



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

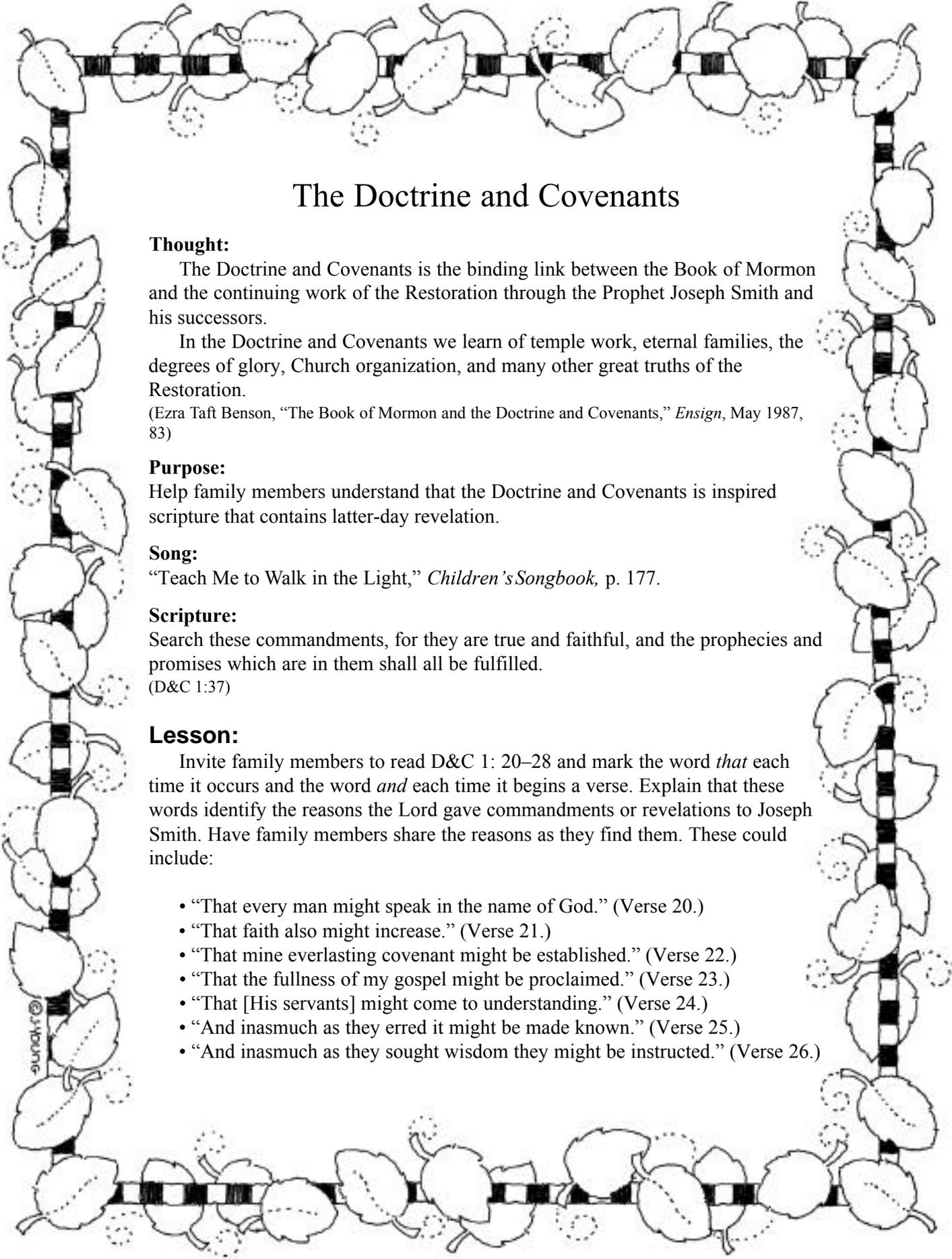
Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: The Doctrine and Covenants

Packet #100204

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.



