



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Priorities

Packet #030313

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

Priorities

Conference Talk:

For more information on this topic read “Of Regrets and Resolutions,” by President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Nov. 2012, 21.

Thought:

The more we devote ourselves to the pursuit of holiness and happiness, the less likely we will be on a path to regrets.

(President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, “Of Regrets and Resolutions,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2012, 21.)

Song:

“I Will Follow God’s Plan,” *Children’s Songbook*, p. 229.

Scripture:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

(Matthew 6: 20–21)

Lesson and Stories:

Share the following situations with your family—one at a time. After each, have family members search D&C 106 to find principles providing help, insight, or answers for that situation. Choose one family member to give an explanation as if he or she were talking to the person in the situation, using some part of D&C 106. After each situation, discuss the scriptures and explanation to provide additional insight into the truths found in D&C 106.

Situation 1: Jill’s bishop asked her to serve as the president of her young women’s class. She will probably say yes because she doesn’t want to disappoint the bishop. However, she doesn’t really plan to do much in this calling since she is in several advanced classes at school and has an after-school job to earn money for college. In fact, she seldom attends the weekly activities because she is at work. She feels like her family’s financial situation requires her to put in as many hours as she can and earn as much money as possible for college.

Now invite your family to search D&C 106 for the Lord’s counsel that would apply to this situation, for example verse 3.

In addition to D&C 106:3, draw your family’s attention to footnote 3a (the promise of the Savior in Matthew 6:33). Ask:

- Is the Lord asking us to ignore temporal matters?
- What is He saying? (That we should make important things our priority, and then the rest will work out.)
- What does the Lord promise us when we trust Him on these matters?

Share with your family the following from President Ezra Taft Benson:

“When we put God first, all other things fall into their proper place or drop out

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 our lives. Our love of the Lord will govern the claims for our affection, the demands on our time, the interests we pursue, and the order of our priorities.” (*Ensign*, May 1988, 4.)

Situation 2: Sam said he didn’t intend to go to priesthood meeting because he knew the lesson was going to be on the Second Coming. “I don’t even want to think about it,” he said. “It just scares me. In fact, sometimes studying about the Second Coming makes me wonder why I should plan ahead in life, save money for the future, or train for a career.” (See verses 4–5.)

Have your family cross-reference 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 to D&C 106:4–5 for more explanation on the phrases “thief in the night” and “children of light” referred to in this revelation. As you read 1 Thessalonians as a family, identify how Paul says the time leading to the Second Coming will be different for “the children of light.” You might also want to share the following from Elder Boyd K. Packer:

“We live in troubled times—very troubled times. We hope, we pray, for better days. But that is not to be. The prophecies tell us that. We will not as a people, as families, or as individuals be exempt from the trials to come. No one will be spared the trials common to home and family, work, disappointment, grief, health, aging, ultimately death. . . .

“We need not live in fear of the future. We have every reason to rejoice and little reason to fear. If we follow the promptings of the Spirit, we will be safe, whatever the future holds. We will be shown what to do.” (*Ensign*, May 2000, 7–9.)

Assure your family that the Lord will be with and strengthen those who are faithful to him. Although we may not know the exact time of the Savior’s coming, it will not overtake us “as a thief in the night” if we are faithful.

Situation 3: David had not kept the commandments as he should and had not been active in the Church for a while. In talking with his home teachers he admitted he wasn’t really happy and wished he could change, but believed it was pointless to do so. “I’ve done too many bad things. What would God think if I came back to Church after all I’ve done? I don’t think I could ever really be a strong member.” (See verses 6–8.)

You may want to have your family cross-reference D&C 18:10–13 to D&C 106:6 concerning how the Lord feels about those who repent. The promise in D&C 78:17–18 may also be a second witness to the truth in D&C 106:7–8 that the Lord will have mercy on us, give us greater and greater strength to grow spiritually and stand strong, and that we can ultimately inherit his kingdom—if we will trust Him and receive his grace. Invite your family members to tell what they learned in D&C 106 that impressed them the most.

(Dennis H. Leavitt and Richard O. Christensen, *Scripture Study for Latter-day Saint Family: The Doctrine and Covenants*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2004], p. 235.)

