



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Heber J. Grant

Packet #070306

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.

Heber J. Grant

Quote:

“I recall sitting in this tabernacle when I was fourteen or fifteen—up in the balcony right behind the clock—and hearing Heber J. Grant tell of his experience in reading the Book of Mormon when he was a boy. . . . There came into my young heart on that occasion a resolution to try to do what the Lord has commanded.”

(President Gordon B. Hinckley as quoted in Richard Neitzel Holzapfel and William W. Slaughter, *Prophets of the Latter-days*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003], p. 97.)

Song:

“Love One Another,” *Children’s Songbook*, p. 136.

Scripture:

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

(John 13:34–35)

Highlights from the Life of Heber J. Grant:

1856: Born in Salt Lake City

1864: Baptized

1880: Becomes President of the Tooele, Utah Stake

1882: Ordained an Apostle

1901: Dedicates Japan for missionary work

1904–1906: President of Great Britain and European Mission

1918: Becomes President of the Church

1936: Introduces the church welfare program

1938: Introduces the first Deseret Industries Store

1945: Dies in Salt Lake City (age 88)

(Richard Neitzel Holzapfel and William W. Slaughter, *Prophets of the Latter-days*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003], p. 92–3.)

Stories:

[Heber J. Grant’s] mother seems to have convinced him that the word *can't* just didn't exist.

For instance, Heber loved baseball, but he wasn't very strong and couldn't hit or throw the ball far. He was often called “sissy” or “ramrod” on the playground at school. Heber’s long arms and legs caused one boy to refer to him as “that grasshopper dude.” Determined to improve, Heber told his mother, “I’m going to play on the ball team that will win the state championship!”

Heber shined forty pairs of shoes to earn money to buy his own baseball. Then, every evening for months he practiced throwing the ball at the side of a barn. To improve his catching, he hired the hardest thrower in school to pitch “bullets” at him. After hours of practice, his arm ached, but Heber was now strong enough and good enough for the best team. To the surprise of many, but

not his mother, Heber achieved his goal. He played on the Red Stockings team that won the state championship at the end of the season. He became a local hero.

There was another time when Heber showed great determination. Schoolmates teased him for having poor handwriting. “Hentracks!” one boy said. “Lightning has struck the ink bottle” jeered another. Heber vowed to improve. After many hours of practice, he had such beautiful penmanship that people paid him to write holiday and business cards for them. He won a prize for his handwriting and became a professor of penmanship!

(Susan Arrington Madsen, *The Lord Needed a Prophet*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1996], p. 109.)

[When he was grown, Heber] supported good causes with his time and his money. He seldom refused aid to anyone who sought it. And much of his charity was anonymous. He enjoyed paying off the mortgages for friends and widows who were in financial straits. . . . “President Grant was the most liberal and generous man with his personal means that I have ever known,” wrote his long-time secretary, Joseph Anderson. “In fact, I doubt if any have excelled him in this respect. He was a man who thoroughly enjoyed making money, but not for the purpose of accumulating it. His only desire was to have money that he might do good with.”

(Francis M. Gibbons, *Dynamic Disciples, Prophets of God*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1996], p. 172–3.)

When [Heber] went to Joseph F. Smith’s office, he learned that President Smith was golfing. Heber felt that the business at hand could not wait until Joseph F. Smith returned to the Church headquarters, so he decided to track him down at the golf course. When Heber arrived, President Smith sensed that he was upset. “Heber, you are tense and overworked,” he said. “You should learn to play this game.” He was stunned by the suggestion—there was simply too much work and already not enough time to complete it. President Smith continued, “Many times I, myself, get overworked, weary and so tense I can accomplish but little. So I drop everything and come play golf.” He tried to reassure Heber that in the end he was more productive: “There is something about hits game that relaxes me and causes me to forget my anxieties. When I get back to the office I can accomplish more in a few hours than I could in days when I am so tense.”

Heber refuse the offer. . . . Joseph F. Smith spoke with presidential authority: “Heber, I command you to take that club and play out this round with me.”

He then related: “I took to playing golf and learned that President Smith was right. Nothing I can do relaxes me half a much as two hours on the golf course. I can return to the office and unravel problems that seemed unsolvable when I was tired and tense.”

(Richard Neitzel Holzapfel and William W. Slaughter, *Prophets of the Latter-days*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003], p. 92–3.)

