REJOICE IN CHRIST

A Musical Devotional | Youth Leader Instructions & Materials Packet
2027 LDS Youth Theme (Philippians 4:4)

INTRODUCTION & VISION

Rejoice in Christ is a music and spoken-word youth devotional centered on the 2027 Youth Theme: "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice" (Philippians 4:4). In alignment with Church youth music guidance, spoken-word narratives incorporate scripture, counsel from For the Strength of Youth: A Guide for Making Choices, and teachings of modern prophets. This fireside highlights the Savior's Atonement, comfort in trials, sacred temple covenants, and youth gathering Israel.

TO YOUTH LEADERS: Prayerful consideration of which youth should take the role of speaking, sharing testimonies, or singing will invite a powerful Spirit throughout this musical experience. Encourage youth to sing and speak in a manner to "bless, and not impress".

RESOURCES & TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

Needed Materials & Personnel

- Rejoice in Christ Fireside Script
- Rejoice in Christ sheet music by Michael R. Hicks
- Accompaniment mp3 tracks (when not doing live accompaniment) by Michael R. Hicks
- Personnel Needed:
  - 7 Young Men Readers & 7 Young Women Readers
  - 15 Youth Testimonies
  - 5 Soloists (Male or Female) & Full Youth Choir
  - Music Director & Accompanist / Sound Tech

Technical Recommendations

- Microphones: Standard chapel podium/pulpit mic plus 1-2 additional mics are sufficient for soloists and narrators. A mic for the piano is recommended.
- Audio Tracks: If using track accompaniment, use a dedicated external aux speaker system to keep vocal lines clear.
- Contact/Questions: visit michaelrhicks.com or email mike@michaelrhicks.com

https://michaelrhicks.com/**rejoice-in-christ**/

SPEAKING & SINGING ASSIGNMENTS

SPEAKING PARTS & ASSIGNED NAMES	TESTIMONIES & ASSIGNED NAMES	SOLOISTS & MUSICAL NUMBERS
YM Reader #1: _____ YW Reader #1: _____	Opening Welcome	1. I Believe in Christ (Soloist: _____)
YM Reader #2: _____ YW Reader #2: _____	TESTIMONY #1 (Atonement & Grace): Name: _____	2. I Stand All Amazed (Soloist: _____ & Youth Choir)
YM Reader #3: _____ YW Reader #3: _____	TESTIMONY #2 (Hope in Trials): Name: _____	3. God Be With You Til We Meet Again (Soloist: _____)
YM Reader #4: _____ YW Reader #4: _____	TESTIMONY #3 (Temple Covenants): Name: _____	4. Nearer My God to Thee (Soloist - alto: _____)
YM Reader #5: _____ YW Reader #5: _____	TESTIMONY #4 (Temple & Family History): Name: _____	5. The Spirit of God (Youth Choir)

YM Reader #6: _____ YW Reader #6: _____	TESTIMONY #5 (Gathering Israel): Name: _____	6. EFY Medley: Sisters in Zion / World His Truth (Youth Choir)
YM Reader #7: _____ YW Reader #7: _____	TESTIMONIES #6–#15 (Redeemer Statements): Youth #6: _____ Youth #7: _____ Youth #8: _____ Youth #9: _____ Youth #10: _____ Youth #11: _____ Youth #12: _____ Youth #13: _____ Youth #14: _____ Youth #15: _____	7. I Know That My Redeemer Lives (Soloist(s): _____, Youth Choir, & Congregation)

SUGGESTED REHEARSAL SCHEDULE & ACTIVITIES

7-Week Rehearsal Plan (Updated for Vocal Ensembles)

• Rehearsal #1: Youth Choir Rehearsal — "The Spirit of God" & "EFY Medley"
• Rehearsal #2: Youth Choir Rehearsal with Soloists — "I Stand All Amazed" & “I Know That My Redeemer Lives”
• Rehearsal #3: Rehearse Soloists (Male/Female) for "I Believe in Christ", "God Be With You", & "Nearer My God to Thee"
• Rehearsal #4: Youth Choir full Run-Through with all musical numbers & soloists
• Rehearsal #5: Readers Activity & Testimony Coaching (See right column)
• Rehearsal #6: 1st Full Run-Through with narrators, soloists, and full choir!
• Rehearsal #7: Dress Rehearsal

Script & Testimony Rehearsal Activities

• READERS ACTIVITY (Leader #1):
Share John 14:26. Have narrators memorize in pairs line-by-line, reciting cumulatively until fluent.

• TESTIMONIES & SOLOISTS (Leader #2):
- Group A (Topic Testimonies #1-5): Write one focused paragraph on topics (Atonement, trials/comfort, temple covenants, family history, gathering Israel). Coach them to be focused and concise in their thoughts.
- Group B (Redeemer Testimonies #6-15): Formulate ONE concise sentence: "I rejoice in Christ because [specific reason]."
- Soloists: Practice solo parts with accompanist/tracks.

"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice." — Philippians 4:4

For more, visit https://michaelrhicks.com/**rejoice-in-christ**/