"What does it mean to stand as a witness of God?"
"How does Heavenly Father want me to use my spiritual gifts?"

This next month focuses on "Building the Kingdom of God."  I really enjoyed reading the talks that went along with the first two sections of this month's outline.  It can be so difficult to choose which things to include.  I hope these power points are helpful.  I also hope you are able to adapt them to your own group of young women.  For the first section on "Standing as a witness" I found a talk by Sister Margaret Naudauld.  I was really touched by her invitation for the Young Women to "Be The First..."  Be the first to offer a smile, be the first to include someone, be the first to offer help.  As Latter Day Saints we are trying to be like Jesus at all times.  We are trying to follow his example.  Jesus Christ did not wait for someone else to do the right thing.  He was the first to seek out those who needed help.  I have included this in the Power Point and I also plan on making sugar cookies in the shape of the number one.  I will attach the “Be The First” handout to go with it.  If you don't have a number one cookie cutter, you could always do a round cookie and use frosting to make a number one on top. ;)  I am also going to ask one of the girls to read the story about "Jess" from Sister Dalton's talk,**["At all times, in all things, in all places."](https://www.lds.org/general-conference/2008/04/at-all-times-in-all-things-and-in-all-places?lang=eng" \o "" \t "_blank)**

At the end of the lesson I hope the girls are excited about their personal spiritual gifts and feel like they have been given, "The Best Gift Ever."  This was another idea I had for a handout.  I was at the craft store today and they had small gift boxes, 20 for $5.99.  You could attach “The best Gift Ever” handout to the box to remind them of their Spiritual Gifts.  We will also be watching the video**["Exceptional Gift"](https://www.lds.org/youth/learn/yw/building-up-the-church/gifts?lang=eng" \l "video=extraordinary-gift" \o "" \t "_blank)** found in the lesson outline.  I appreciated President Eyring's comments that all of us have gifts and none of us were destined to fail.  Lessons like this used to make me feel inferior.  I couldn't play the piano, violin, sing, act etc.  I did not realize that gifts that aren't visible are still gifts of the Spirit!  Being a compassionate person, having faith, understanding the scriptures are all spiritual gifts that we can use to bless lives.  I hope I can convey that to these sweet, talented girls.

Good luck with your lessons this week. ;)