



strengthening
our home
and family

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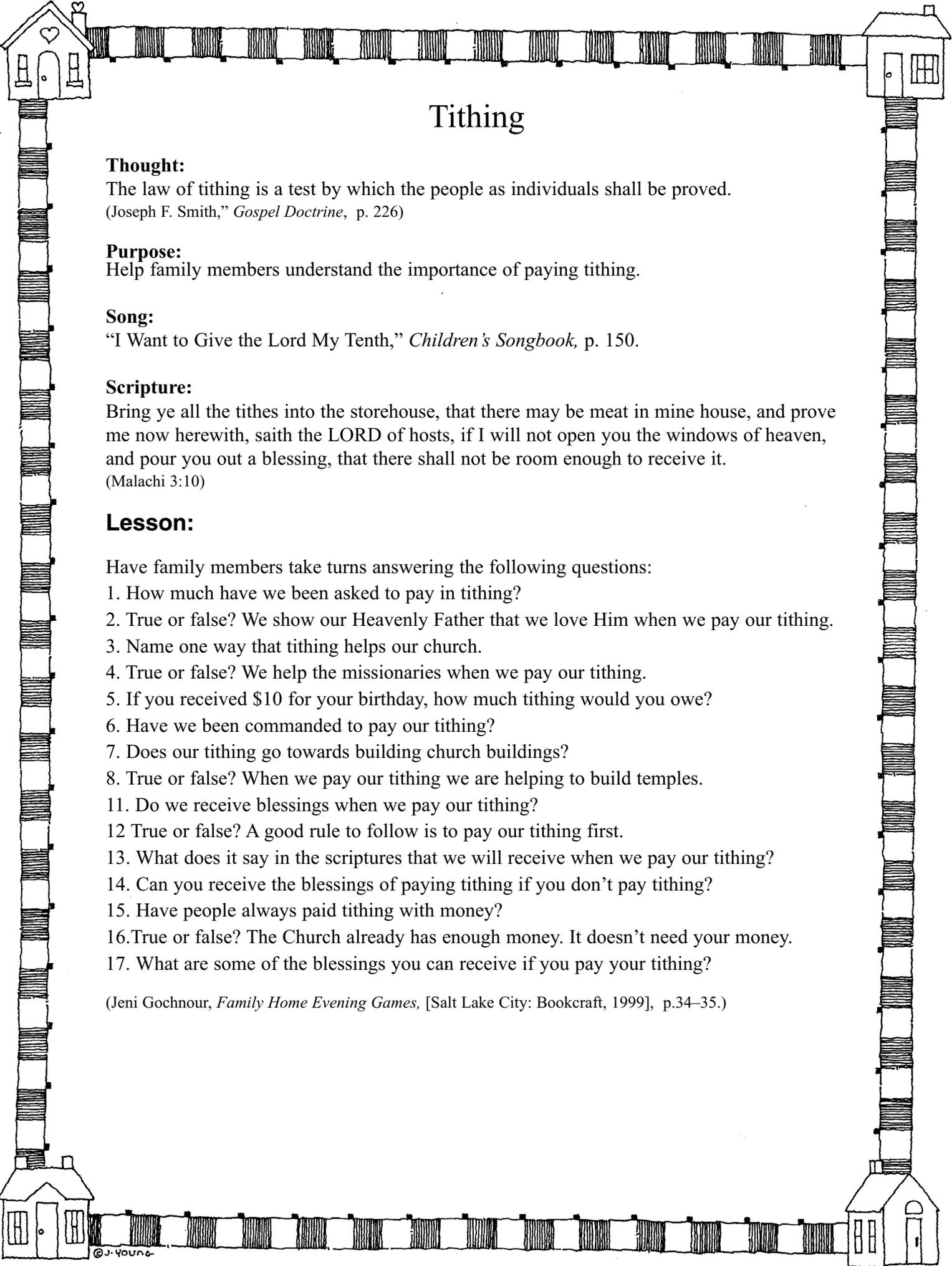
Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Tithing

Packet #110504

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.



Tithing

Thought:

The law of tithing is a test by which the people as individuals shall be proved.
(Joseph F. Smith, " *Gospel Doctrine*, p. 226)

Purpose:

Help family members understand the importance of paying tithing.

Song:

"I Want to Give the Lord My Tenth," *Children's Songbook*, p. 150.

Scripture:

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.
(Malachi 3:10)

Lesson:

Have family members take turns answering the following questions:

1. How much have we been asked to pay in tithing?
2. True or false? We show our Heavenly Father that we love Him when we pay our tithing.
3. Name one way that tithing helps our church.
4. True or false? We help the missionaries when we pay our tithing.
5. If you received \$10 for your birthday, how much tithing would you owe?
6. Have we been commanded to pay our tithing?
7. Does our tithing go towards building church buildings?
8. True or false? When we pay our tithing we are helping to build temples.
11. Do we receive blessings when we pay our tithing?
12. True or false? A good rule to follow is to pay our tithing first.
13. What does it say in the scriptures that we will receive when we pay our tithing?
14. Can you receive the blessings of paying tithing if you don't pay tithing?
15. Have people always paid tithing with money?
16. True or false? The Church already has enough money. It doesn't need your money.
17. What are some of the blessings you can receive if you pay your tithing?

(Jeni Gochnour, *Family Home Evening Games*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1999], p.34-35.)

