

Follow the Prophet

Ephesians

Objectives:

- Talk about the importance of following the prophet.
- Emphasize that the prophet's words are the Lord's words.

Reinforces Principles of:

- Guidance
- **■** Following the Prophet

This Lesson contains 5 activities:

Choose the activities that fit your family's schedule. Use on Mondays to introduce the topic, or the following Sunday to review.

Reverence Time: Song, prayer, scripture and video clip **Lesson Time:** Lesson summary and points to ponder

Story Time: Story

Activity Time: Object lesson or activity **Treat Time:** Prayer, theme related recipe



Approximate Time: 5 minutes

Sing Together: "Follow the Prophet", Children's Songbook page 110

If you wish to print sheet music or have an online music file to accompany you visit:

https://www.lds.org/music/library/childrens-songbook/follow-the-prophet

Prayer:

Scripture Time: Ephesians 4:11-12

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some,

pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the

body of Christ:

Video Clip: Watch a clip from the Living Scriptures Streaming Library. You can find the clip at

https://www.livingscriptures.com/fhe-lesson-follow-the-prophet



Approximate Time: 10-15 minutes

Lesson Summary:

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul taught that the church is "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Ephesians 2:20). He also taught that the church is made up of people with many different callings including prophets, apostles, pastors, and teachers, each helping to build up and support each other. As we each fulfill our callings, and support our leaders, those in the church come together in love and unity, and we learn how to become more like Christ.

We have a great opportunity to listen to the Apostles and the Prophet during General Conference. As we listen to their messages, we can know the things Heavenly Father wants us to know, and we can avoid being "carried about with every wind of doctrine" (Ephesians 4:14).

In ancient times, the prophet Noah taught the people that they needed to repent, or a flood would come and they would be unprepared. Was told by the Lord to build an ark so his family would be safe. In our day, our Prophet has encouraged us to build our testimony and faith. We will be prepared for the coming "storms of life" if we have faith in Jesus Christ.

Points to Ponder:

Why were Noah and his family saved from the flood? (Discuss ideas. See Hebrews 11:7)

Joseph Smith was the first Prophet of this dispensation to whom all the keys were restored. What are some of the things the prophet Joseph Smith taught that the Lord wanted us to know? (Discuss ideas.)

Who is the Lord's prophet on the earth today?

Why is it important to listen to and follow the Prophet? (Discuss ideas.)

How can following the prophet help us to avoid confusion? (Discuss ideas)

Quote:

"May our lives reflect the knowledge we have that God lives, that Jesus Christ is His Son, that Joseph Smith was a prophet, and that we are led today by another prophet of God." *Thomas S. Monson*



(Approximate Time: 3 minutes)

Ten-year-old Jace helped Mother unload the week's supply of groceries from the car.

"Let Dad get that one, Jace," Mother said, pointing to the twenty-five pound bag of rice.

Jace looked at the large bag with strange writing on it. "What's in it?" Jace asked.

"Rice," Mother answered. "It's for our food storage!"

"Food storage? What's that?" Jace questioned.

"It's setting aside a basic supply of food in order to be prepared for hard times," Mother said.

"What kind of hard times?" Jace asked, with a worried expression on his face.

"Don't look so worried, Son," Mother soothed. "The Lord said, 'If ye are prepared ye shall not fear,'" Mother said quoting a scripture from the Doctrine and Covenants. "Food storage is one of the things the prophets have encourage the Saints to have for many, many, years," Mother continued. "We keep our food storage under the stairs in the basement."

"So by storing food, we're following the Prophet?" Jace asked.

"That's right! And you know that following the Prophet brings happiness. Right?"

Jace smiled. "The Prophet says we should pray and I know I'm always happier when I do," Jace agreed.

Jace thought a lot about food storage and following the Prophet during the week. He wanted to follow all the Prophet's words, because, "'His words are the Lord's words," Jace said, repeating the words Sister Brown had taught him in Primary. "But, what can I do?" he thought.

The next week Father gave a lesson on Noah's ark for Family Home Evening. "Noah was a prophet. Do you know who followed the prophet Noah?" Father asked.

"Nobody," six-year-old Corbin answered.

