## the Happy Fall tree (Nursery Edition)

October/Fall Conference 2011

The Idea: Explain to your children that we are happy when we choose to follow the prophet. This 'Happy Fall' tree will help to make sure we know what the prophets have said, and then help us to "fall"ow (follow) what they have asked us to do.

What To Do: Create a tree trunk (as big as you want) on one of your walls or a door using brown paper (construction paper, scrapbook paper, brown paper bags... whatever you've got available). Print out one copy of this activity for each child (or at least the leaf pages). {Note: If you only have nursery age children in your home, you will want to print at least one set of leaves from the older primary edition for yourself (and one for any other participating adult) so that there are leaves that will actually have talk topics written on them.}

For this nursery edition, each leaf contains a picture of a different member of the First Presidency or Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. When one of them is speaking, help the children to find the speaker's picture and then practice saying the speaker's name a few times. Then let them color the leaves in Fall colors (or whatever color they want), and cut the leaves out. After General Conference (after each session, at the end of all sessions, or for Family Night the next Monday), you can discuss what all the talks were about as you put the leaves up on the tree. Also discuss ways in which you can apply those things in your family life. (Obviously this will need to be kept on a very basic level for nursery age children.) And now you have a beautiful and full Fall tree.

Then, each time you apply one of the talk topics in your life, you get to find that leaf on the tree and take it down--just like it's Fall time and the leaves are falling. (For every leaf you, the parent, take down, allow your nursery age child to find the corresponding picture leaf and take that one down too.} Continue doing this until you have no more leaves on your tree.

Some examples could include:

- If a talk was on service, take that leaf down when you give service;
- For a talk on the temple, go to the temple-- by yourself, with your spouse, or better yet, take your whole family to the temple and if you have kids who aren't old enough to go in, have a family picnic or something while you talk about the importance of the temple;
- Prayer—set a goal to have meaningful personal/family prayer everyday for a week and then take your leaf down when it's completed; etc.
- Missionary Work—give away a Book of Mormon, or invite a non-member family over for Family Night...

You get the idea! The options are endless. ©

**The Goal:** The hope is that by the time your family gets through all the leaves, each family member has been able to gain a greater appreciation for the words of the prophets and a stronger testimony of our Savior Jesus Christ. Not to mention a greater feeling of peace in the home. ©









