



Cookies and a Spirit of Gratitude

Recently my family was talking about how grateful we were for our wonderful neighbors. During our discussion, it was suggested that we take cookies to one of these families to let them know how grateful we were to have them in our lives. We decided to make cookies for all our neighbors as a family home evening activity.

When Monday night came, we made sugar cookies. We decorated



the cookies with sprinkles and frosting and put them in bags adorned with tags and ribbons.

Our children loved helping get the treats ready for delivery. But most of all they enjoyed telling stories and reminiscing about the fond memories we have made with our neighbors over the years.

Family home evening does

so many wonderful things for our family. That week it brought us together in the gospel with a spirit of gratitude for those we love.

Bernadette Carlson, Massachusetts, USA



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HELPS FOR HOME EVENING

“The Peace and Joy of Knowing the Savior Lives,” page 16: The Savior has done more for us than we can possibly comprehend. At this time of year when many people are thinking about giving and receiving gifts, consider asking family members what they can do for the Savior. Read the final paragraphs of the article under the heading “Our Gift to Him.” What does Elder Nelson say is the greatest gift we could give to the Lord?

“Come, Let Us Adore Him,” page 30: Before the lesson prayerfully select the section or sections that best apply to your family. You may wish to share President Monson’s counsel to “never, never, never postpone following a prompting” and discuss with your family the significance of this statement. Consider explaining how the Spirit speaks to us in different ways—sometimes promptings come as a still, small voice, and often they come as a strong feeling or thought. Then ask family members how

they can recognize when the Spirit is speaking to them.

“My Service as a Single Member,” page 34: After reading Sister Burdett’s story, consider discussing the blessings that come from serving in the Church. You could conclude by inviting family members to share a meaningful experience they had while serving in a calling.

SERVING IN THE CHURCH

MY SERVICE AS A SINGLE MEMBER

By Julie Burdett
Trenton, Missouri

When I received a new calling, I was stunned. “Can I do that?” I asked myself.

A few years ago, when I was 20, I moved to Utah from Oregon, USA. After working my way through college, my local family unit, thinking I needed a change from the regular work I had, recommended that I accept a Church calling. I was a member of a women who wanted to be a still, small voice. I had never heard of such a thing. I was excited, but I was nervous. I had never been in a calling before. I was excited, but I was nervous. I had never been in a calling before. I was excited, but I was nervous.

LOVING SERVICE
Sister Burdett is shown with other women in a church setting, serving in a calling.