



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Grandparents

Packet #050405

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.

Grandparents

Thought:

There are times in a young person's life that the influence of a grandparent may be even greater than that of a parent. We make jokes about going to Grandma's house and having cookies and milk, but grandparents give children a sense of belonging. (James M. Harper, chairman of the Family Sciences Department at BYU)

Purpose:

To help our family understand the importance of grandparents.

Song:

"When Grandpa Comes" *Children's Songbook*, 201.

Scripture:

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers.

(Malachi 4:6)

Lesson:

Have a family member read 3 Nephi 25:1 aloud. Ask your family to think of themselves as the trunk of a tree. Ask the following questions:

- If you were a trunk, what would your branches represent?
- What would your roots represent?
- What do these verses teach may happen to some people's "roots" and "branches"?
- Why will they be cut off from their ancestors and their posterity?
- Why is it important to you to be with your family forever?
- What do you think will protect and allow your family to be sealed forever?

(Dennis H. Leavitt and Richard O. Christensen, *Scripture Study for Latter-day Saint Families: The Doctrine and Covenants*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2004], p. 90.)

Story:**What Have You Done with My Name?**

George Albert Smith

A number of years ago I was seriously ill. In fact, I think everyone gave me up but my wife. With my family I went to St. George, Utah, to see if it would improve my health. We went as far as we could by train, and then continued the

journey in a wagon, in the bottom of which a bed had been made for me.

In St. George we arranged for a tent for my health and comfort, with a built-in floor raised about a foot above the ground, and we could roll up the south side of the tent to make the sunshine and fresh air available. I became so weak as to be scarcely able to move. It was a slow and exhausting effort for me even to turn over in bed.

One day, under these conditions, I lost consciousness of my surroundings and thought I had passed to the Other Side. I found myself standing with my back to a large and beautiful lake, facing a great forest of trees. There was no one in sight, and there was no boat upon the lake or any other visible means to indicate how I might have arrived there. I realized, or seemed to realize, that I had finished my work in mortality and had gone home. I began to look around, to see if I could not find someone. There was no evidence of anyone living there, just those great, beautiful trees in front of me and the wonderful lake behind me.

I began to explore, and soon I found a trail through the woods which seemed to have been used very little, and which was almost obscured by grass. I followed this trail, and after I had walked for some time and had traveled a considerable distance through the forest, I saw a man coming towards me. I became aware that he was a very large man, and I hurried my steps to reach him, because I recognized him as my grandfather [George A. Smith]. In mortality he weighed over three hundred pounds, so you may know he was a large man. I remember how happy I was to see him coming. I had been given his name and had always been proud of it.

When Grandfather came within a few feet of me, he stopped. His stopping was an invitation for me to stop. Then . . . he looked at me very earnestly and said:

"I would like to know what you have done with my name."

Everything I had ever done passed before me as though it were a flying picture on a screen—everything I had done. Quickly this vivid retrospect came down to the very time I was standing there. My whole life had passed before me. I smiled and looked at my grandfather and said:

"I have never done anything with your name of which you need be ashamed."

He stepped forward and took me in his arms, and as he did so, I became conscious again of my earthly surroundings. My pillow was as wet as though water had been poured on it—wet with tears of gratitude that I could answer unashamed.

I have thought of this many times, and I want to tell you that I have been trying, more than ever since that time, to take care of that name. So I want to say . . . : Honor your fathers and your mothers. Honor the names that you bear, because some day you will have the privilege and the obligation of reporting to them (and to your Father in heaven) what you have done with their name.

(George Albert Smith, *Sharing the Gospel with Others*, selected and compiled by Preston Nibley [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1948], p. 111-12.)

Activity:

Have a photo of the children and their grandparents enlarged. Attach to a piece of lightweight cardboard (such as that found on the back of a large notepad). Laminate the photo to the cardboard and use a paper cutter to cut the laminated board into several, various shaped pieces. Put the puzzle together as a family. As they put the puzzle together, talk about what they've done with their grandparents.

