



# LESSON 4: Joseph Smith's Childhood

# PURPOSE

To encourage each child to follow the example of Joseph Smith in being a good family member and following Jesus.

# Choose the Right Way

1. There's a right way to live and be happy;  
It is choosing the right ev'ry day.  
I am learning the teachings of Jesus;  
They will help me and show me the way.

Choose the right way and be happy.  
I must always choose the right.

2. Through the gospel I learn to be prayerful,  
To have faith, to repent, to obey,  
And I know if I live by his teachings,  
I will truly be happy each day.

OUR OPENING PRAYER WILL  
BE GIVEN BY



(Enter Name Here)

1	9	4
8	5	2
6	3	7

**Here is a picture  
of someone who  
loved Heavenly  
Father and  
followed the  
teachings of  
Jesus Christ.**

1	9	4
8	5	2
6	3	7

**We will show a fact about this person, then remove a tile.**

1	9	4
8	5	2
6	3	7

**He liked to play  
games.**



9

4

8

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**He was born on  
23 December.**



9

4

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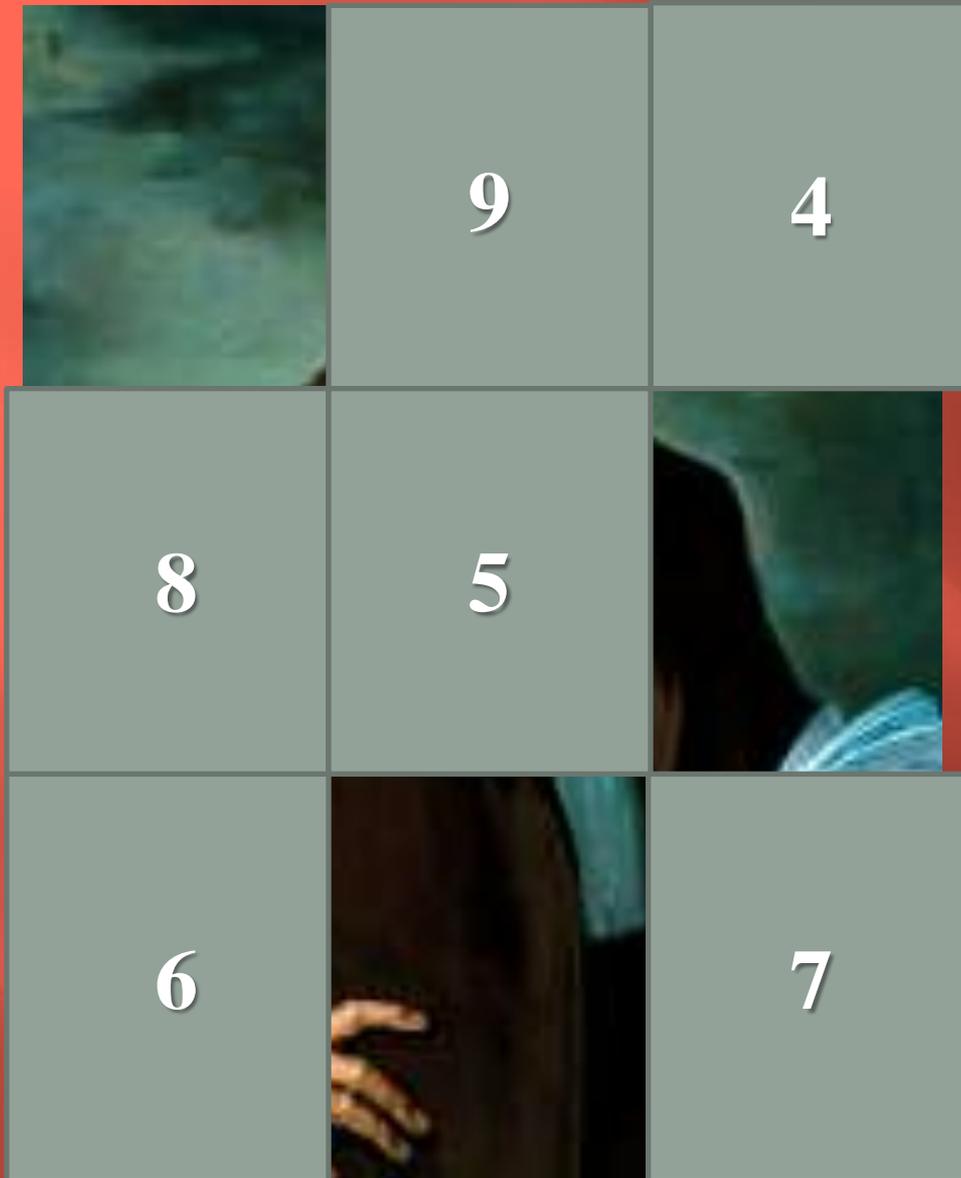


