the Happy Fall tree

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) ... and one for any adults that are playing too. ©

Each leaf contains the words, "{General Authority's} talk was on:" and then a blank square with space to write (and there is one leaf for each of the First Presidency and Quorum of the Twelve). When the kids hear a talk from someone on a leaf, they write in what that talk was about (younger kids may need help) and then color the leaves in Fall colors (or whatever color they want). Cut the leaves out, and then 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. 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). 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. ©









