



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

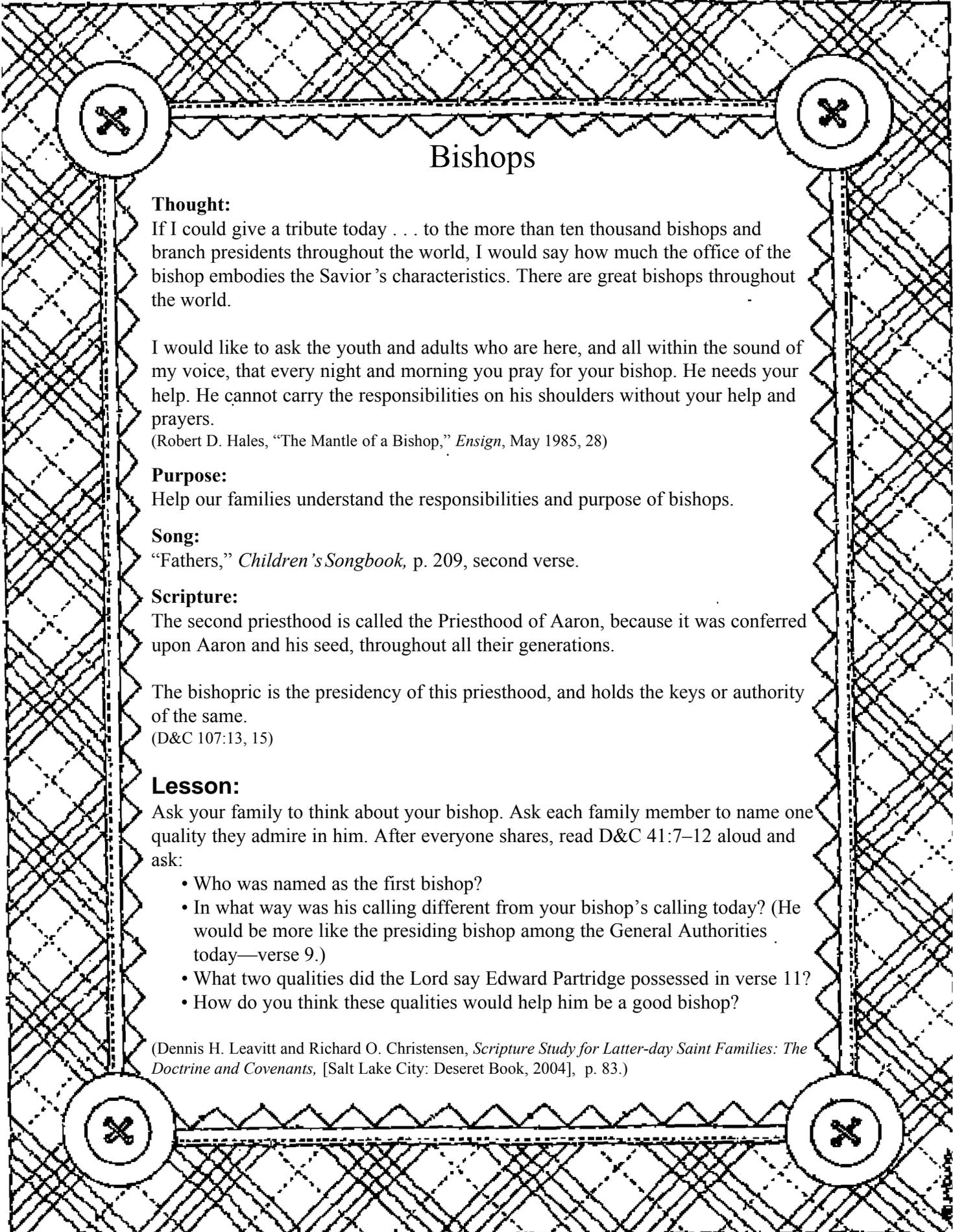
Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Bishops

Packet #090204

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.



Bishops

Thought:

If I could give a tribute today . . . to the more than ten thousand bishops and branch presidents throughout the world, I would say how much the office of the bishop embodies the Savior's characteristics. There are great bishops throughout the world.

I would like to ask the youth and adults who are here, and all within the sound of my voice, that every night and morning you pray for your bishop. He needs your help. He cannot carry the responsibilities on his shoulders without your help and prayers.

(Robert D. Hales, "The Mantle of a Bishop," *Ensign*, May 1985, 28)

Purpose:

Help our families understand the responsibilities and purpose of bishops.

Song:

"Fathers," *Children's Songbook*, p. 209, second verse.

Scripture:

The second priesthood is called the Priesthood of Aaron, because it was conferred upon Aaron and his seed, throughout all their generations.

The bishopric is the presidency of this priesthood, and holds the keys or authority of the same.

(D&C 107:13, 15)

Lesson:

Ask your family to think about your bishop. Ask each family member to name one quality they admire in him. After everyone shares, read D&C 41:7–12 aloud and ask:

- Who was named as the first bishop?
- In what way was his calling different from your bishop's calling today? (He would be more like the presiding bishop among the General Authorities today—verse 9.)
- What two qualities did the Lord say Edward Partridge possessed in verse 11?
- How do you think these qualities would help him be a good bishop?