6

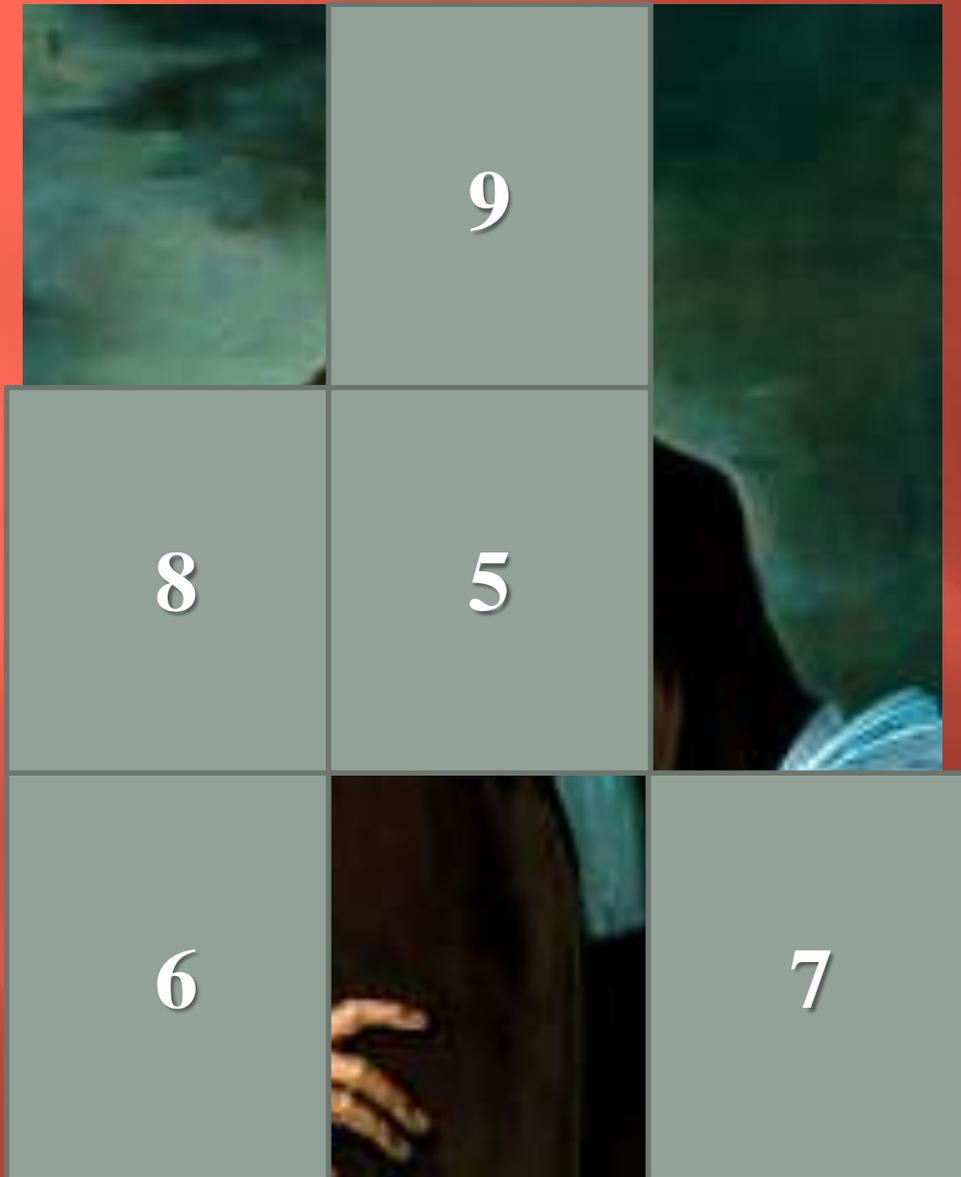
3

7

**His mother's  
name was Lucy.**



**His family  
members were  
not rich, but they  
were happy.**



**He was named  
after his father.**



9



8



6



7

**He was honest.**



9

8

7

**He was visited by  
angels.**

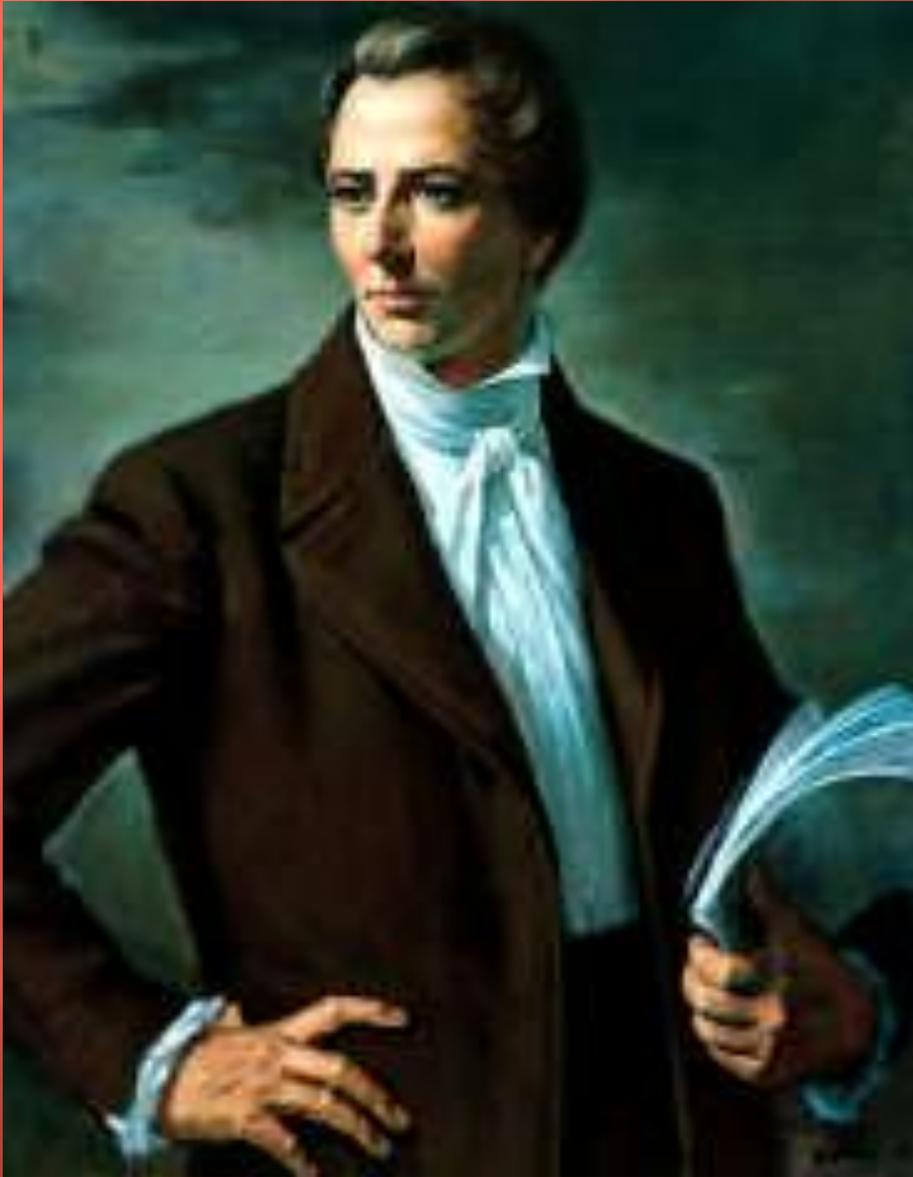


**He was a strong  
man.**

9

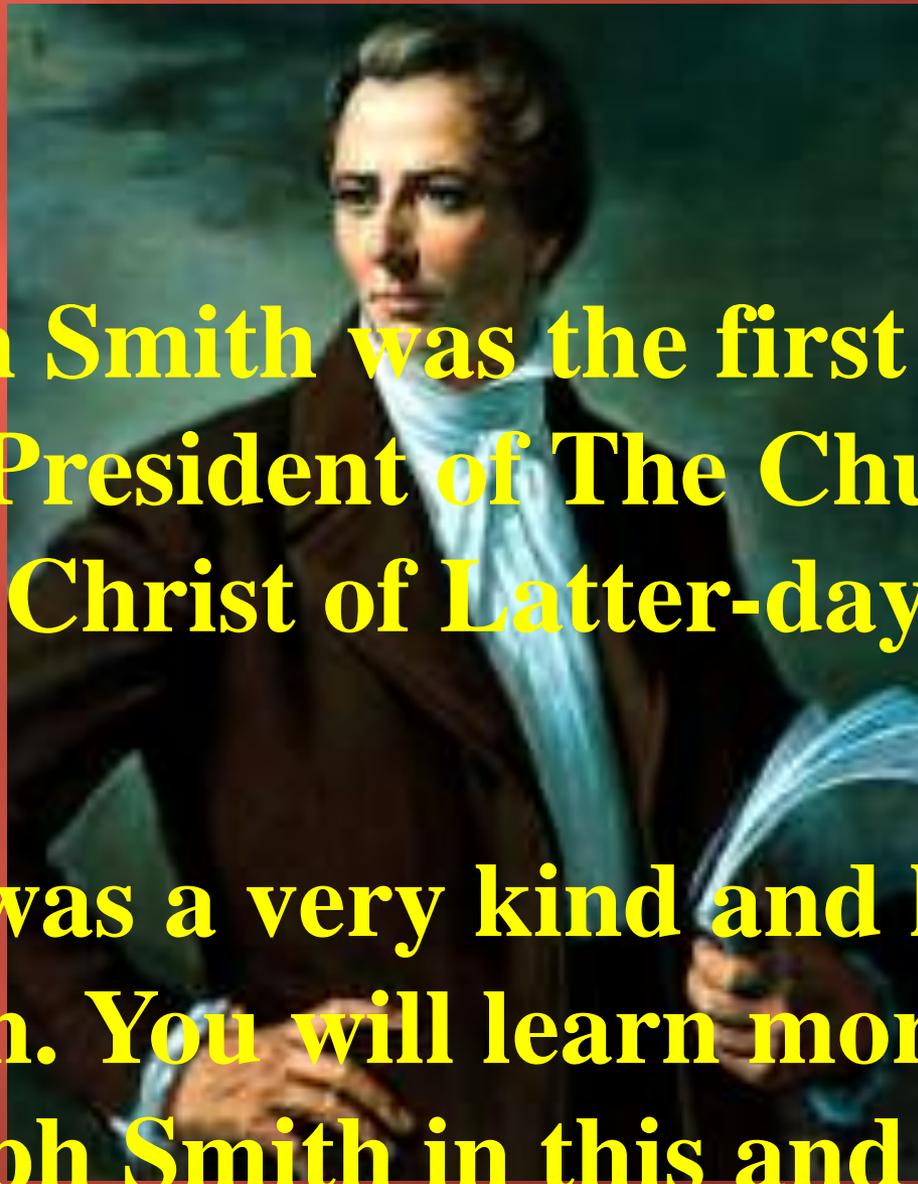


**His wife's name  
was Emma.**



**Who is this?**

**What else do you  
know about  
Joseph Smith?**



