Family Home Evening Ideas

This issue contains articles and activities that could be used for family home evening. The following are some examples.

“Why Was I Not Being Blessed?” page 24: Do any of your family members ever get discouraged because they’re comparing themselves with others? Consider sharing this story of a sister missionary who struggled as she compared her slow progress in learning a language with the faster progress of other missionaries. You may want to discuss the significance of the statement that ultimately helped her: “Just because God is smiling on someone else doesn’t mean He is frowning on you.” Ask family members what they can do to ensure that they don’t fail to recognize the many ways Heavenly Father blesses each of us.

“The Lord Needs You Now!” page 26: You might begin by asking family members what qualities they think make for a good soldier in battle (for some examples, see Alma 53:20–21; 56:46–47; 57:19–21). Then explain that Elder Ballard has invited us to be soldiers in a spiritual battle—a battle that includes fighting against pornography, standing for the divine institution of marriage, and courageously spreading the gospel. To further your understanding of these important issues, you and your family may want to visit and discuss the websites highlighted in the sidebar on page 30.

COOKIES AND CONTESTION

Concerned about the contention in your home, you had a family home evening to encourage our children to each do their part in promoting a more peaceful spirit. We read Helaman 14:30 and 2 Nephi 2:27 and discussed personal accountability for our choices. We then made cookies together, with each person adding an ingredient to the mixing bowl. The cookie dough smelled so yummy that we each took a spoonful and... yuck! I had mistakenly put salt in instead of sugar. I used this happy accident to teach my family that such unpleasant results occur when even one family member makes wrong choices. Even when the children fight, I remind them that they don’t want a more peaceful spirit. We read Helaman 5:1–7 and 2 Nephi 2:27 and discussed personal accountability for our choices. We then made cookies together, with each person adding an ingredient to the mixing bowl. The cookie dough smelled so yummy that we each took a spoonful and... yuck! I had mistakenly put salt in instead of sugar. I used this happy accident to teach my family that such unpleasant results occur when even one family member makes wrong choices. Now whenever the children fight, I remind them that they don’t want to make salty cookies.

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