

Follow the Prophet

(Ages ~7 and older)



PURPOSE

To help family members:

- 1. Understand the importance of following the counsel of our living prophet
- 2. Understand that the Lord will never allow the prophet to lead us astray
- 3. Get a sense of how well they are following the prophet's counsel

MATERIALS

- Scriptures
- Copy of questions (below) for each family member
- Paper and pencils

SONG SUGGESTION

1. "Follow the Prophet" page 110 in Children's Songbook

LESSON IDEAS

- 1. Ask your family, "Can you name one thing that if we did perfectly we would be guaranteed to go back to Heavenly Father's presence?" (They may suggest such things as going to church, reading the scriptures, going to the temple, daily prayer. Remind them that the Pharisees did all of these things and still were not saved.)
- 2. Invite your family to read D&C 21:4-6 to find the answer. Help your family understand that the Lord promised members of the church (verse 4) that if we follow the prophet the devil cannot defeat us.
- 3. Share this quote by President Ezra Taft Benson: "To help you pass the crucial tests which lie ahead, I am going to give you today several aspects of a grand key which, if you will honor, will crown you with God's glory and bring you out victorious in spite of Satan's fury. Here then is the grand key—Follow the prophet" (Address given Tuesday, February 26, 1980 at Brigham Young University).
- 4. Make a copy of the questionnaire (below) for each family member (or read the questions aloud). Invite your family to respond on a piece of paper with a "yes" or "no" to each item.
 - a. Discuss those that are especially pertinent to your family.
 - b. You may want to discuss portions of "For the Strength of Youth"
- 5. You may want to share one of the following:
 - a. Story, The Guide (for older children)
 - b. Music video: When I Hear the Prophet's Voice (for younger children)

- 6. Help your family understand that we may not always like what the prophet counsels us to do. President Harold B. Lee stated: "There will be some things that take patience and faith. You may not like what comes from the authority of the Church. It may contradict your political views. It may contradict your social views. It may interfere with some of your social life. Your safety and ours depends upon whether or not we follow the ones whom the Lord has placed to preside over his church" (*Conference Report*, Oct. 1970, 152–53).
- 7. You may also want to explain to your family understand that the Lord will never allow the prophet to lead us astray. President Wilford Woodruff stated: "I say to Israel, the Lord will never permit me or any other man who stands as president of the Church to lead you astray. It is not in the program. It is not in the mind of God. If I were to attempt that the Lord would remove me out of my place, and so he will any other man who attempts to lead the children of men astray from his oracles of God and from their duty. ..." (*The Discourses of Wilford Woodruff*, pp. 212–13).
- 8. Testify that the Lord has promised us safety and happiness if we follow the prophet.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Play <u>Simon Says</u> using the phrase "The Prophet Says"
- Play a free online version of <u>Simon</u>
- Coloring activity: Follow the Prophet

Am I Following the Prophet?

- 1. Don't expose your mind to television, movies, or music that are unclean
- 2. Every worthy, able young man should prepare to serve a mission
- 3. Don't date until you're 16
- 4. Don't steady date until the young man has returned from his mission
- 5. Do not listen to music that encourages immorality or glorifies violence
- 6. Dress modestly
- 7. Pay a full tithing
- 8. Live the Word of Wisdom
- 9. Be morally clean
- 10. Get a good education
- 11. Live worthy to enter the House of the Lord
- 12. No tattoos
- 13. One pair of earrings for girls (none for boys)
- 14. Attend seminary and institute
- 15. Daily scripture study
- 16. Prayer morning and evening
- 17. Keep the Sabbath holy