



Funtastic Family Home Evenings
Easy to Prepare! Fun to Share!

WATER SKIING OR SCUBA DIVING?

(Ages ~ 8 and older)

PURPOSE

To help family members understand how to make scripture reading a more successful experience

MATERIALS

- Copy of the water skier and scuba diver
- Copies of Elder Hunter's quote for each family member

SONG SUGGESTION

- "[As I Search the Holy Scriptures](#)", #277 in *Hymns*

LESSON IDEAS

1. Show poster below and explain that there are two kinds of scripture readers:
 - a. The Water Skier: This kind of reader skims the surface so he/she can get done quickly.
 - b. The Scuba Diver: This kind of readers take time, dives deep and discovers wonderful things the water skier never sees.
2. Read the quote by Elder Howard W. Hunter (below) with your family.
 - a. Encourage them to watch for and underline the "keys" given by Elder Hunter to become more like a scuba diver and less like a water skier.
 - b. Encourage them to find at least 5 keys.
3. Discuss some of the keys mentioned in the quote:
 - a. Begin with prayer
 - b. Study everyday
 - c. Study at a regular time
 - d. Study without interference
 - e. At least 15 minutes a day
 - f. Use a systematic plan
 - g. Have a set amount of time rather than a number of verses or chapters
4. Share the following promise from President Gordon B. Hinckley:
 - a. "I am grateful for emphasis on reading the scriptures. I hope that for you this will become something far more enjoyable than a duty; that, rather, it will become a love affair with the word of God. I promise you that as you read, your minds will be enlightened and your spirits will be lifted. At first it may seem tedious, but that will change into a wondrous experience with thoughts and words of things divine" (*Ensign*, May 1995, 99).
 - b. Ask, "What did President Hinckley promise those who study the scriptures?"



5. You may want to do one of the following:
 - a. Set a specific time each day to search the scriptures as a family
 - b. Challenge family members to personally study at least 10-15 minutes daily
6. Challenge your family to try the “keys” given by Elder Hunter and to be ready to discuss their experience in next week’s lesson.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Teach your family the concept of ‘searching’ by having a [Scavenger Hunt](#)
- Play the online game of [Garfield's Scary Scavenger Hunt](#)

Which Kind of Scripture Reader Are You?



QUOTE

Elder Howard W. Hunter:

“It is certain that one who studies the scriptures every day accomplishes far more than one who devotes considerable time one day and then lets days go by before continuing. Not only should we study each day, but there should be a regular time set aside when we can concentrate without interference.

“There is nothing more helpful than prayer to open our understanding of the scriptures. Through prayer we can attune our minds to seek the answers to our searchings. The Lord said: ‘Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you’ (Luke 11:9). Herein is Christ’s reassurance that if we will ask, seek, and knock, the Holy Spirit will guide our understanding if we are ready and eager to receive.

“Many find that the best time to study is in the morning after a night’s rest has cleared the mind of the many cares that interrupt thought. Others prefer to study in the quiet hours after the work and worries of the day are over and brushed aside, thus ending the day with a peace and tranquility that comes by communion with the scriptures.

“Perhaps what is more important than the hour of the day is that a regular time be set aside for study. It would be ideal if an hour could be spent each day; but if that much cannot be had, a half hour on a regular basis would result in substantial accomplishment. A quarter of an hour is little time, but it is surprising how much enlightenment and knowledge can be acquired in a subject so meaningful. The important thing is to allow nothing else to ever interfere with our study.

“We should not be haphazard in our reading but rather develop a systematic plan for study. There are some who read to a schedule of a number of pages or a set number of chapters each day or week. This may be perfectly justifiable and may be enjoyable if one is reading for pleasure, but it does not constitute meaningful study. It is better to have a set amount of time to give scriptural study each day than to have a set amount of chapters to read. Sometimes we find that the study of a single verse will occupy the whole time” (*Ensign*, Nov. 1979, p. 64).

