have a loving Heavenly Father and for the privilege of being able to talk with him in prayer.
What is this word?

Reverence
Can we all say it together?

Reverence
What is reverence?

Reverence
Reverence means more than just being quiet.
Reverence is a special feeling of love and respect for Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
Think of the feelings you have when your parents help you pray or read stories about Jesus to you, or when you see and hear the beautiful creations of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
These warm, peaceful feelings are feelings of reverence.
These feelings help us know that Heavenly Father’s spirit is near.

Reverence
What do you think is happening in this Picture?
How do you think the Nephite children felt about Jesus Christ?
What is this a picture of?
Who can tell us the story of the Birth of Jesus?
How do you think the people felt when they saw baby Jesus?
How do you think you would have felt if you had seen baby Jesus?
When we think of Heavenly Father and Jesus in a loving way we are reverent.
How do we show our feelings of reverence (love and respect) for Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ?
It is important to have feelings of reverence no matter where we are, but we should especially remember to be reverent at church.
It is important to have feelings of reverence no matter where we are, but we should especially remember to be reverent at church.

The meetinghouse is Heavenly Father’s house, and when we are reverent in Heavenly Father’s house, Heavenly Father knows that we love him.
Let’s sing the song
“I will Try to Be Reverent”
I Will Try to Be Reverent

I love my Heav'nly Father,
And I will try to be
Rev'rent when I'm in his house.
Then he'll be near to me.

One at a time, each one of you need to reach in and pull out one item out of this bag.
Show what you pulled out to the rest of the class.
Let’s say the words and do the actions to the following
• I’m always reverent
• From my head (put hands on head)
• To my toes (touch toes).
• When I walk (walk quietly in place),
• I step quietly as I go.
• When I speak,
• Words come softly (put finger to lips),
• Not loud and bold (turn head from side to side).
• When I listen (cup hand to ear),
• Lips stay shut (zip lips)
• And my arms I fold (fold arms).
• When I pray,
• My head I bow (bow head)
• And my eyes I close (close eyes).
• I’m always reverent
• From my head (put hands on head)
• To my toes (touch toes).

(Adapted from Diana Eckersell Janson, “I’m Always Reverent,” Friend, Sept. 1993, p. 32.)
Your actions affect those around you.

This is another good reason to be reverent in church.
• How does it make you feel when someone near you is noisy in Primary?
If someone around us is noisy, it is hard for us to think about Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
Similarly, when we make noise or do other things that are not reverent, we make it hard for other people to be reverent.
I want to encourage you to act in ways that will help you and others to be reverent.
Listen to the following story about Patty.
Patty was a very happy girl. She loved to smile, laugh, and sing. But most of all she loved to talk. She always had lots of things to say and would talk to anyone who would listen to her. Patty’s best friend was Mary Jo, who liked to talk almost as much as Patty did.

One Sunday Patty visited Mary Jo’s Primary class. During the opening exercises, Patty started to tell Mary Jo about her new shoes, but Mary Jo just shook her head and motioned for Patty to be quiet.
• Since no one would listen to her, Patty stopped talking and soon became interested in the story that the teacher was telling. She learned about the Savior and enjoyed Primary.

• As the girls left, their teacher thanked them for being reverent in class. After class, Mary Jo explained to Patty why she hadn’t talked to her during Primary. Mary Jo said that she loved Heavenly Father and Jesus, and so she always tried to be reverent in church.
Why did Mary Jo want to be reverent in Primary?
• How did Mary Jo help Patty be reverent?
• How can you help others be reverent?
TESTIMONY

• I want to testify to you that being reverent will help you learn more about Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and feel love for them.

• Does anyone want to express their feelings of love and respect for Heavenly Father and Jesus.

• I want to encourage you to be reverent as you go to other meetings or as they leave the meetinghouse after Primary.
OUR CLOSING PRAYER WILL BE GIVEN
BY
(Enter Name Here)
THE END
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Teachers should refer to the manual, scriptures and other resources when preparing and conducting the lesson.
Jesus Christ told the Nephites to bring their little children to him. The children sat on the ground near Jesus.

3 Nephi 17:11–12
He felt so much love and happiness that he wept.

3 Nephi 17:21
Then he took the children and blessed each one. He prayed to Heavenly Father for them and wept again.

3 Nephi 17:21–22
Jesus told the Nephites to look at their children.

3 Nephi 17:23
As the people watched, angels came down from heaven and encircled the children. The children and the angels were surrounded by fire.

3 Nephi 17:24
Feet and legs—
Walk quietly, hold still.
Hands and arms—Hold still, raise to answer a question, fold during prayer.
Ears—Listen to what is being said.
Mouth—Speak quietly, smile, sing songs, pray, keep closed when someone else is talking.
Eyes—Look at the teacher or speaker, close during the prayer.