



strengthening
our home
and family

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Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Service

Packet #070311

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.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

Service

Conference Talk:

For more information on this topic read "Finding Joy through Loving Service", by M. Russell Ballard, *Ensign*, May. 2011, 46

Thought:

The most important attribute of Heavenly Father and of His Beloved Son that we should desire and seek to possess within our lives is the gift of charity, "the pure love of Christ." From this gift springs our capacity to love and to serve others as the Savior did.

(M. Russell Ballard, "Finding Joy through Loving Service", *Ensign*, May. 2011, 46.)

Song:

" 'Give,' Said the Little Stream," *Children's Songbook*, p. 236.

Scripture:

Now, as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light; Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life.

(Mosiah 18:8-10)

Object Lesson:

Materials Needed

One large box filled with several heavy objects.

Procedure

Have a volunteer try to lift the box. (Ensure the volunteer does not get hurt.)

Ask: Is it easy or difficult to lift the box? Is it heavy? Ask for two other people to help the first person lift the box. Together the task will be much easier.

Explain that the box and its contents are like the burdens we might experience in life. Discuss what some of these burdens might be. As members of the Church we have the responsibility to help each other. Offering service helps to lighten one another's loads.

(Beth Lefgren and Jennifer Jackson, *Object Lessons Made Easy*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2010], p. 85.)

Story:

Some years ago I was in Star Valley, Wyoming, to effect a reorganization of the stake presidency there. The stake president at the time was the late E. Francis Winters. He had served faithfully for the lengthy term of twenty-three years. Though modest by nature and circumstance, he had been a perpetual pillar

M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L

of strength to everyone in the valley. On the day of the stake conference, the building was filled to overflowing. Each heart seemed to be saying a silent thank-you to this noble leader who had given so unselfishly of his life for the benefit of others.

As I stood to speak following the reorganization of the stake presidency, I was prompted to do something I had not done before. I stated how long Francis Winters had presided in the stake; then I asked all whom he had blessed or confirmed as children to stand and remain standing. Then I asked all those persons whom President Winters had ordained, set apart, personally counseled, or blessed to please stand. The outcome was electrifying. Every person in the audience rose to his feet. Tears flowed freely—tears that communicated better than could words the gratitude of tender hearts. I turned to President and Sister Winters and said, “We are witnesses today of the prompting of the Spirit. This vast throng reflects not only individual feelings but also the gratitude of God for a life well-lived.”

(Thomas S. Monson, *Inspiring Experiences That Build Faith: From the Life and Ministry of Thomas S. Monson*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1994].)

Activity:

Write a family letter to distant relatives, friends, and/or missionaries.

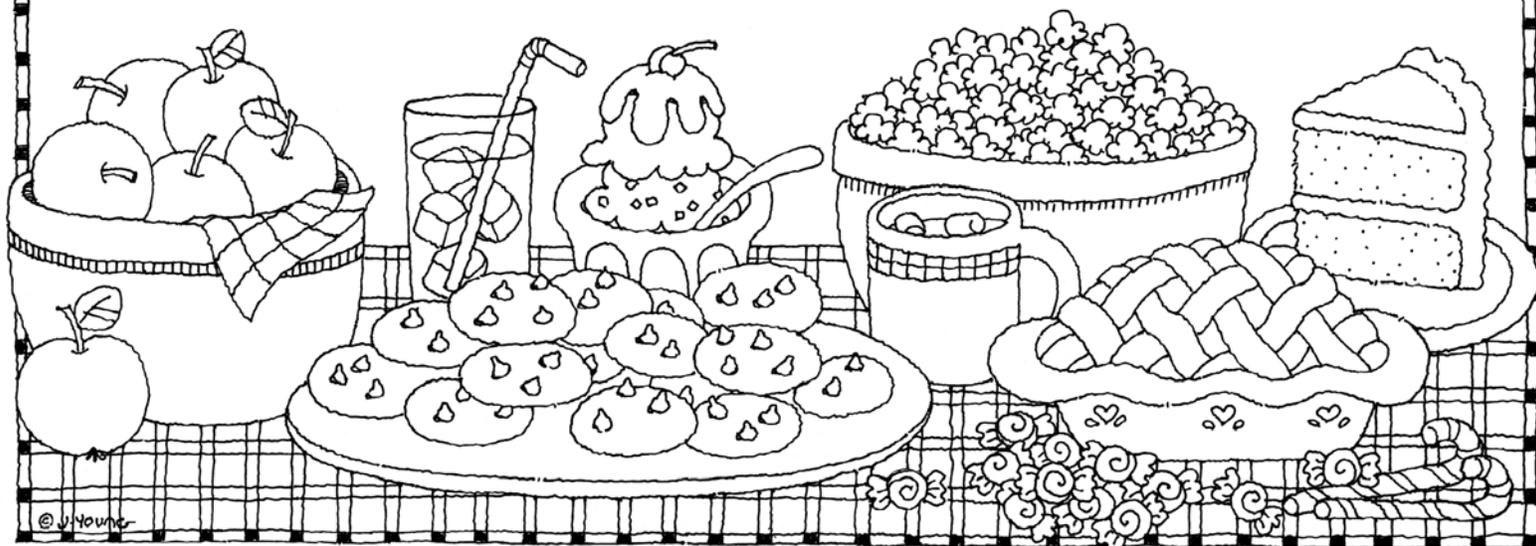
Refreshment

Chocolate Brownies

- 2/3 cup butter or margarine
- 5 oz unsweetened baking chocolate, cut into pieces
- 1 3/4 cups sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Grease bottom and sides of 9-inch square pan. In 1-quart saucepan, melt butter and chocolate over low heat, stirring constantly. Cool slightly.
2. In medium bowl, beat sugar, vanilla and eggs with electric mixer on high speed 5 minutes. Beat in chocolate mixture on low speed. Beat in flour just until blended. Stir in walnuts. Spread in pan.
3. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or just until brownies begin to pull away from sides of pan. Cool completely in pan on cooling rack. For brownies, cut into 4 rows by 4 rows.

(Betty Crocker Sunday Dinner Cookbook, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2007], p. 180.)



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