Activity:

Give everyone a piece of paper and a pencil. Instruct everyone to print their name at the top center of the page and then divide the paper into four quarters.

In the top left-hand corner everyone draws a picture depicting one of his life ambitions.

In the top right-hand corner everyone writes down a funny thing that happened to them.

In the bottom left-hand corner everyone writes down one of his greatest accomplishments.

In the bottom right-hand corner everyone draws a picture depicting one of his greatest fears.

(George and Jeanne Chipman, *Games! Games! Games!*, [Salt Lake City: Shadow Mountain, 1983], p. 169.)

Refreshment

Chocolate Rolo® Cookies

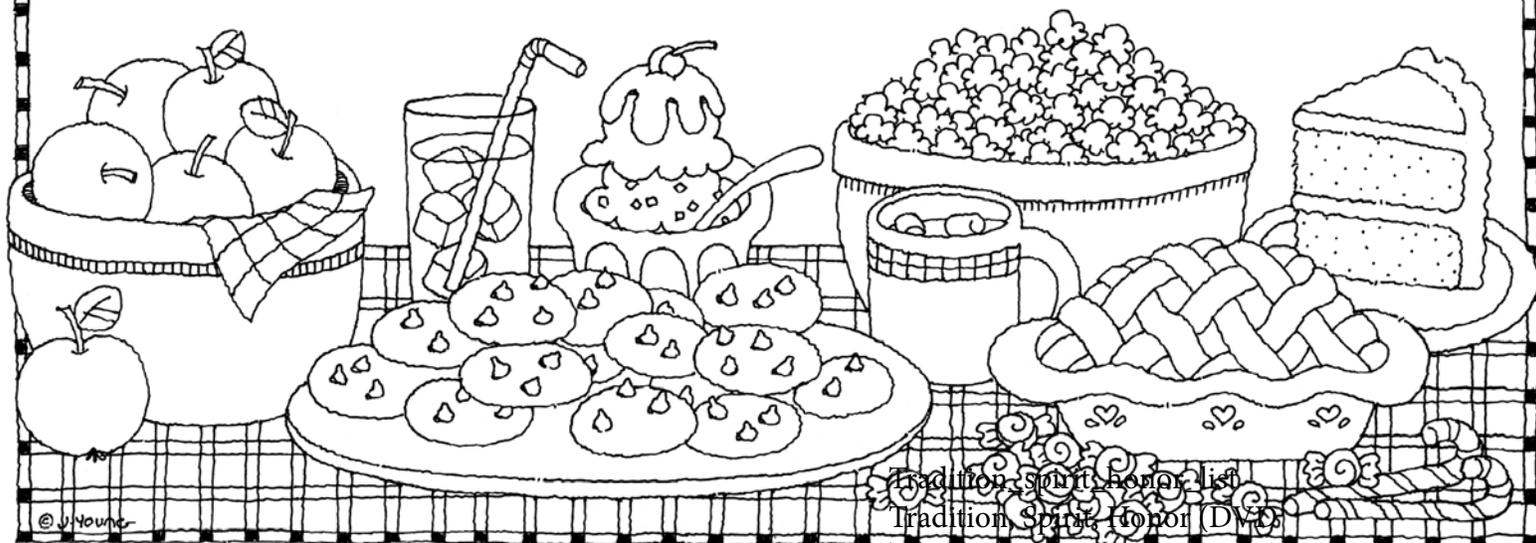
- 1 (18.25-ounce) chocolate cake mix, any variety
- ½ cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 egg
- 1 (13-ounce) package Rolo® candies

Heat oven to 375° F.

In a large bowl, mix together cake mix, butter, and egg. It will seem dry but keep mixing. Form dough around a Rolo® and make into a ball that just covers the Rolo®. Place on a greased or sprayed cookie sheet and bake 9 to 10 minutes. Do not overbake!

Makes 4½ to 5 dozen cookies.

(Janet Peterson, *Remedies for the "I Don't Cook" Syndrome*, [Salt Lake City: Eagle Gate, 2001], p. 279.)



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