(Fay A. Klingler, *The LDS Grandparents' Idea Book*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 2000], p. 78.)

Extras:

- Adopt older neighbors or ward members for grandparents if yours aren't close or are no longer living.
- Have each family member draw a picture or write a letter expressing love for their grandparents. Send them to them.

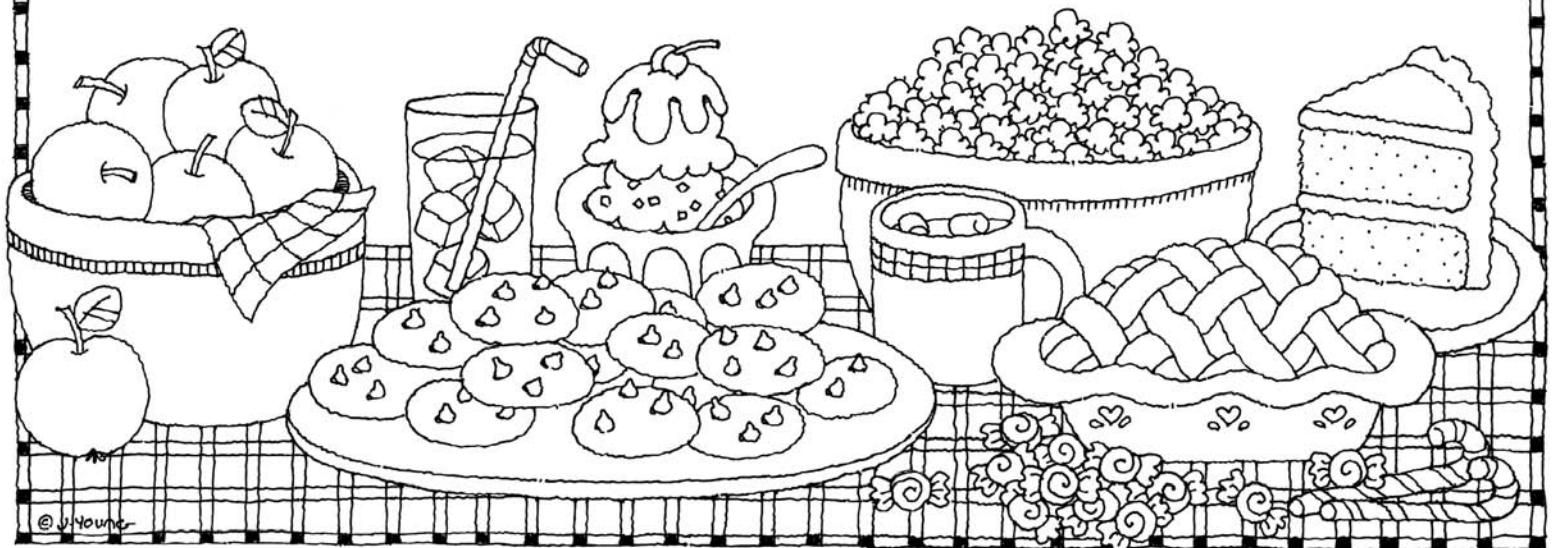
Refreshment

Grandma's Lemon Pie

- 1 6-ounce can lemonade concentrate
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 container whipped topping
- 1 graham cracker crust

Put the lemonade, lemon juice, and milk in a blender. Mix well. Pour into a big bowl and add the whipped topping. Mix well. Pour into a graham cracker crust. Chill in the refrigerator for about three hours.

(Karla C. Erickson, *Kids in the Kitchen*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1980], p. 21.)



clip this coupon and save

20% OFF
AT DESERET BOOK

On this week's selected FHE titles:

Scripture Study for Latter-day Saint Families: The Book of Mormon
The LDS Grandparents' Idea Book

FHE 4909757



expires 6/04/2005