"Nobody, except, his wife and sons and their wives," Jace proudly corrected.

"That's right! Noah's family helped build the ark, store food, prepare supplies and gather and tend to the animals," Father explained.

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Jace smiled as he thought about what Father had said. "The Lord told them to have food storage," Jace exclaimed. "Just like He's told us to!"

"Yes, He did," Mother replied. "In order for Noah's family to prepare for hard times."

"Hard times," Jace thought. "The flood!"

"Mom, Dad," Jace said. "I want to be like Noah's sons and help with our food storage. I'm going to give you all my allowance to use for food storage, after I pay my tithing of course."

"That's very generous, Jace," Father said. "But, the Prophet also said not to go to extremes in establishing our food storage. How about if you give, let's say, one-tenth of your allowance."

"That's the same amount I give back to the Lord," Jace said with satisfaction.

"Are we going to have to build an awk, too?" Asked three-year-old Morgan.

"Oh, no, Sweetie," Mother answered. "Heavenly Father promised Noah that He would never flood the earth again and Heavenly Father *always* keeps His promises."

Jace added, "That's why Heavenly Father gave us rainbows, Morgan. As a reminder."

"Oh, yeah! I like wainbows!" Morgan exclaimed. "They awe pwetty."

Jace gave his little sister a big hug and whispered in her ear, "But, they're not nearly as pretty as you are, Morgan!"

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What you need:

A copy of the "Noah's Ark" activity (artwork included with this lesson), scissors, glue, tape, cardstock and stapler w/staples. Optional: Self Laminating sheets.

Preparation

- 1. **Print** out the artwork.
- 2. Cut out the animals. Optional: Pre-cut out ark pieces.
- 3. Optional: Laminate animals.
- 4. Hide animals around the room.

Activity:

(Younger children will need help from an older sibling or parent.)

- 1. Ask: Who was Noah? (A prophet of God.)
- 2. Ask: What did Noah try to teach the people? (To repent and obey the Lord.)
- 3. Ask: Who listened to Noah? (Only his family.)
- 4. Ask: What did the Lord tell Noah He was going to do? (He was going to destroy every living thing on the face of the earth because the people were evil and would not listen.)
- 5. Ask: What did the Lord tell Noah to do? (Build an ark.)
- 6. Ask: Did Noah and his family listen to the Lord? (Yes.)
- 7. Explain: Let's pretend that we are Noah's family and we are going to build an ark. (Follow directions to build your ark. Give everyone an assignment according to their abilities, such as cutting out, gluing, stapling, etc.)
- 8. Explain: The Lord told Noah and his family to gather seven of all the clean animals. Clean animals are the animals the Lord provided for man to eat, such as cows and sheep. (Count the cows in the bottom of the ark.) Ask: How many more cows does this ark need?
- 9. Ask: What other kinds of animals did the Lord tell Noah and his family to gather? (A male and female of every kind of animal on the earth.)
- 10. Explain: Our ark isn't big enough to hold every kind of animal. Lets search and see how many pairs of animals we can find to put in our ark. (Tape the animals in the ark.)
- 12. Explain: After all the animals were gathered the Lord told Noah and his family to go into the ark so that they would be saved from the flood. (Put Noah and his family in the ark.)
- 13. Ask: What can the story of Noah and the ark teach us to do in our lives? (Discuss ideas. Emphasize that we should follow the prophets.)
- 14. Ask: What are some of the things the latter-day prophets have told us to do? (Discuss ideas. Examples: Storing and saving a one-year supply of food, sharing the gospel, etc.)
- 15. Bear your testimony of the importance of following the Prophet.

Ark Instructions

1. Cut out ark pieces.

2. Glue part (A) to part (B) by placing (B) over (A) and line up edge along white dotted line. Set aside.

3. Glue part (C) to part (D) by placing (D) over (C) and line up edge along vertical white dotted line.

4. Glue parts (C/D) and (E) to cardstock.

Note: Staples will always go along outside edges.

5. Staple part (F) to part (E). Do not staple along the bottom edge.

6. Staple parts (F/E) to part (C/D) by lining up edges of (C/D) along the white dotted lines. Do not staple along the bottom edge for ease in placing Noah's family and the animals in.