**Joseph Smith was the first prophet and President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.**

**He was a very kind and loving person. You will learn more about Joseph Smith in this and future lessons.**



# LESSON 4: Joseph Smith's Childhood

**GO TO THE VIDEO**

**GO TO THE SLIDES**

**CONTINUE**

- ▣ Joseph Smith was born on 23 December 1805.
- ▣ His family lived in the state of Vermont in the United States of America.
- ▣ Joseph Smith's father was also named Joseph.
- ▣ His mother's name was Lucy.





- ▣ Joseph had five brothers and three sisters.



- ▣ Joseph's mother and father were good people.
- ▣ They loved their children and worked hard to take care of them.

- ▣ When Joseph was a little boy, he had a very bad sore on his leg.
- ▣ Doctors tried to make his leg better, but they couldn't.



- ▣ Hyrum Smith was one of Joseph's older brothers.
- ▣ He loved Joseph and was sad that Joseph's leg hurt so much.
- ▣ He sat by Joseph's bed and tried to help him feel better.





- ❑ The doctors wanted to cut off Joseph's leg, but his mother would not let them.
- ❑ So the doctors decided to cut out part of the bone.
- ❑ Joseph knew his leg would hurt when the doctors cut it, but he had faith that Heavenly Father would help him.



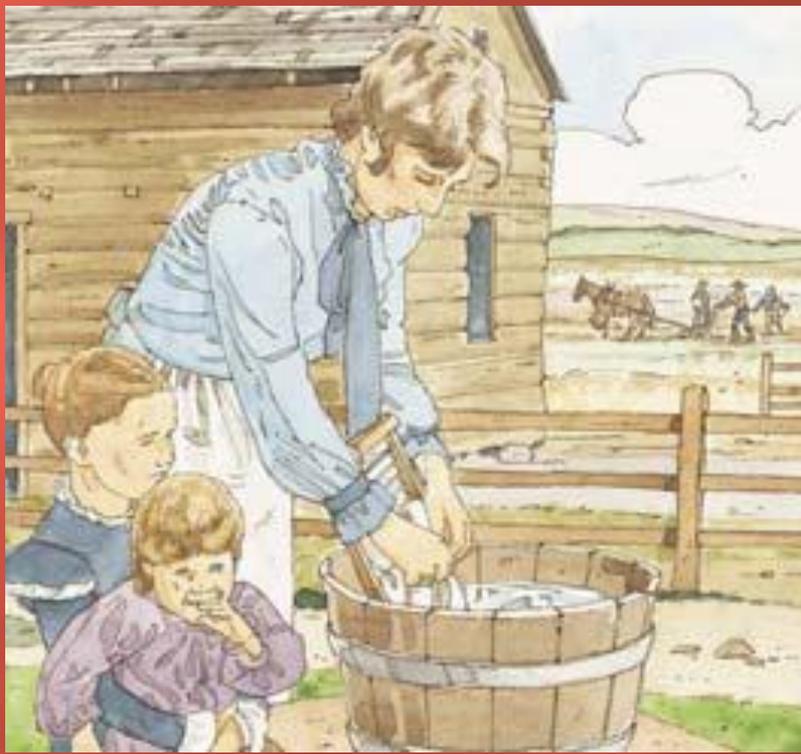
- ▣ The doctors asked Joseph to drink some wine so the pain would not be so bad.
- ▣ Joseph would not drink the wine.
- ▣ Joseph asked his mother to go outside because he didn't want her to see the doctors cut into his leg.

- ▣ Joseph asked his father to hold him while the doctors cut into his leg.
- ▣ They cut out the bad parts of the bone.
- ▣ This hurt very much, but Joseph was brave.
- ▣ After many days, his leg was better.