Story:

The Best Stand of Hay

As a boy, I learned a great lesson of faith and sacrifice as I worked on my grandfather's farm during the terrible economic depression of the 1930s. The taxes on the farm were unpaid, and Grandfather, like so many, had no money. There was a drought in the land, and some cows and horses were dying for lack of grass and hay. One day when we were harvesting what little hay there was in the field, Grandfather told us to take the wagon to the corner of the field where the best stand of hay was, fill the wagon as full as we could, and take it to the tithing yard as payment of his tithing.

I wondered how Grandfather could use the hay to pay tithing when some of the cows that we were depending upon to sustain us might starve. I even questioned if the Lord expected that much sacrifice. Ultimately I marveled at his great faith that somehow the Lord would provide. The legacy of faith he passed on to his posterity was far greater than money, because he established in the minds of his children and grandchildren that he loved the Lord and His holy work more than earthly things. Grandfather never became wealthy, but he died at peace with the Lord and with himself.

(James E. Faust, *Stories From My Life*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2001], p. 4–5.)

Activity:

Tithing Toss

You will need three buckets or containers and beanbags, rolled socks, small balls, or something similar to toss into the buckets. Make circular “coin pieces” out of card stock in various denominations.

Each bucket should have a money piece in the bottom to indicate the value of the bucket. Keep secret the value of each bucket. Give the player three beanbags to toss. When he or she has tossed the three beanbags, total up the dollar value. Have that person figure out how much tithing they need to pay on the amount they “earned.” Change the money pieces after each turn so that each bucket's value remains a secret.

Extras:

- Decorate a tithing box or envelope for each child.
- Have your family members memorize the following poem:

What is tithing?

I will tell you every time.

Ten cents from a dollar,

And a penny from a dime.”

(as quoted by James E. Faust, “Opening the Windows of Heaven,” *Friend*, Oct. 2000, inside front cover)

Refreshment

Peanut Butter Fudge

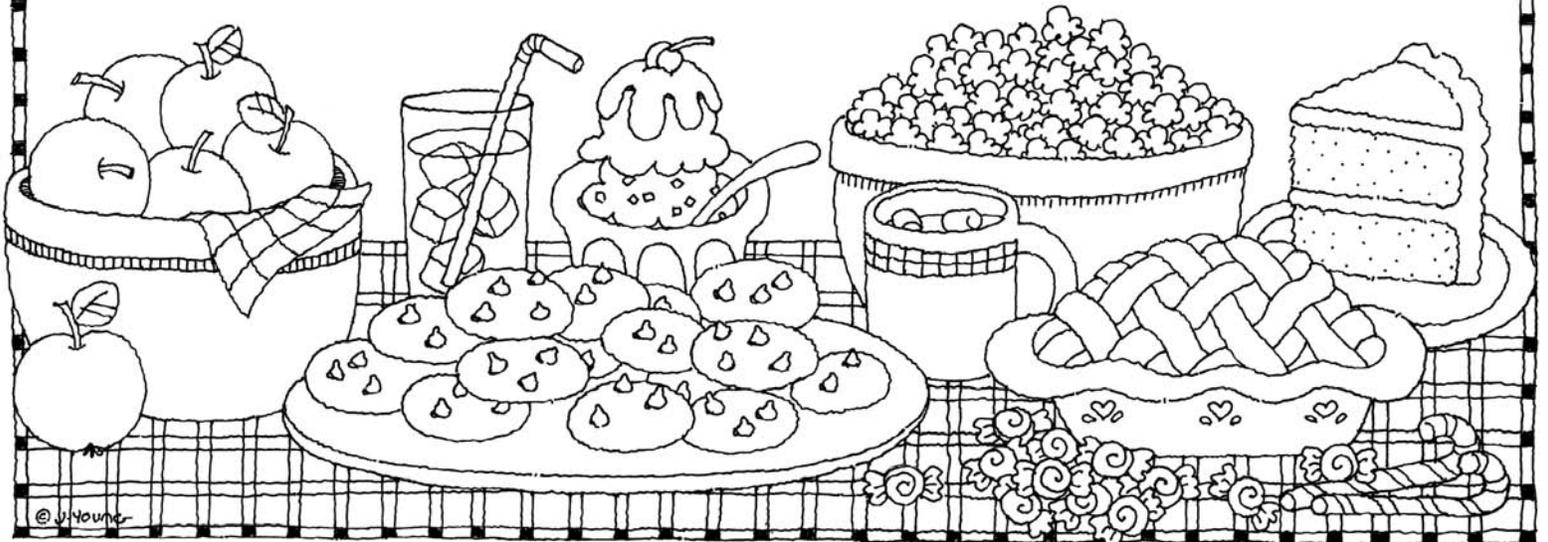
(Wayne Owens)

3 c. sugar
1 c. cocoa
1/2 tsp. salt
2 c. milk
1/2 c. butter
1 Tbs. vanilla
1 (8-oz.) jar chunky peanut butter

Mix sugar, cocoa, and salt in large, non-stick pot. Stir in milk and blend well. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat, allowing it to cook at moderate boil until a tablespoon of fudge forms a ball when dropped into a cup of cold water. Cut up butter into pieces and place in mixing bowl, along with vanilla; then pour fudge over butter. Immerse the bowl in cold water for half an hour; then, while mixture is still warm, beat with electric mixer, while dropping chunky peanut butter into the batter. When it begins to lose its luster and becomes harder to beat, pour it onto a buttered plate and it is ready to be enjoyed.

Serves a medium-sized family.

(Elaine Cannon, compiler, *5 Star Recipes from Well-Known Latter-day Saints*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2003], p.253.)



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