



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Time Management

Packet #010112

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.

Time Management

Conference Talk:

For more information on this topic read “A Time to Prepare,” by Elder Ian S. Ardern, *Ensign*, Nov 2011, 31.

Thought:

The poor use of time is a close cousin of idleness. As we follow the command to “cease to be idle” (D&C 88:124), we must be sure that being busy also equates to being productive.

(Elder Ian S. Ardern, “A Time to Prepare,” *Ensign*, Nov 2011, 31.)

Song:

“Saturday,” *Children’s Songbook*, p. 196

Scripture:

Cease to be idle; cease to be unclean; cease to find fault one with another; cease to sleep longer than is needful; retire to thy bed early, that ye may not be weary; arise early, that your bodies and your minds may be invigorated..

(Doctrine and Covenants 88:124)

Lesson:

Give each family member a clock or watch to hold. On your signal, ask them to watch their clock tick for one minute. Point out how everyone’s clock runs at the same pace. Explain that each of us has twenty-four hours each day, but some people seem to accomplish more than others. Talk about what some people do differently that seems to give them more time.

Ask, “If you were given the next three days to do whatever you wanted—with no obligations or restrictions—how would you spend your time?” After talking about their ideas for a few minutes, remind family members that although we seldom have such an opportunity, we do have much freedom in choosing how we spend our time. Ask, “When you think about how to spend your time, what most affects your decisions?”

Have a family member read the section heading for D&C 73. Then read aloud the historical background below.

On December 1, 1831, the Lord commanded Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon to preach the gospel in the regions surrounding Kirtland, addressing negative things enemies of the Church had said and written. (See D&C 71.) They returned from this brief mission the second week of January and awaited a conference that had been planned for January 25 in Amherst, Ohio (about fifty miles west of Kirtland). As the Prophet considered how to best spend his time prior to the conference, he received the revelation recorded in D&C 73.

Ask:

- Based on this background, what appears to be one way Joseph Smith decided how to best use his time? (Seeking the Lord in prayer.)
- In response to the Prophet’s request, what did the Lord counsel him in D&C 73:1–6 about how to spend the next two weeks?
- What could this instruction teach you about important ways to spend your time?

Encourage your family to regularly seek the counsel of the Lord and His prophets as they decide how to best use their time—always being sure to make time for things of greatest value.

Share the following statements from Elder Neal A. Maxwell:

“How we spend our time is at least as good a measure of us as how we spend our money. An inventory of how we spend our disposable time will tell us where our treasure is.” (*Notwithstanding My Weakness*, 116–17.)

“Time, unlike some material things, cannot be recycled.” (*A Time to Choose*, 13.)

(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. 152.)

Story:

Elder Elray L. Christiansen

I think of a man they told me about in one of the stakes I was in not long ago. You know how we go out and try to activate the inactive, bring them along, get them to attend church meetings while time lasts. A president of an elders quorum told this story of a man whom they had called on many times, a good man who had good intentions. He welcomed them to his home, listened to them, and he would usually say, “Well, I will. I intend to. I will do it. I will come to church when I get straightened out.”

Then they would go back another time. The same story, “Well, when I get straightened out, I’ll come to church.”

Then the elders president said, “I was called on to speak at that man’s funeral. He was in church all right, and he was surely straightened out.”

But along the way he had lost a lot of the precious opportunities that time could have provided him in the way of preparation.

It seems to me that life is a series of chapters, and chapters have a way of ending. Your time at the BYU will end. This school year will end. You will leave feeling that your time here has been used wisely, or you will leave with some misgivings about time being unprofitably used. Now we must have recreation and fun and diversion, but it also should be planned, scheduled—and not overdone.

(Leon R. Hartshorn, *Outstanding Stories by General Authorities*, vol. 3, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Company, 1974].)

Activity:

Play freeze tag.

Choose one person to be “it.” “It” chases other family members until they tag them. Once someone has been touched, that person must stop running and remain in the position they were in when they were tagged; in other words they have to “freeze.”

If you are not “it” you can unfreeze other players by touching them as you run by.

