



strengthening
our home
and family

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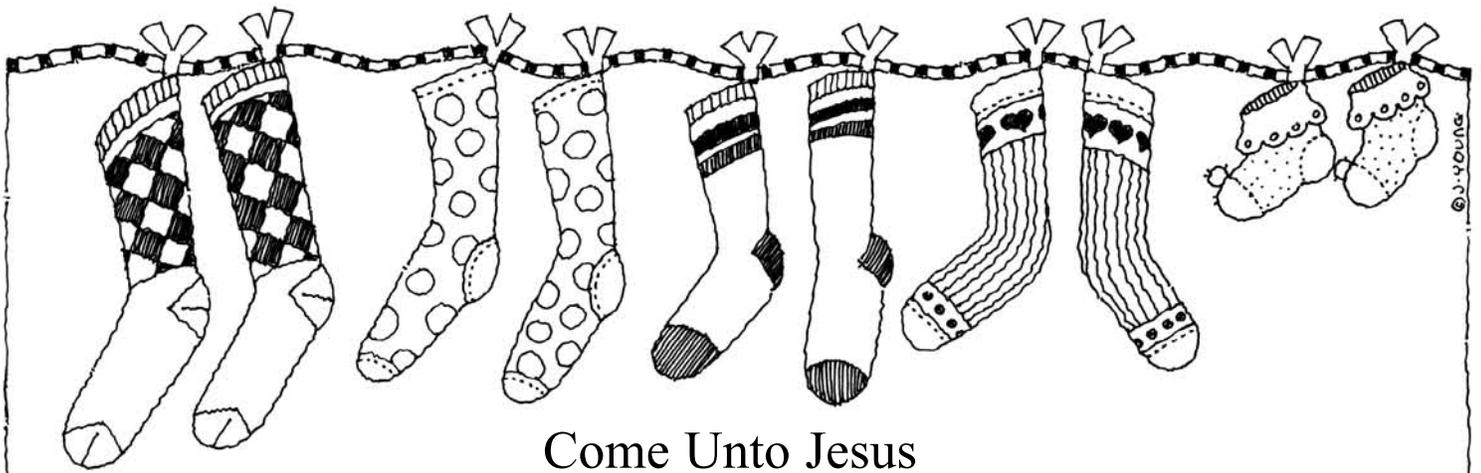
Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Come Unto Jesus

Packet #120109

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.



Come Unto Jesus

Conference Talk:

For more information on this topic read “Come unto Him,” by Neil L. Andersen, *Ensign*, May 2009, 78–80.

Thought:

Above all, we proclaim our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. All that we are—all that we will ever be—we owe to Him. While we gaze in awe at His majesty, He does not ask us to stay our distance but bids us to come unto Him.

(Neil L. Andersen, “Come unto Him,” *Ensign*, May 2009, 78–80.)

Song:

“Come Unto Jesus,” *Hymns* #117.

Scripture:

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

(Revelation 3:20)

Object Lesson:

Materials needed: A map of your state and a map of a city within your state.

Application: Explain to the group that you have two maps, one of the state and one of a city. Then ask them which map they would choose if they needed to find a particular street in the city. Explain that the state map is important because it gives us a greater view around the city, as well as showing us where in the state the city is actually located. But to be able to find a specific street, we need the city maps because it gives us the detailed information we must have.

Compare the city map to the Book of Mormon. This book was written specifically to testify of Jesus Christ. Compare the state map to the Bible. It gives us a good overview or general description of the gospel. By using both of these inspired books we can learn more of our Savior and come closer to Him.

(adapted from Beth Lefgren and Jennifer Jackson, *Power Tools for Teaching*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1988], p. 6.)

Story:

Anonymous

God is perfectly capable of presenting us with a solution to our challenges. He knows when to tell us to speed up, slow down, turn to the right or to the left—or just to do nothing.

My husband is in the United States Army. About a month after we were married, he received orders for an “unaccompanied” tour of duty in South Korea. His assignment was to be one full year. I knew what that meant: The army would not pay for me to go with him or cover our living expenses or

medical benefits. The prospect of his being gone that long was more than I could bear.

I expressed my anxiety to the Lord and asked for help. The subject became a central theme of my daily prayers. Then I began to do all I could to come up with an answer. I had heard of spouses going to Korea and getting jobs as English teachers, so I decided to check it out. But something strange happened. Every time I began to research teaching in Korea or whenever I asked someone about it, I had the feeling I shouldn't be obsessed with trying to find an opportunity: "Don't worry about it. Don't plan anything. Something will work out. Have faith."

I speculated that maybe I wasn't supposed to go to Korea; perhaps I was supposed to go home and live with my parents for a year. But I felt the same way about moving home: "Don't worry about it. Don't plan anything. Something will work out. Have faith."

As the time grew closer for my husband to leave, I found myself more anxious about trying to plan for the year. But each time I tried to force an answer, I felt the same impression: "Don't be concerned." I wanted to say, "But are you watching the calendar?!"

One day the impression changed, and I felt that my husband and I should pack up all our belongings and go to visit my parents. After a short visit, my husband would have to leave for Korea. We packed up and traveled to my parents' home. I still had no idea what I was going to do for the next year or where I was going to live. But the feeling persisted: "Don't worry about it. Don't plan anything. Something will work out. Have faith."