(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. 83.)

Story:

Leaving the Team Standing

Years ago I served on a stake high council with Emery Wight. For ten years Emery had served as bishop of rural Harper Ward. His wife, Lucille, became our stake Relief Society president.

Lucille told me that one spring morning a neighbor called at her back door and asked for Emery. She told him that he was out plowing. The neighbor then spoke with great concern. Earlier that morning he had passed the field and noticed Emery's team of horses standing in a half-finished furrow with the reins draped over the plow. Emery was nowhere in sight. The neighbor thought nothing of it until much later when he passed the field again, and the team had not moved. He climbed the fence and crossed the field to the horses. Emery was nowhere to be found. He hurried to the house to check with Lucille.

Lucille calmly replied, "Oh, don't be alarmed. No doubt someone is in trouble and came to get the bishop."

The image of that team of horses standing for hours in the field symbolizes the dedication of the bishops in the Church and of the counselors who stand by their side. Every bishop and every counselor, figuratively speaking, leaves his team standing in an unfinished furrow when someone needs help.

(Boyd K. Packer, *Memorable Stories With a Message*, [Salt Lake City, Deseret Book, 2001], p. 79–80.)

Activity:

As a family write a thank you note to the bishop. Mention specific things that you appreciate about him. Let the younger children color a picture for him to go along with the letter. Make a treat (such as the Pumpkin Bread recipe included on the next page) and take it and the notes to the bishop.

Extras:

- Discuss who you give tithing and fast offering funds to, and what he uses them for.
- Do a service project for your bishop by doing some yard work or handyman jobs for him.

Refreshment

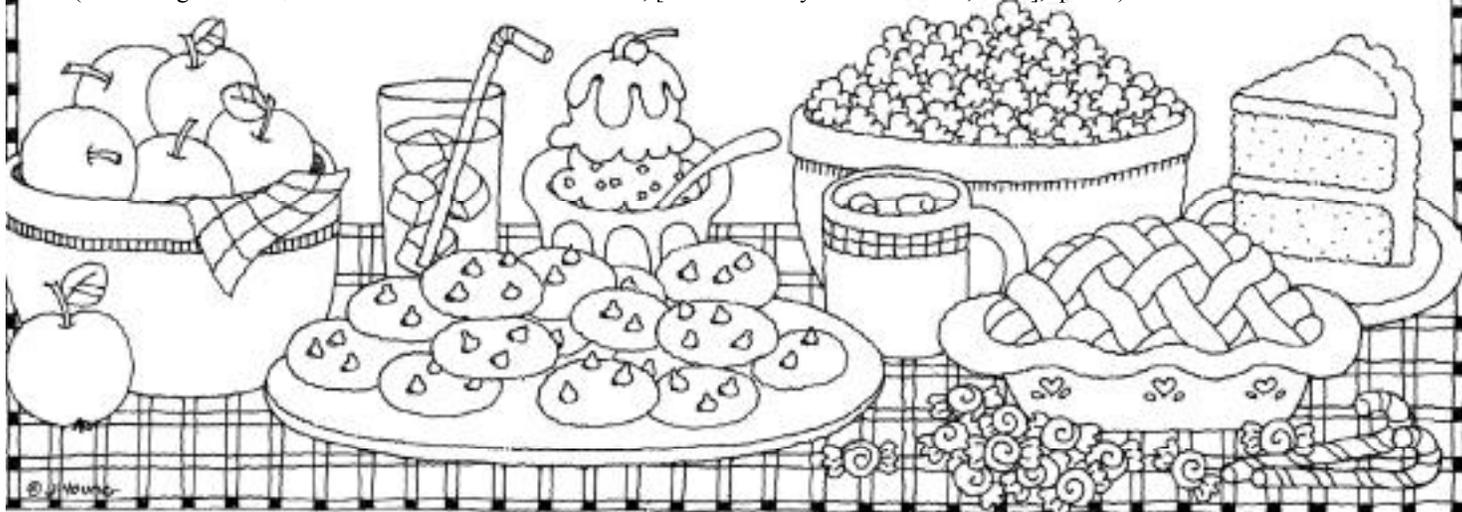
Pumpkin Bread

This is a fun treat to share with neighbors.

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup canned pumpkin
- 1 3/4 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 3/4 cup chocolate chips
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans (optional)

Cream butter, sugar, and eggs. Add pumpkin and mix; set aside. In another bowl sift dry ingredients. Gradually add dry ingredients to creamy mixture. Beat until blended. Add chocolate chips and pecans, if desired. Grease one loaf pan or four mini loaves. Pour batter into pans. For one loaf, bake at 350° F. for about 1 hour or until inserted toothpick comes out clean. For mini loaves, bake at 350° F. for about 35 to 40 minutes. Makes one loaf or four mini loaves.

(Julie Badger Jensen, *The Essential Mormon Cookbook*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2004], p. 90.)



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