



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®

Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Prophets

Packet #090404

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.



Prophets

Thought:

Doctrinal truth comes not through the exploration of scholars but through the revelations of God to apostles and prophets. And if such a position be labeled as narrow, . . . or anti-intellectual, then so be it. I cast my lot with the prophets.

(Robert L. Millet, *Getting at the Truth*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2004], p.42.)

Purpose:

Help family members understand that a prophet is called of God and that following his words will help us return to Heavenly Father.

Song:

“We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet,” *Hymns*, 19.

Scripture:

We believe in the same organization that existed in the Primitive Church, namely, apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists, and so forth.

(Article of Faith 6)

Lesson:

Obtain six pictures: Noah, Isaiah, Lehi, Daniel, Samuel the Lamanite, and the current Church President.

Hold the first picture. Identify the prophet, talk about his picture, and proceed similarly with the other pictures.

1. Noah: Told the people to repent and live the commandments or Heavenly Father would punish them.
2. Isaiah: Foresaw the birth of the Savior.
3. Lehi: Preached to the people and told them to follow the commandments or Jerusalem would be destroyed.
4. Daniel: Interpreted nebuchadnezzar’s dream when no one else could.
5. Samuel the Lamanite: Foretold the birth of Christ to the Nephite people.

Tell your family members that these prophets were very spiritual men. They loved the Savior and tried to help the people learn about him. Sometime the people listened to what the prophet said and sometimes they did not. When a prophet said something would happen, it happened. Heavenly Father helped them know about future events. This is called revelation.

Ask, who is our prophet today? (Show the Church President’s picture.) what has he asked us to do? (Read the Book of Mormon, obey our parents, etc.) Tell your family that when we hear a prophet speak to us it’s as though Heavenly Father is speaking to us. If we obey the words of a prophet, we will find happiness in all that we do and we will be able to follow Jesus.

(Beth Lefgren and Jennifer Jackson, *Sharing Time, Family Time, Anytime*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1992], p.20–21.)

Stories:

Gordon's Patriarchal Blessing

The year Gordon turned eleven, he received his patriarchal blessing. Despite his health problems and small size, he was told, in part, "Thou shalt grow to the full stature of manhood and shall become a mighty and valiant leader in the midst of Israel. . . . The nations of the earth shall hear thy voice and be brought to a knowledge of the truth." At the time, he thought that meant he would be a missionary.

(Lynda Cory Robinson, *Boys Who Became Prophets*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1998], p. 90.)

Gordon B. Hinckley Becomes Prophet

After the loving funeral services for President Howard W. Hunter came to an end, Gordon B. Hinckley sought solitude in the temple to prepare for the considerable weight of the mantle of the prophet. He secured himself in the room where the First Presidency and the Twelve meet. He read from the scriptures and reflected upon the paintings depicting the calling of the Twelve, the crucifixion, and the resurrection. He pondered the portraits of Joseph and Hyrum Smith and the paintings of all the latter-day prophets from Brigham Young to Howard W. Hunter. His journal, dated March 9, 1995, reads: "I walked around in front of these portraits and looked into the eyes of the men there represented. I felt almost as if I could speak with them. I felt almost as if they were speaking to me and giving me reassurance. . . I felt that they were encouraging me and pledging their support. . . . that I had no need to fear, that I should be blessed and sustained in my ministry. I got on my knees and pleaded with the Lord. I spoke with Him at length in prayer."

(Richard Neitzel Holzapfel and William W. Slaughter, *Prophets of the Latter Days*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003], p. 208.)