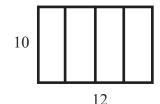
7. Staple part (A/B) to part (C/D) by lining up outside edges and forming a pouch.

8. Glue door together with print side facing out. Staple door along it's bottom edge to the ark.

9. Glue roof onto the ark.

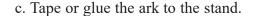
10. Make a stand with a 12 inch x 10 inch piece of cardstock.

a. Fold into fourths.



b. Fold end pieces

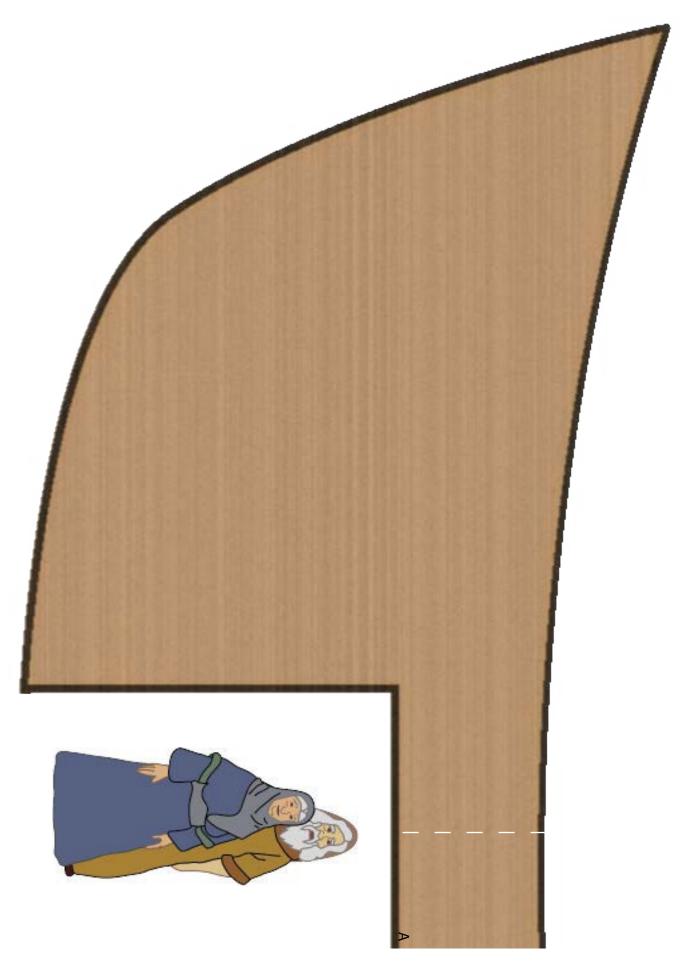
inward and overlap to form a triangle. Staple or tape together.