Then something remarkable happened. A week before my husband was scheduled to leave, my sister came home from high school one day with a newspaper clipping. She said it was really strange because she usually didn't read the newspaper, and she never looked through the classified ads. But one of her teachers had given the class an assignment to survey the newspaper. My sister's attention had been drawn to a small advertisement for an English teacher in South Korea. There was a phone number.

I had a strong feeling that I should call. Soon I was talking to the director of a school in Korea.

The school was looking to hire a college graduate to teach English to its students. I had a Bachelor of Science degree.

The school would need someone for just one year. My husband would be stationed in Korea for a year.

They would pay my airfare to Korea and back home after one year. They would provide an apartment to live in, good pay, medical benefits, vacation time, sick leave, and bonuses!

They needed someone immediately. I was already packed!

After I had spoken with the director and some of the American teachers who worked there, I received the confirming feeling that I was supposed to go to Korea and take this job!

The director offered me the job over the phone and I accepted. I arrived in Korea two weeks later, just as my husband was scheduled to begin his assignment.

The incredible blessings that I received during my year teaching English in Korea are innumerable. I will always be grateful that I trusted the Lord and followed his promptings. I know that if we listen, he will guide us.

(edited by Larry Barkdull, *Gifts: True Stories of God's Love*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2004], p.93.)

Activity:

Give each family member one or two pictures of Christ's life and ministry. Each person takes turn giving clues about their picture. (Such as "there is water in the picture," "He is with two other people," etc.) The rest of the family guesses what the picture is.

Refreshment

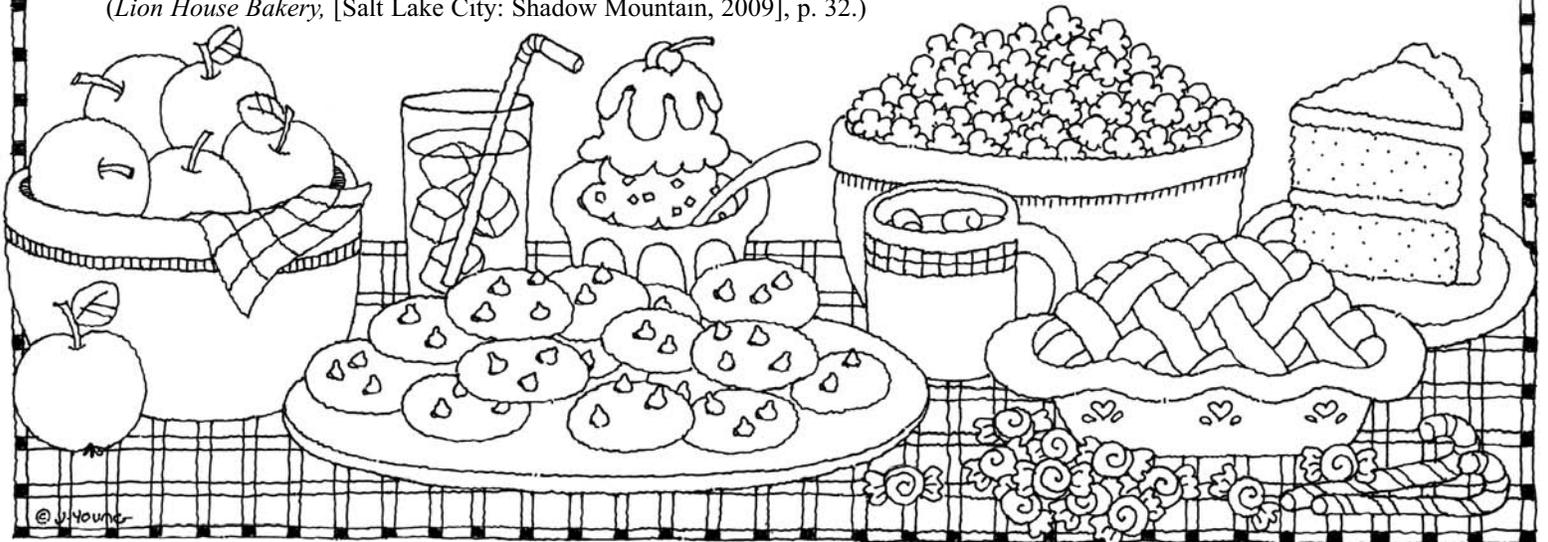
Cherry Nut Bread

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 cup maraschino cherry juice
- 1 (8-ounce) jar maraschino cherries, chopped, juice reserved
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 325° F. Grease and flour two 9x5-inch bread pans and set aside.

In a large mixing bowl cream sugar and oil; add eggs and beat well. Stir in vanilla. In a separate bowl whisk together flour and baking powder. Measure out 1/2 cup of the reserved maraschino cherry juice. (If there isn't enough juice to equal 1/2 cup, add water to make up the rest.) Alternately add flour mixture and cherry juice to sugar mixture until all is well blended. Fold in cherries and nuts. Pour into prepared pans and bake for 55 to 60 minutes or until wooden toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Turn loaves out onto wire racks to cool. Dust with powdered sugar when cooled. Makes 2 loaves.

(*Lion House Bakery*, [Salt Lake City: Shadow Mountain, 2009], p. 32.)



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