



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Brotherhood

Packet #080409

5 tips for successful Family Home Evenings

- 1. Pray.** Pray about the needs of your family as you consider topics for home evenings, and pray as you prepare.
- 2. Prioritize.** Make Family Home Evening a priority; learn to say no to other activities.
- 3. Involvement.** Involve everyone in the family; help little children take part.
- 4. Commitment.** Be committed and be consistent. Set a designated time and stick to it. Holding Family Home Evening on a weekly basis takes dedication and planning on the part of all family members.
- 5. Relax** and enjoy it. The most important thing your children will remember is the spirit they feel in your family home evenings and activities. Be sure the atmosphere is one of love, understanding, and enjoyment.

Brotherhood

Conference Talk:

For more information on this topic read “‘Man Down!’,” by Henry B. Eyring, *Ensign*, May 2009, 63–66.

Thought:

God will give you inspiration and strength to meet your charge to help His children find their way to the happiness made possible by the Atonement of Jesus Christ.

(Henry B. Eyring, “‘Man Down!’,” *Ensign*, May 2009, 63–66.)

Song:

“I’m Trying to Be Like Jesus,” *Children’s Songbook*, p.78.

Scripture:

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

(Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

Object Lesson:

Materials needed: chalk.

Procedure: After “chalking” your hands, show them to the family. Ask what would happen if you shook hands with them or patted them on the back. Discuss.

Explain that friendship is much like the chalk dust. As we associate with friends, their good or bad qualities can rub off on us. Discuss how having a good friend can really support a person. Discuss how to be a good friend and why it is important.

(Beth Lefgren and Jennifer Jackson, *More Power Tools for Teaching*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1991], p. 23.)

Story:

"Many of These Saints Dressed in Rags"

Ezra Taft Benson (shortly after the end of World War II)

As I have looked into the faces of this well-fed (almost too well-fed in many cases) audience, well-clothed, surrounded with all the comforts and blessings of life, I have found that my thoughts have many times drifted across the Atlantic to those of our brethren and sisters with whom I have been closely associated. I love them, my brethren and sisters, as I am sure you do, many of you having descended through progenitors from those nations. . . .

They have suffered much, my brethren and sisters. We wondered just how they would receive us, what the reaction would be. Would their hearts be filled with bitterness? Would there be hatred there? Would they have soured on the Church? I well remember our first meeting at Karlsruhe. After we had made visits through Belgium, Holland, and the Scandinavian countries, we went into occupied Germany. We finally found our way to the meeting place, a partially bombed-out building located in the interior of a block. The Saints had been in session for some two hours waiting for us, hoping that we would come because

the word had reached them that we might be there for the conference. And then for the first time in my life I saw almost an entire audience in tears as we walked up onto the platform, and they realized that at last, after six or seven long years, representatives from Zion, as they put it, had finally come back to them. Then as the meeting closed, prolonged at their request, they insisted we go to the door and shake hands with each one of them as they left the bombed-out building. And we noted that many of them, after they had passed through the line, went back and came through the second and third time, so happy were they to grasp our hands. As I looked into their upturned faces—pale, thin, many of these Saints dressed in rags, some of them barefooted—I could see the light of faith in their eyes as they bore testimony to the divinity of this great latter-day work and expressed their gratitude for the blessings of the Lord.

That is what a testimony does. We saw it in many countries. I say there is no greater faith, to my knowledge, anywhere in the Church than we found among those good people in Europe.

Many interesting things happened as you can well imagine. Ofttimes our meeting rooms were in almost total darkness as we were forced to close the windows, filled with cardboard instead of glass, because of a rainstorm. But the Saints insisted that we go on with the meeting. Other times we would close a meeting, and then they would ask if we could hold another before we sent them home—they were so happy to have the opportunity of meeting with us. I remember in Nuremberg that the people had waited two hours for us—we were delayed because of detours around bombed bridges and other things. Shortly after we arrived, the curfew rang. But they requested that we allow them to stay on and after the meeting was over, they were forced to stay all night in the old partially bombed-out school-house, because of curfew restrictions. Words cannot adequately express the joy of the Saints for the first mission-wide conference following the war in England, Holland, Sweden, and other countries.

We found that our members had carried on in a marvelous way. Their faith was strong, their devotion greater, and their loyalty unsurpassed. We found very little, if any, bitterness or despair. There was a spirit of fellowship and brotherhood which had extended from one mission to the other, and as we traveled, the Saints asked us to take their greetings to their brothers and sisters in other countries although their nations had been at war only a few months before. Local missionaries had carried on during the war period. In some districts there had been more baptisms than during a comparable period prior to the war.