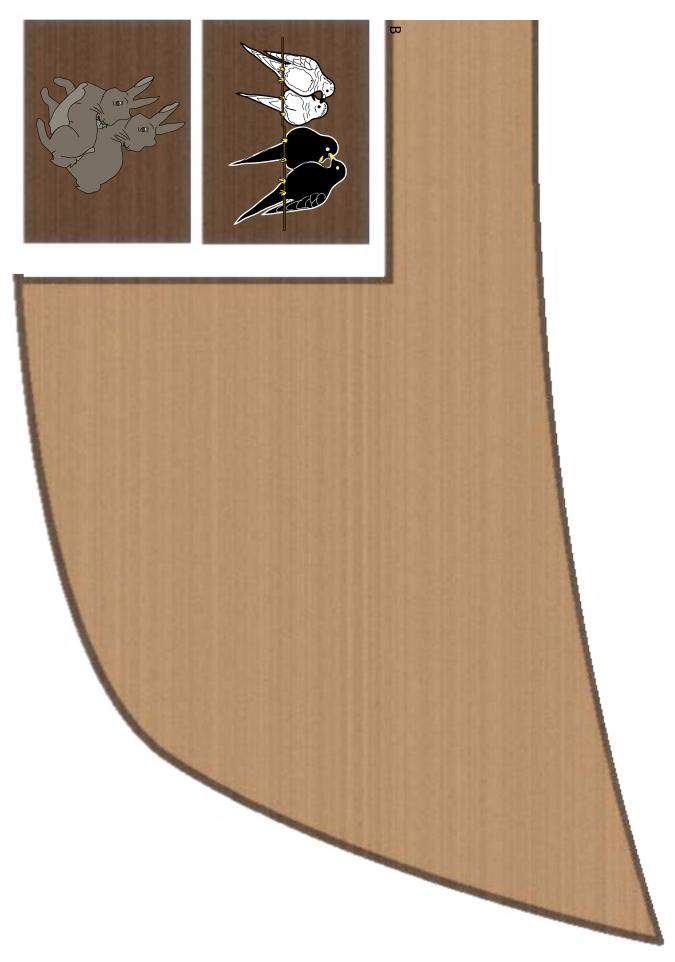


11. Lightly stuff the pouch with tissue along the outside edges to form a 3-D figure. Animals and Noah's family can now go through the door and "up to their decks" when you choose where to tape them on the ark artwork.