Activity:

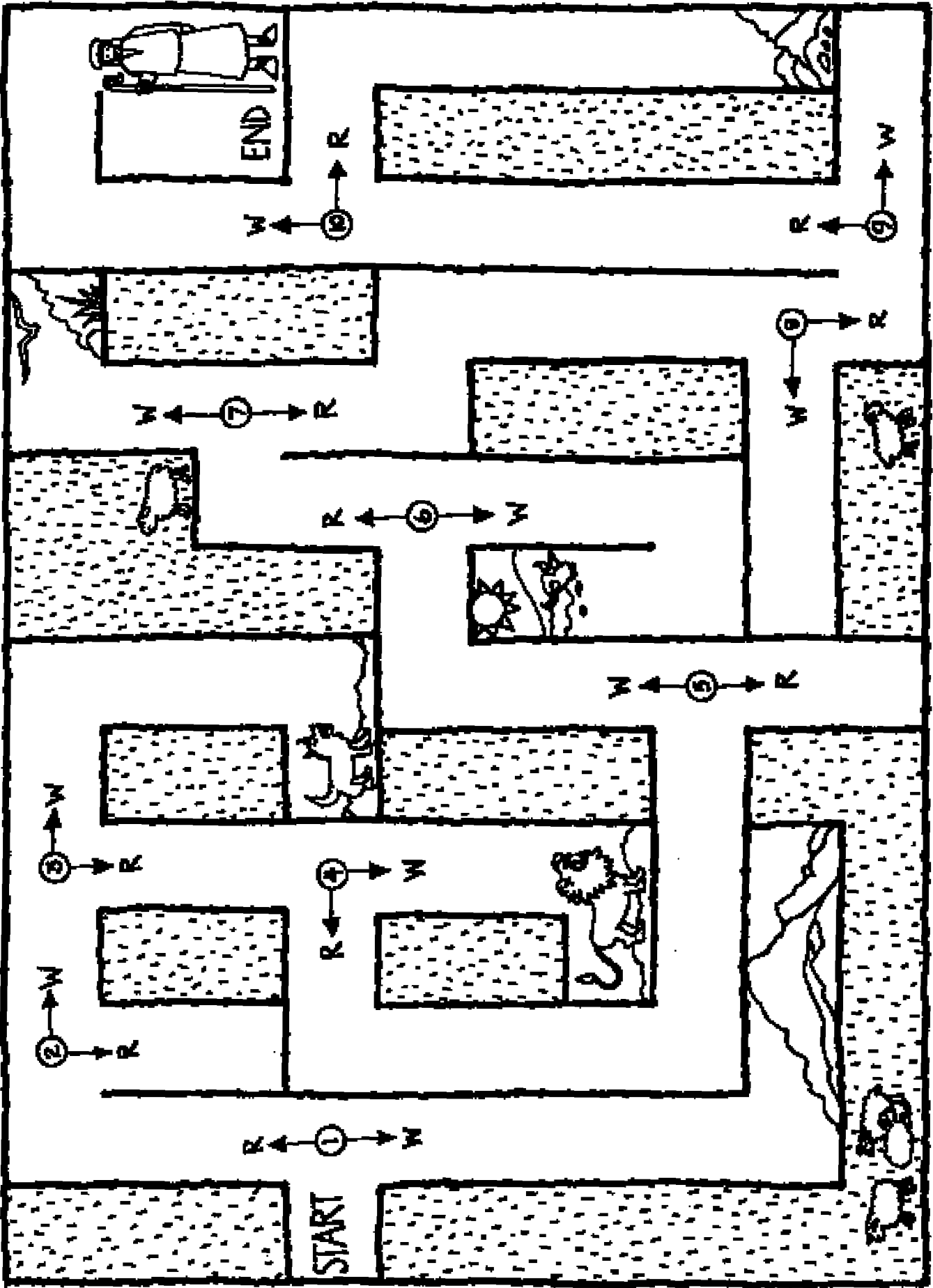
Tell your family they are now going to pretend they they are the sheep traveling through a maze. (See next page.) The sheep must follow the shepherd in order to make it out safely.

To go through the maze, read the following statements. Have your family members respond to the statements by saying "right" or "wrong." Follow the direction of their response (R=right, W=wrong), tracing their route with a felt-tip pen. When all the questions are answered correctly you will arrive safely at the end of the maze.

1. The Spirit tells the patriarch what to say in our patriarchal blessing. Right or Wrong?
2. A calling to be a patriarch lasts seven years. Right or Wrong?
3. Teachers warn us of evil. Right or Wrong?
4. Teachers invite all to come to Christ. Right or Wrong?
5. A bishop is a leader of a stake. Right or Wrong?
6. A pastor is another name for a bishop. Right or Wrong?
7. The prophet usually speaks to us during general conference. Right or Wrong?
8. The prophet is the president of the Church. Right or Wrong?
9. Apostles are called to be special witnesses of Jesus Christ. Right or Wrong?
10. There are twenty-four apostles. Right or Wrong?