The Doctrine and Covenants

Thought:

The Doctrine and Covenants is the binding link between the Book of Mormon and the continuing work of the Restoration through the Prophet Joseph Smith and his successors.

In the Doctrine and Covenants we learn of temple work, eternal families, the degrees of glory, Church organization, and many other great truths of the Restoration.

(Ezra Taft Benson, "The Book of Mormon and the Doctrine and Covenants," *Ensign*, May 1987, 83)

Purpose:

Help family members understand that the Doctrine and Covenants is inspired scripture that contains latter-day revelation.

Song:

"Teach Me to Walk in the Light," *Children's Songbook*, p. 177.

Scripture:

Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.

(D&C 1:37)

Lesson:

Invite family members to read D&C 1: 20–28 and mark the word *that* each time it occurs and the word *and* each time it begins a verse. Explain that these words identify the reasons the Lord gave commandments or revelations to Joseph Smith. Have family members share the reasons as they find them. These could include:

- "That every man might speak in the name of God." (Verse 20.)
- "That faith also might increase." (Verse 21.)
- "That mine everlasting covenant might be established." (Verse 22.)
- "That the fullness of my gospel might be proclaimed." (Verse 23.)
- "That [His servants] might come to understanding." (Verse 24.)
- "And inasmuch as they erred it might be made known." (Verse 25.)
- "And inasmuch as they sought wisdom they might be instructed." (Verse 26.)

- “And inasmuch as they sinned they might be chastened, that they might repent.” (Verse 27.)
- “And inasmuch as they were humble they might be made strong, and blessed from on high, and receive knowledge from time to time.” (Verse 28.)

(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. 2-3.)

Story:

Saving the Book of Commandments

(Mary Elizabeth Rollins Lightner)

When the mob [at Independence, Missouri, in 1833] was tearing down the printing office, a two story building [in which the Book of Commandments was being printed], driving Brother [William W.] Phelps’ family out of the lower part of the house, they (the mob) brought out some large sheets of paper, saying, “Here are the Mormon commandments.” My sister [Caroline], 12 years old (I was then 14) and myself were in a corner of a fence watching them. When they spoke about them being the commandments, I was determined to have some of them. So while their backs were turned, prying out the gable end of the house, we ran and gathered up all we could carry in our arms. As we turned away, two of the mob got down off the house and called for us to stop, but we ran as fast as we could, through a gap in the fence into a large corn field, and the two men after us. We ran a long way in the field, laid the papers on the ground, then laid down on top of them. The corn was very high and thick. They hunted all around us, but did not see us. After we were satisfied they had given up the search, we tried to find our way out of the field. The corn was so tall we thought we were lost. On looking up we saw some trees that had been girdled to kill them. We followed them and came to an old log stable, which looked like it had not been used for years. Sister Phelps and family were there, carrying in brush and piling it up on one side of the stable to make their beds on. She asked us what we had. We told her and also how we came by them. She took them and placed them between her beds. Subsequently Oliver Cowdery bound them in small books and gave me one.

(as quoted in Jack M. Lyon, Linda Ririe Gundry, and Jay A. Parry, *Best-Loved Stories of the LDS People*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1997], p. 191.)

Activity:

D&C Detective

This is a scavenger hunt that takes place throughout the house.

When you have decided where to place the clues throughout the house, then use your scriptures to create anywhere from five to ten clues, depending on the length of time you have for the activity. Tape the clues in inconspicuous places.

To start, each family member receives a card that provides a clue of where they are to go next. Once they figure out the clue, they use the directions to find their next clue card, and so on until they arrive at the final destination. The clues will be something that team members have to find from using the Doctrine and Covenants. This can be done by looking up references for separate words, for example: D&C 1:31, sixth word (look); D&C 10:65, thirteenth word (under); D&C 133:64, twenty-first word (oven); D&C 107:35, twelfth word (door). Hide the treat or another treasure in the final place.