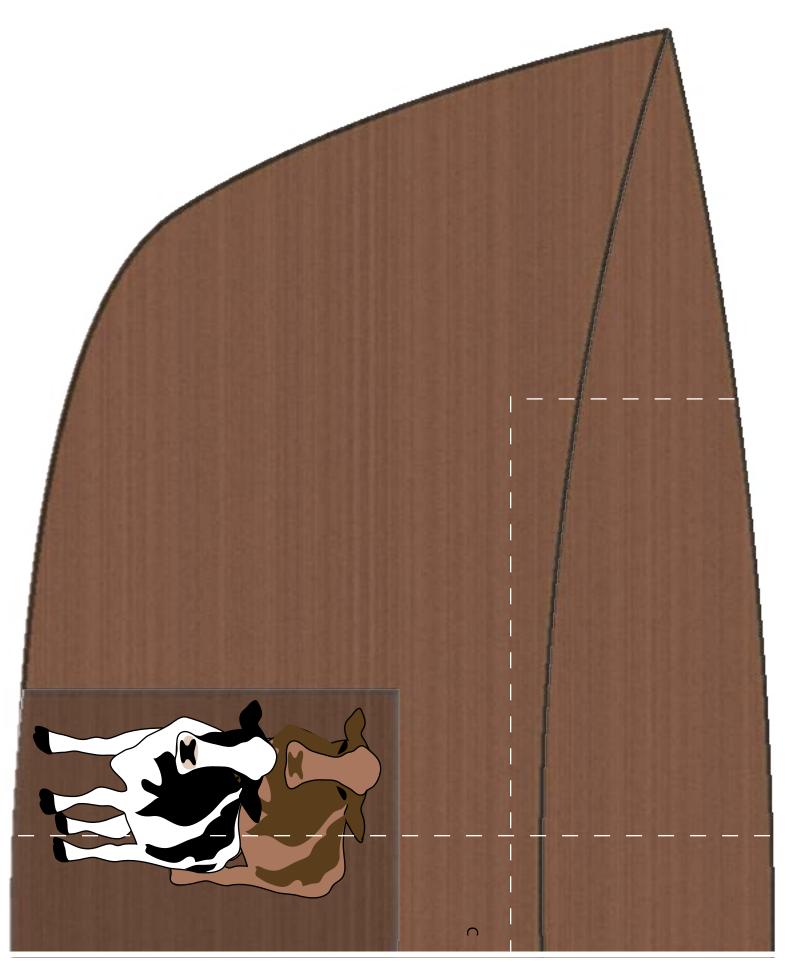




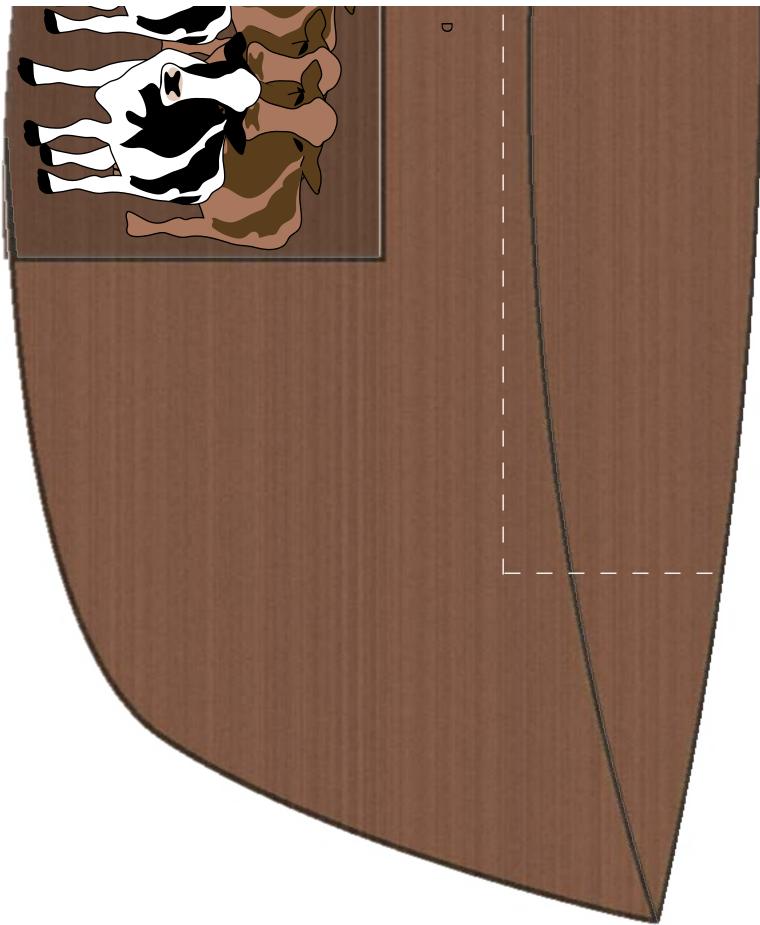
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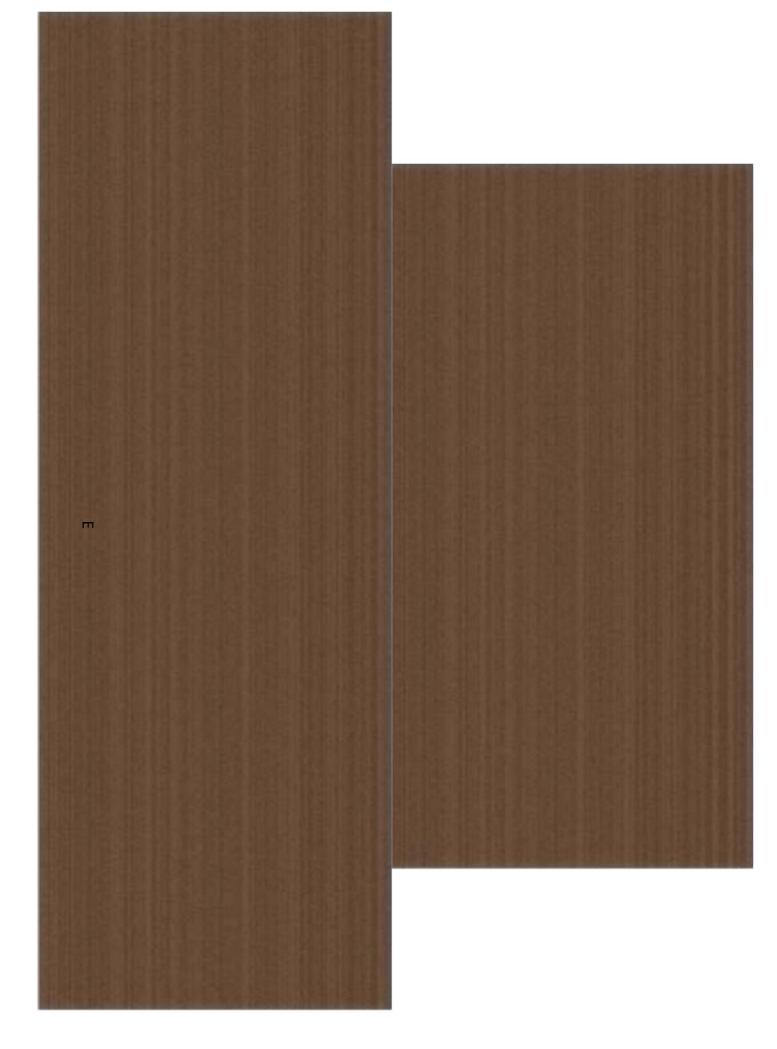
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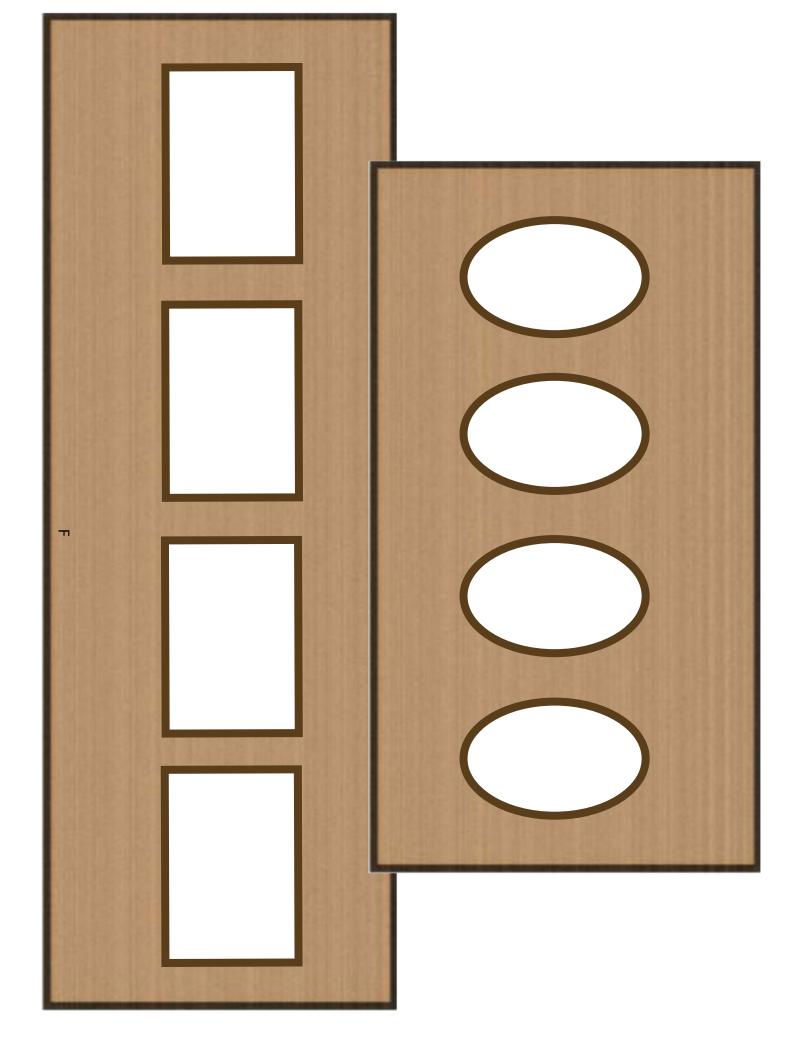


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Approximate Time: 25 minutes

Prep Time: 15 minutes **Cook Time:** 5–7 minutes

Animal Crackers

1/2 cup rolled oats

3/4 cup all-purpose flour

1/4 teaspoon baking soda

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/4 cup butter

1/4 cup honey

3 Tablespoons buttermilk



Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Grind oats until fine using a blender or food processor. In a medium bowl, stir together the blended oats, flour, baking soda and salt. Cut in the butter using a pastry blender or your fingers until the butter lumps are smaller than peas. Stir in the buttermilk and honey to form a stiff dough. On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough out to 1/8-inch in thickness.

Makes approximately (16) five—inch cookies.

Treat Time: Let children cut into animal shapes with cookie cutters* (be sure to make two of each animal). Place cookies 1 inch apart onto un-greased cookie sheets. Bake for 5 to 7 minutes, until edges are lightly browned. Remove from cookie sheets to cool on wire racks.

Alternative: This is a really simple and fun recipe, but if you're short on time purchase store bought animal crackers and have children search for pairs of animals.

Closing Prayer and blessing on the food.

* Animal shaped cookie cutters can be found at many craft stores.