

“Children Are an Heritage of the Lord”

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“Kneel Down to Pray”

- “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths” (Proverbs 3:5–6).
- Inspiration comes by asking questions such as those asked by Joseph Smith (see Joseph Smith—History 1:10).
- A question to ponder: “What does our presidency need to work on in the next six months to strengthen our Primary?”
- “Don’t Ever Forget to Pray” is found on page 11 of the April 2006 *Friend* magazine.
- “As parents, as teachers, and as leaders in any capacity, we cannot afford to attempt this potentially perilous journey through mortality without heavenly assistance to aid us in guiding those for whom we have responsibility. . . . Kneel down to pray” (Thomas S. Monson, “Heavenly Homes, Forever Families,” *Worldwide Leadership Training Meeting*, Feb. 11, 2006, 20).

“Step Up to Serve”

- “Wherefore, now let every man learn his duty, and to act in the office in which he is appointed, in all diligence” (D&C 107:99).
- Incentives for bringing scriptures: “Please evaluate what you are doing and resist incentives that single out individual children. If you use an incentive, use one where no child is specifically rewarded or faulted. Ultimately, the children will not need any incentive for bringing their scriptures. It will become a gospel habit” (Vicki F. Matsumori, March 2006).
- “Scripture Power” and “Holding Hands Around the World” piano accompaniment: LDS.org>Serving in the Church>Primary>Outline for Sharing Time>Music.
- “When is it appropriate to use a rebus? Remember that children learn very literally. When images are used that do not represent the actual item, it is confusing to children. It works to have the actual image represent the word, such as a picture of a stone for a stone” (Vicki F. Matsumori, March 2006).
- Safeguarding children and youth: A letter from the First Presidency dated February 23, 2006, has been sent to priesthood leaders. Please review its contents with your priesthood leader.
- As leaders, how can our callings bless our families? How do we bring Primary home? Lessons, visuals, music, spiritual experiences.
- “As priesthood and auxiliary leaders, we are entitled to the Lord’s assistance in magnifying our callings and fulfilling our responsibilities. . . . We can think a thought to death, but only when we move upon the thought do we bless human lives” (Thomas S. Monson, *Worldwide Leadership Training Meeting*, Feb. 11, 2006, 20–21).

“Reach Out to Rescue”

- “For children ages 8 to 11, one of our best activation and retention tools is activity days, Scouting, and Faith in God” (Margaret S. Lifferth, March 2006).
- “The purposes of Scouting and Faith in God are the same. That is why they have the potential to work so well together” (Margaret S. Lifferth, March 2006).

- “Scouting can help boys and young men love and serve the Savior and honor their parents. . . . Scouting also assists in accomplishing the eternal purposes of the priesthood and families” (*Scouting Handbook* [1997], 1).
- “The purpose of the *Faith in God* guidebooks is to help boys . . . ages 8–11 live gospel principles, develop testimonies, build friendships, and prepare to receive the Aaronic Priesthood” (*Faith in God for Boys* [guidebook, 2003], 17).
- Story of Jack, a young man who said “I want my own missionary stories” after hearing leaders discuss their missionary experiences at a Scout outing. What stories of activation, conversion, and retention have you experienced?
- How can leaders help spread the vision of a gospel focus to the Scouting program?
- Get trained yourself. Here is an example: How do the Cub Scout Promise and the Cub Scout sign connect to Faith in God? (Basic requirement includes honoring parents = obey; activity requirements of serving others = help other people; 11th Article of Faith = duty to God and my country.)
- Resources for Cub Scouts:
 - BSA: Scouting.org.
 - Church: LDS.org>Serving in the Church>Primary>Primary Activity Days>Scouting in Primary.
- Other ways to help strengthen *Faith in God* and Scouting:
 - Promote priesthood preview.
 - Know the religious awards that are available and their requirements.
 - Recognize importance of 11-year-old Scouts and their leaders.
 - Train Primary and priesthood leaders in wards and stakes.
- “Ours is the responsibility to care for the flock, for the precious sheep, these tender lambs, are everywhere to be found—at home in our own families, in the homes of our extended families, and waiting for us in our Church callings. Jesus is our Exemplar” (Thomas S. Monson, *Worldwide Leadership Training Meeting*, Feb. 11, 2006, 22).

Questions and Answers

- Heavenly Father will give you answers.
- The *Church Handbook of Instructions* and other written materials, such as the *Scouting Handbook* and *Faith in God* guidebooks, contain answers to questions.
- Counsel with priesthood leaders for specific direction concerning your Primaries.

Conclusion

- “Remember that it is not practical, possible, or desirable to tackle everything at once. Choose one thing to focus on over the next six months” (Vicki F. Matsumori, March 2006).
- “Balance is key to us in our sacred and solemn responsibilities in our own homes and in our Church callings. We must use wisdom, inspiration, and sound judgment as we care for our families and fulfill our Church callings, for each is vitally important. We cannot neglect our families; we must not neglect our Church callings” (Thomas S. Monson, *Worldwide Leadership Training Meeting*, Feb. 11, 2006, 23).