(adapted from Clark L. and Kathryn H. Kidd, Kent D. and Shannon Pugmire, *Ward Activities for the Clueless*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 2001], p. 165.)

Extras:

- Review the chronological order of the Doctrine and Covenants in the front of the book.
- Have a mini-golf scripture activity. Each family member has to answer a scripture question before they can putt a golf ball into a paper cup taped to the floor.

(Dennis Wright, *Scripture Power: Helping Kids Love the Scriptures*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 2002], p. 42.)

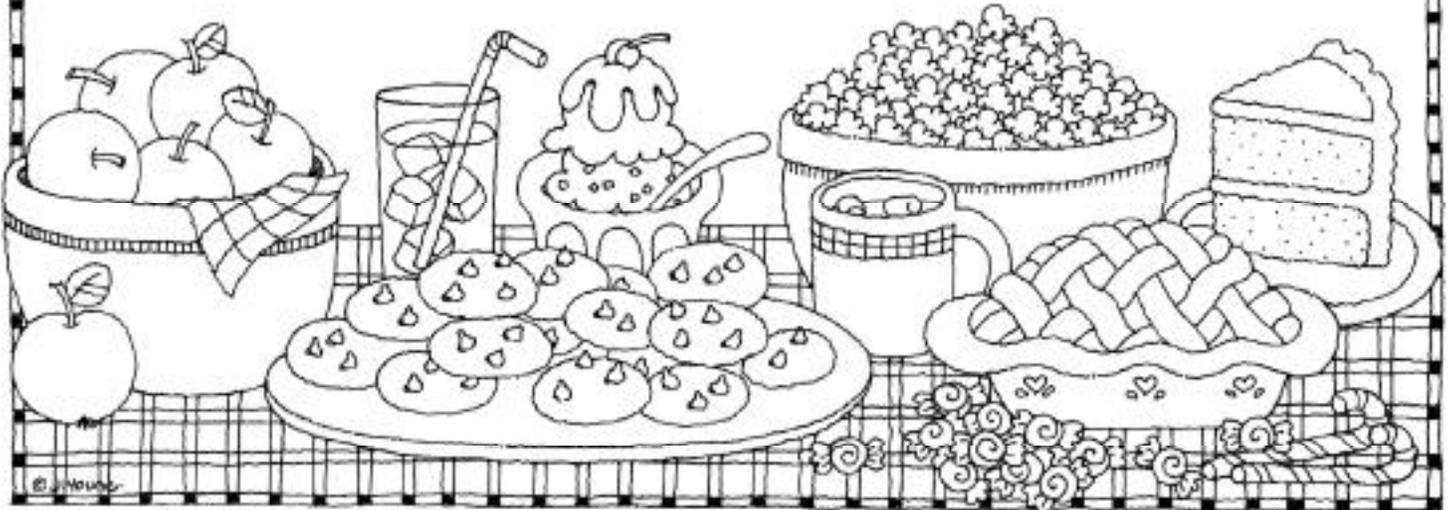
Refreshment

Pink Angel Dessert

- 1/2 large angel food or chiffon cake, torn in medium pieces
- 1 3 oz. package strawberry gelatin
- 1 1/4 cups boiling water
- 1 8 oz. package frozen, sliced, sweetened strawberries
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 dash salt
- 1 12 oz. carton frozen whipped topping

In a 9 x 13-inch pan place half of the cake pieces. Dissolve gelatin in 1 1/4 cups boiling water. Stir in strawberries, sugar, and salt. Cool until gelatin becomes thick and syrupy. fold in whipped cream. Pour half of this mixture over the cake pieces in the pan. Place the remainder of the cake in the pan and pour the rest of the strawberry mixture over it. Refrigerate for 1 hour or until it is set. Makes 15 servings.

(*Lion House Weddings*, [Salt Lake City: Eagle Gate, 2003], p. 77.)



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