Activity:

Play “Frisbee golf.” Provide everyone with a Frisbee (or use actual or toy golf balls and clubs, rocks, or sticks). Pick a different person to be in charge of each “hole.” The person in charge picks an object to be the hole or cup. He establishes par by saying, for example, “I can hit that barrel next to the tree in four throws.” The par is then four.

The person who sets par throws first, trying to hit the object selected. After everyone has had one throw, the person whose Frisbee is closest to the object throws first from where his Frisbee landed. Everyone else takes his turn according to how close the Frisbee is. Play continues in this manner until everyone has hit the object with his Frisbee. Each player’s score is a total of his points above or below the par for each hole. The winner is the person with the lowest score after eighteen holes.

(George and Jeane Chipman, *Games! Games! Games!*, [Salt Lake City: Shadow Mountain, 1983], p. 105.)

Refreshment

President Grant's favorite dessert was Fig Pudding.

Fig Pudding

1/4 cup butter

1/2 cup sugar

1 egg

1 1/2 cups sifted flour

2 cups chopped dried figs

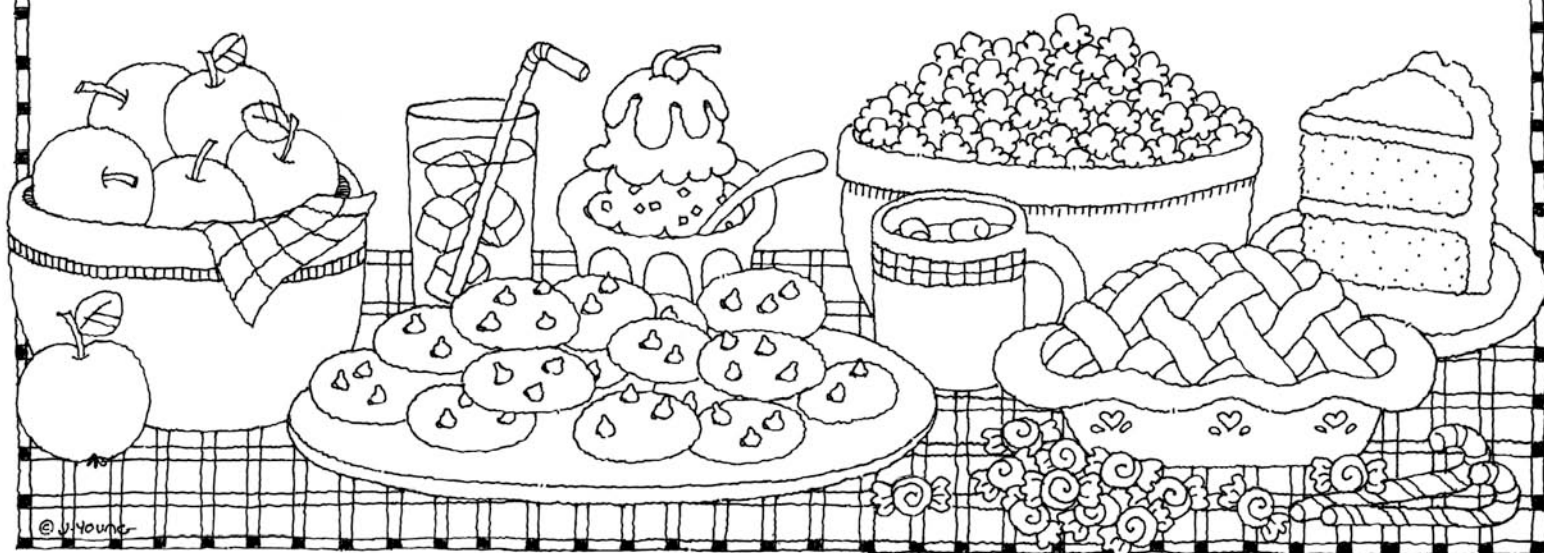
2 teaspoons baking powder

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup milk

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Cream the butter, add the sugar and the well-beaten egg. Take out about 2 tablespoons of the flour and mix with the figs. Sift together the remaining flour and the baking powder and salt and add alternately with the milk to the butter and egg mixture. Stir in the flour-coated figs and add the vanilla. Bake in a greased baking dish for about one hour in a moderate oven (350 degrees F.). Serve hot with lemon sauce or hard sauce to which a little lemon juice has been added.



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