



strengthening
our home
and family

Deseret Book®
Family Home Evening Materials

Theme: Home

Packet #090109

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.

where the branch met. Displayed on the walls of the room in which we assembled were picture after picture of the Salt Lake Temple. I said to Sister Snederfler, "Your husband must truly love the temple."

She responded, "I too. I too."

We sat down for some soup Sister Snederfler had prepared, after which she brought out a treasure trove: an album containing individual pictures of the missionaries who were serving there in 1950 when the government edict came for the mission to be closed. As she slowly leafed through the pictures of different missionaries, she would say, "Wonderful boy. Wonderful boy."

Brother Snederfler had been a courageous Church leader in Czechoslovakia and had been willing to put everything on the line for the gospel. When the opportunity came that we would seek recognition for the Church in that country, the government leaders, then Communist, said, "Don't send an American. Don't send a German. Don't send a Swiss. Send a citizen of Czechoslovakia."

There were ominous implications in that particular statement, because to have admitted that you were a church leader during this period of the prohibition of religion could mean imprisonment. And yet this call came to Brother Snederfler to be the designated person to go before the government and to state forthrightly that he was the leader of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for all of Czechoslovakia and that he was seeking recognition for his church. He later told me that he had been somewhat frightened and had asked for the prayers of his brothers and sisters in the Prague Branch. He went to his sweet wife, Olga, and said to her, "I love you. I don't know when, or if, I'll be back; but I love the gospel, and I must follow my Savior. Pray for me."

With that spirit of faith and devotion, Brother Snederfler went before the government officials and acknowledged that he was the leader of the Church and that he was there to seek a restoration of the recognition the Church had enjoyed long years before.

In the meantime, Elder Russell M. Nelson had been working tirelessly to bring about the desired decision. Later Brother Snederfler heard the good news: "Your church is again recognized in Czechoslovakia." How eager Brother Snederfler was to tell his dear wife and the other stalwart members of the Church the wonderful news that once again missionaries could come to Czechoslovakia and the Church could provide a haven for freedom of worship in that nation. It was a happy day for Czechoslovakia.

In 1991 Jiri and Olga Snederfler responded to their calls to serve as temple president and matron of the Freiberg Germany Temple, which faithful members of the Church in Germany, Czechoslovakia, and surrounding nations attend. These two saintly souls found themselves each day in the Lord's house they so dearly loved.

(Thomas S. Monson, *Inspiring Experiences That Build Faith: From the Life and Ministry of Thomas S. Monson*, [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1994].)

Activity:

For this game you will need a set of children's blocks for stacking. Blocks of different shapes and sizes would be more fun.

Divide the family into two teams. Have the teams alternate in stacking blocks, one block in each turn, on top of each other until the stack of blocks tips over. The team that causes the blocks to tip over receives no points. The other team receives five points. Play a few times.

Play the game over again, but this time have only one team, the whole family working together. When family members do it this way, the stack of blocks should go higher before tipping over.

When we work together, we can "build" a better "house."

(adapted from Allan K. Burgess and Max H. Molgard, *Fun for Family Night: Book of Mormon Edition*, [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1990], p. 59.)

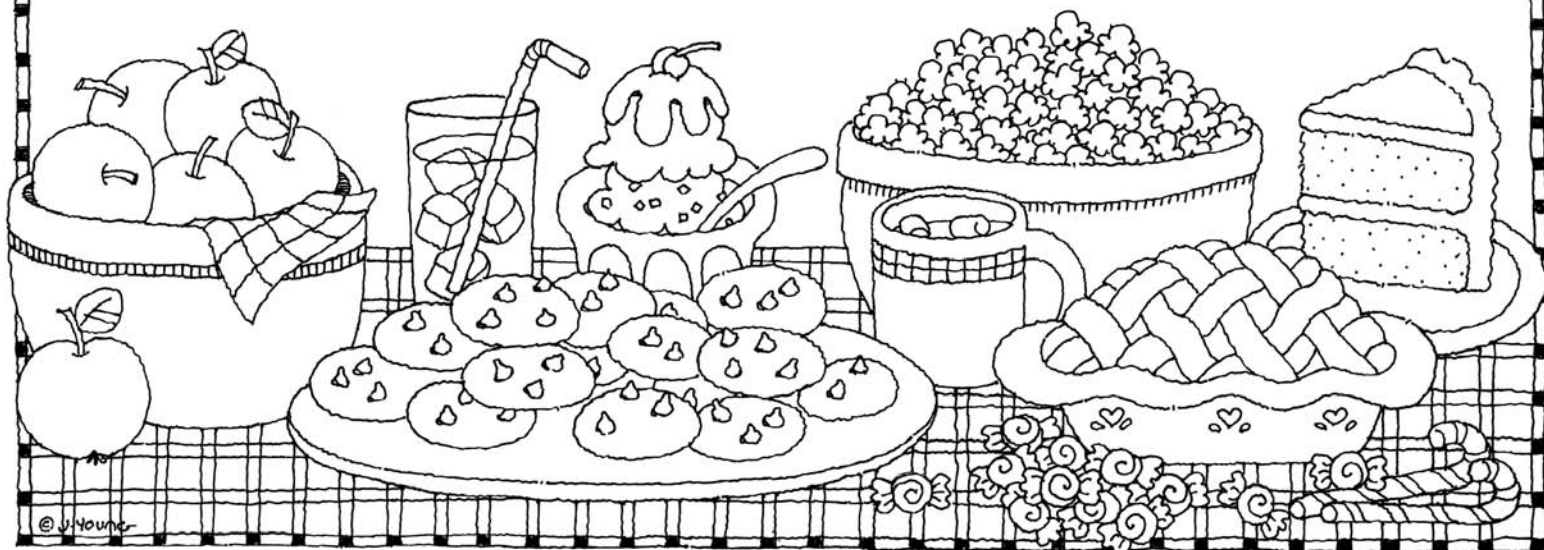
Refreshment

Mark's Famous Honey Candy

2 cups sugar
1/4 cup butter
1/2 cup honey
1/2 cup water
pinch of salt

In a heavy saucepan, combine all ingredients. Cook, stirring constantly, until sugar is dissolved. Then cook over medium-high heat, stirring as little as possible, to 260degrees on candy thermometer, or until a little mixture, dropped into cold water, forms a hard ball. Remove from heat and pour onto buttered shallow pan or platter to cool. When cool enough to handle, pull with buttered fingers until taffy is satin smooth and ropy. Cut into bite-size pieces with buttered scissors, and wrap in wax paper, if desired. Makes 1 1/2 pounds of candy.

(Paula Julander and Joanne Milner, *Utah State Fare*, [Salt Lake City: Shadow Mountain, 1995], p. 69.)



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