- ❑ When Joseph was older, his family moved to the state of New York.
- ❑ They lived in a log house on a farm near Palmyra.





- ▣ Joseph's family was poor.
- ▣ They worked hard to pay for the farm.
- ▣ The boys helped their father plant crops and take care of the animals.
- ▣ The girls worked with their mother.



- ▣ Joseph was a good boy.
- ▣ He was happy and liked to laugh and have fun.

**How did Joseph Smith show his family that he loved them? How did they show their love for him?**

**How is your family like Joseph Smith's?**

**In what ways do you want to be like Joseph Smith?**

**Joseph Smith's family was probably like your family in many ways.**

**They often prayed together. They often sang, went to church, and read the Bible together.**

**They tried to obey Jesus' teachings..**

**▣ On the Following slide, are some words that describe ways in which Joseph Smith followed Jesus' teachings.**

**▣ Pick a word and we will discuss what Joseph did to follow that teaching and how you can also follow the teachings of Jesus Christ.**

[Obey](#)

[Serve](#)

**Click on an  
oval for  
more info.**

[Love](#)

[Read  
Scriptures](#)

[Pray](#)



**Joseph Smith is a good example of choosing the right. He was good to his family and obeyed the teachings of Jesus.**

**When we choose the right we follow Jesus, just as Joseph Smith did.**



ENRICHMENT  
ACTIVITIES



**What is one way you can follow Joseph Smith's example this week.**

**Write down what you have decided.**

**Draw a picture of what you decided as a way to help remember.**

**Take you Papers home and share with your and to keep them in a place where they will see them often during the week.**

# Testimony

- ▣ **I want to bear my testimony that Joseph Smith loved his family and was a great prophet.**
- ▣ **He chose the right and served Heavenly Father.**

**In our closing prayer, please thank Heavenly Father for Joseph Smith's good example and to ask for help in remembering to follow that example this week.**

**OUR CLOSING PRAYER WILL  
BE GIVEN BY**



**(Enter Name Here)**

*THE END*

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# Obey

- ▣ Joseph knew the Bible said, “Honour thy father and thy mother” ([Exodus 20:12](#)).
- ▣ Joseph honored his parents by being loving and obedient.
- ▣ • What are some things we can do to show that we love and obey our parents?

# Serve

- ▣ **Jesus taught that we should serve others. Joseph Smith was a good worker and always tried to do his share of the work without complaining.**
- ▣ **He served his family by being helpful and working hard.**
- ▣ **• How have you served your family members this week?**

# Love

- ▣ **One of Joseph's best friends was his brother Hyrum, who was six years older than he was.**
- ▣ **All the brothers and sisters in Joseph's family played together often.**
- ▣ **They tried to show love for one another.**

# Love

▣ Let's sing the words to "Love at Home":

▣ There is beauty all around

When there's love at home;

There is joy in ev'ry sound

When there's love at home.

Peace and plenty here abide,

Smiling sweet on ev'ry side.

Time doth softly, sweetly glide

When there's love at home.

# Love

- ▣ **When did you last tell your parents that you love them? Your brothers and sisters?**
- ▣ **• How do you show love to your family members?**

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# Read Scriptures

- ▣ **Joseph knew that the teachings of Jesus Christ are important.**
- ▣ **He often thought about Heavenly Father and Jesus.**

# Read Scriptures



**He wanted to learn more about them, so he often read in the Bible and prayed.**

**Why is reading the scriptures important?**

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# Pray

- ▣ **When Joseph Smith was sick, his mother prayed to Heavenly Father for help.**
- ▣ **Heavenly Father answered her prayer and helped Joseph get well.**
- ▣ **What can you ask Heavenly Father to help you do?**
- ▣ **What else can you pray to Heavenly Father about?**

## Exodus 20:12

12 ¶<sup>a</sup>Honour thy <sup>b</sup>father and thy  
<sup>c</sup>mother: that thy <sup>d</sup>days may be <sup>e</sup>long  
upon the <sup>f</sup>land which the Lord thy God  
giveth thee.