Continue the game until everyone is frozen. The last person to be tagged becomes “it.”

Refreshment

Chocolate Mint Cookies

Chocolate and mint are a winning combination.

1 (18.25-ounce) package devil's food cake mix

2 eggs

½ cup oil

Heat oven to 350° F.

In a large bowl, combine cake mix, eggs, and oil. Knead to make dough. Roll into 1-inch balls. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten slightly. Bake 8 to 10 minutes. Cool.

Frosting

1 (3-ounce) package cream cheese, softened

¼ cup butter or margarine, softened

1 tablespoon hot water

3 cups powdered sugar

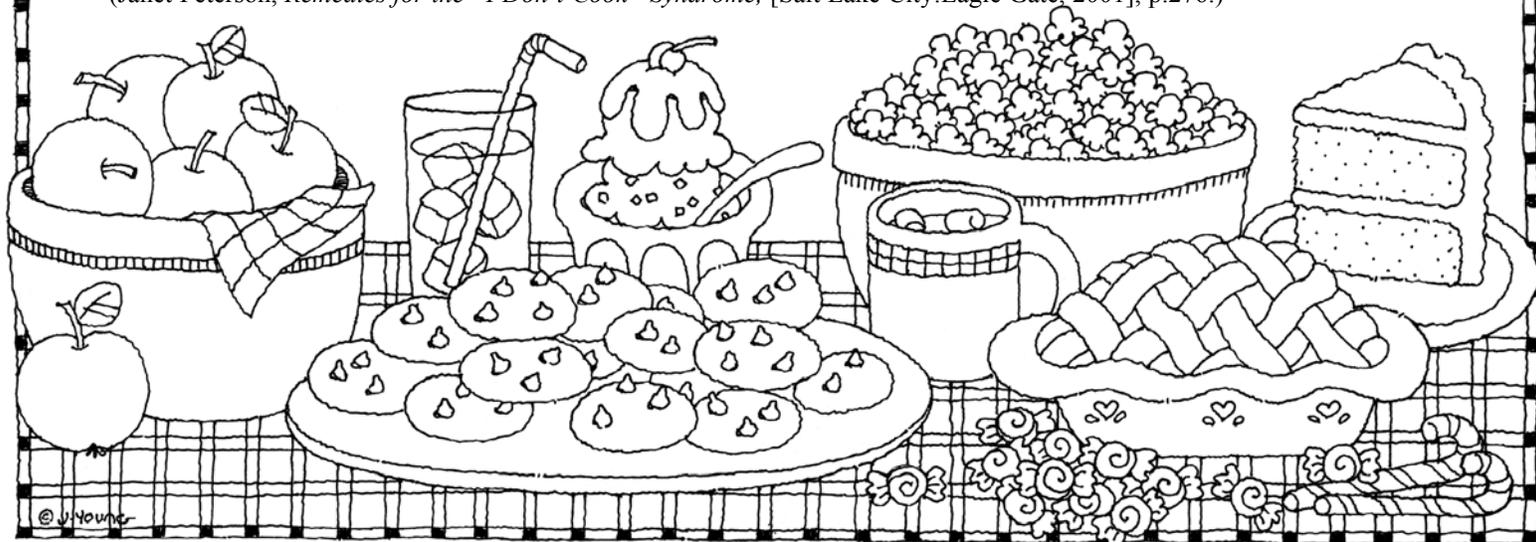
½ teaspoon mint extract (more if desired)

3 to 4 drops green food coloring

Mix cream cheese, butter, water, and powdered sugar in a large bowl until smooth. Add mint extract and food coloring. Mix. Frost cookies.

Makes 2 to 2½ dozen cookies.

(Janet Peterson, *Remedies for the "I Don't Cook" Syndrome*, [Salt Lake City:Eagle Gate, 2001], p.276.)



clip this coupon and save

20% OFF
AT DESERET BOOK

On this week's selected FHE titles:

The Time-Starved Family
Keep Texting from Taking Over, Talk on CD

Or any regular priced item on Monday
(excludes scriptures, Church distributed items and Willow Tree figurines)

FHE 4909757



expires 1/14/2012