(Leon R. Hartshorn, *Outstanding Stories by General Authorities*, vol. 2, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1971].)

Activity:

Give everyone a pencil or a short stick. Line up single file. The first person puts a ring on his pencil and then passes it to the pencil of the person behind him without using his free hand. The ring continues down the line in this manner. After each person passes the ring, they run to the end of the line to continue passing until the ring has traveled across the entire room.

(adapted from George and Jeane Chipman, *Games! Games! Games!* [Salt Lake City: Shadow Mountain, 1983], p. 210.)

Refreshment

Fudge Pudding Cake

They'll think it's magic! A fudgy chocolate pudding cake that "bakes" right in the microwave.

1 cup all-purpose flour	1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup granulated sugar	1 cup chopped nuts
2 tablespoons baking powder	1 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt	1/4 cup baking cocoa
1/2 cup milk	1 3/4 cups boiling water
2 tablespoons vegetable oil	

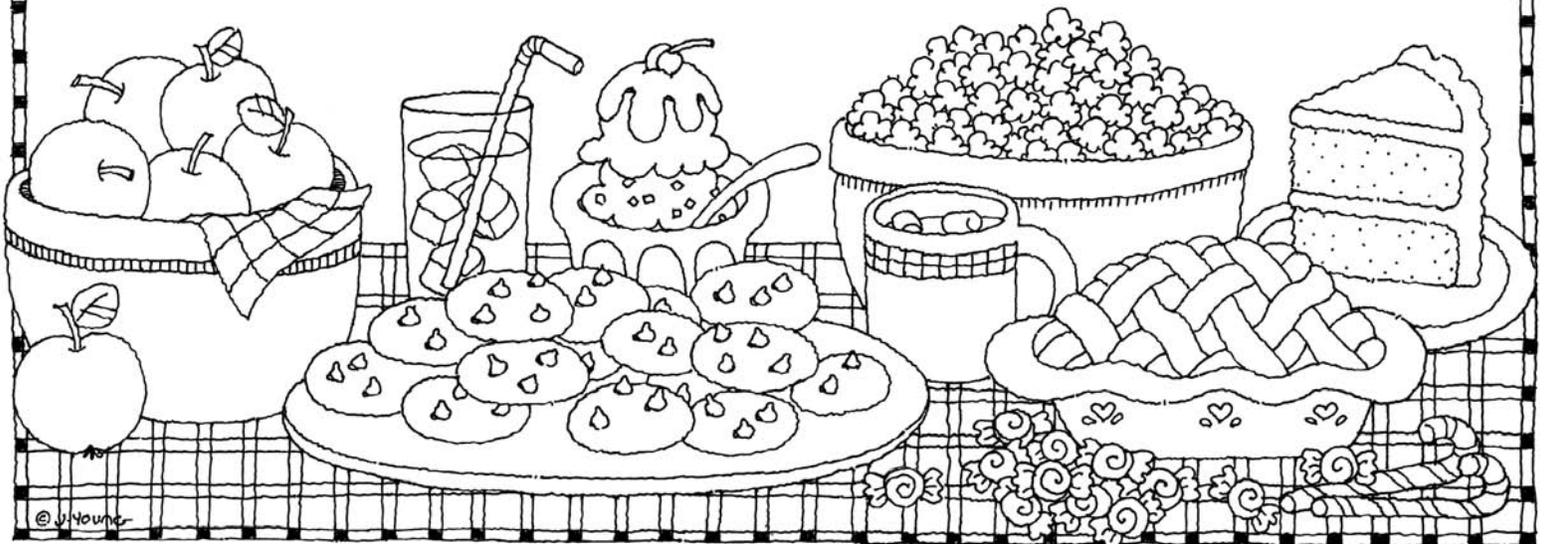
Mix flour, granulated sugar, 2 tablespoons cocoa, the baking powder, and salt in 2-quart microwaveable casserole.

Stir in milk, oil, and vanilla. Stir in nuts. Spread evenly in casserole. Mix brown sugar and 1/4 cup cocoa; sprinkle over batter. Pour boiling water over batter.

Microwave uncovered on medium (50%) 9 minutes; rotate casserole 1/2 turn. Microwave on high 5 to 6 minutes or until top is almost dry.

Serve warm with ice cream or whipped cream. Serves 9.

(*Betty Crocker Sunday Cookbook*, [Minneapolis: Wiley Publishing and Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2007], p.153.)



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