Testify that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and the leaders he calls receive instructions from him. When we listen to the words of the prophet we will find safety.

(Christena C. Nelson and Shauna Mooney Kawasaki, *Sharing the Articles of Faith*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1994], p. 27–28.)



Extras:

- Review the six Bs President Hinckley taught in November 2000 *Ensign*.

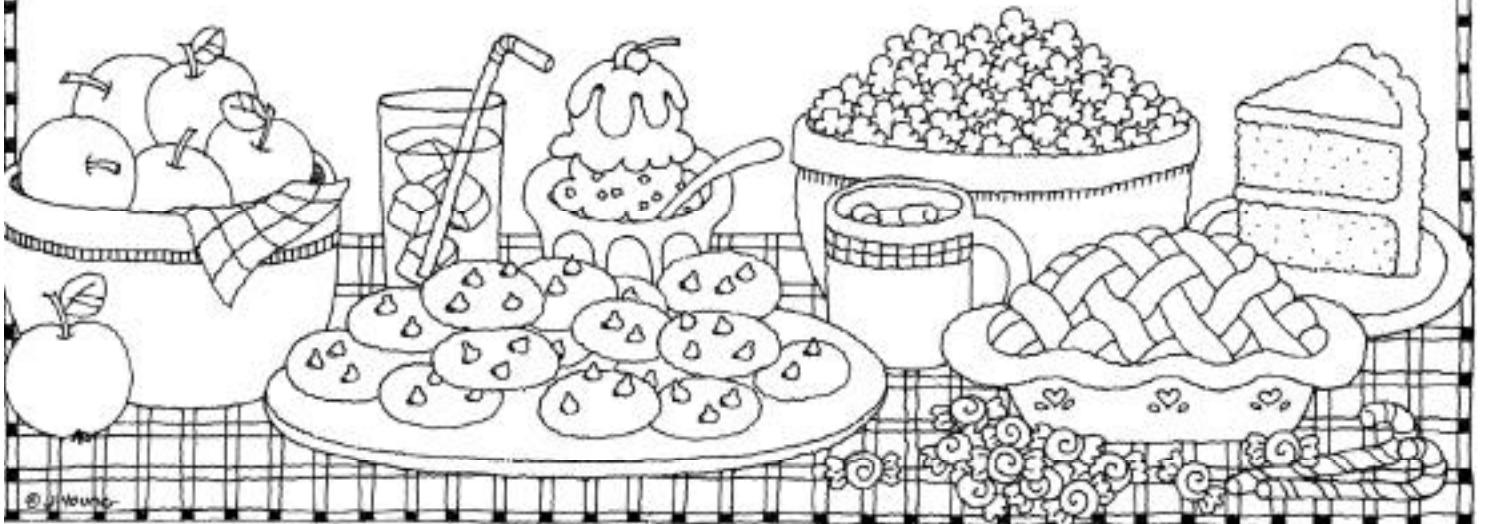
Refreshment

Spencer W. Kimball's Raspberry Cheesecake

- 1 3-ounce package lemon gelatin
- 1 cup hot water
- 1 cup evaporated milk, chilled and whipped
- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1/2 cup butter
- 28 graham crackers, crushed
- 1 cup whipping cream, whipped and sweetened
- 1 to 2 cups fresh or frozen raspberries

In a mixer bowl dissolve gelatin in hot water; cool and blend in whipped evaporated milk. In a separate bowl, beat cream cheese with sugar. Gently combine gelatin mixture with cream cheese mixture; fold in lemon juice. In another bowl, melt butter and combine with cracker crumbs. Place half of crumbs on bottom of 9x13-inch pan. Pour gelatin/cream cheese mixture on top and sprinkle with remaining crumbs. Chill at least 3 hours to set. Serve with whipped cream and raspberries. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

(*Lion House Desserts*, [Salt Lake City: Eagle Gate, 2000], p.14.)



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