



and establish a house,

a house of faith,

a house of glory,

prepare every needful thing;

a house of fasting,

a house of God.

Organize yourselves;

even a house of prayer,

a house of learning,

a house of order,

“Mine House Is a House of Order”

BY CHERYL ESPLIN

“Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing; and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God” (D&C 88:119).



The Lord said, “Mine house is a house of order” (D&C 132:8). The temple is the Lord’s house, but our homes can be a house of order too. A house of order is a home where we try to do as Jesus taught. It is a home where we can feel love and peace.

Heavenly Father has given parents the responsibility to teach and care for their children with love and kindness. He has given children the responsibility to obey and honor their parents. Heavenly Father wants every member of the family to work together to make his or her home a happy, peaceful place where the Spirit can be.

Elder Glenn L. Pace of the Seventy told how his youngest daughter helped their family do things the Lord’s way. He said: “She was the one who reminded us to have family prayer. She was the one who tried to get us excited about family home evening. She devised treasure hunts; she fixed treats; she would do anything to try to get the family excited about having family home evening” (“Friend to Friend,” *Friend*, Feb. 1997, 7).

Activity

Remove page F4 from the magazine, and mount it on heavy paper. Cut out the puzzle pieces. Read Doctrine and Covenants 88:119, and then put the puzzle together in the correct word order, matching the verse.

When you have completed the puzzle, say the scripture several times and try to memorize it. Think about things that you can do to help your family have a home like Heavenly Father wants you to have—a home where

you can feel love and peace, a home where you can feel His Spirit.

Sharing Time Ideas

1. *Invite a Primary leader to tell about a time she obeyed her parents. Have her share the consequences. Have the children turn to Colossians 3:20. Explain that this verse was written by Paul, who was an Apostle of Jesus Christ. Before reading the verse together, tell the children to look for answers to these questions: To whom is Paul speaking? What does Paul tell them to do? Read the scripture, and ask for responses. Then ask: What are some of the ways obeying your parents has helped you stay safe or helped you choose the right? Toss a beanbag to several children, and ask them to tell one thing their parents ask them to do that they could obey. Testify of the importance of obeying parents.*

2. *Song presentation: “Building a Family” (2009 Outline for Sharing Time and the Children’s Sacrament Meeting Presentation). Have the children listen to the music a few times. Then play the music again, and have the children tap out the rhythm of the melody notes by lightly tapping their fist into the palm of their other hand to represent hammering like a builder. Find pictures that represent key words of the first verse (see Primary 1 picture packet). Tape or glue each picture to a box. Write the key word on the opposite side of the box. First teach the song by showing the key words. When the children learn a phrase, stack the box as if you are building a house with blocks. When the children can sing the verse all the way through using the key words, put all of the boxes randomly ordered in a line with the pictures facing forward. Sing each phrase, and let the children choose a picture they think matches the phrase. If it matches, have a child put the box back in place to build a house with the picture side showing. Every time the children sing the words “I am a builder,” have them tap their fists to the rhythm. Teach the second verse by cutting a picture of a family into puzzle pieces. On the back of each piece write a key word from each phrase of the second verse. Teach the phrase using the key word. When the children know the phrase, put the piece on the board to show the picture side. Repeat with each piece until they have completed the puzzle of the family. Teach the chorus. ●*