

Hatch Patch Creations

From Our Home To Yours

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What Is A Testimony? Family Home Evening Packet

Contents:

Story, Picture Sheets,
Activity, Scripture,
Treat Recipe



\$5.00

What Is A Testimony Family Home Evening Packet

Home Evening Outline

Tortilla Testimony Treats

Opening Prayer

Opening Song

Scripture

Story

Game

Closing Song

Closing Prayer

Refreshments

Suggested Songs: "Search, Ponder, and Pray", pg. 109 (Childrens)
"I Know My Father Lives", pg. 5 (Childrens)
"Testimony", pg. 137 (Hymn)

"I Believe In Christ", pg. 134 (Hymn)

Scriptures: Moroni 10:7, D&C 42:61, D&C 9:8, Ether 12:6, Ether 4:11,
Mormon 9:25

Story: Color graphics with markers, colored pencils, chalks, etc. Use
flannel, or laminate and cut out and place magnets on back of graphics.
etc.

Helping Hand Activity & Testimony Meeting: Preparation - Give
each member of the family a copy of the "Helping Hand." Each family mem-
ber needs to choose five of the graphics that relate to what they have a
testimony of. Blank circles have been included for family members to draw
their own pictures. Then each family member colors all five of their graphics
and adheres them to each of the four finger tips and the thumb. Older
children can write what they would like to say in their testimony on the palm
of the hand and the graphics are to help them remember what they have a
testimony of. Adhere the hands to popsicle sticks or tongue depressors.
Write each family member's name on the back of their "Helping Hand." Once
everyone's hand is completed, have a family testimony meeting using the
"Helping Hands."

Tortilla Testimony Treats

Ingredients:

- 1 package of small flour tortillas
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 container of fruit flavored yogurt
- Fresh fruit such as: sliced strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, peaches, bananas, kiwi, apples, etc.
- butter

Directions:

In a small container, combine cinnamon and sugar together. Cut a tortilla into six triangular wedges. Arrange wedges in a single layer on a baking sheet and spread melted butter on each wedge. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar mixture. Bake in a 375 degree oven for five minutes or until light brown and crisp. Remove wedges and allow to cool on a wire rack. Spread yogurt on wedges and allow children to place desired fruit on wedges. Serve immediately. DELICIOUS!!!!!!

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What Is A Testimony?

Jeremy was a full seven years old. He was a good boy and always attended Church with his family. He had even tried once or twice to fast on Fast Sunday.

This was Fast Sunday and Jeremy heard many people get up to the pulpit and announce that they had a testimony of this or that. Jeremy had heard people say such things for a long time but today it really sunk in. "Just what is this testimony thing that these people talk about?"

Even during Sunday dinner, Jeremy wondered about that long word, testimony. "What is it and how do I get one too?" he thought.

When the family got together for family prayer that night, Jeremy decided to ask Father about a testimony.

Father called on April to say the family prayer. April was only four years old and so someone had to help her. Mother gently pulled April to her side and whispered the words for her to say. Soon, the prayer was over and Father was ushering the five Wilson children off to bed.

"Dad," Jeremy said, "can I ask you a question?"

Father smiled. "Certainly, son, what's on your mind?"

"I want to know what a testimony is!"

"Wow!" Father was taken back a little. He scratched his head and thought for a minute. "A testimony, huh? That is a big question. Come and sit by me."

Jeremy knelt down on the floor, close to Father's chair and listened intently.

Father began. "A testimony is to know the truth of something. In the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it is to have the Holy Ghost teach us the truth."

"But, how do I get the Holy Ghost to teach me the truth?" Jeremy asked.

"Aw," answered Father, "you ask Heavenly Father if something is true or not and then He will send the Holy Ghost to give you the answer. The Holy Ghost teaches us the truth of all things."

Father could see that Jeremy was deep in thought. After a little while, Jeremy got up and said goodnight and headed off to his bedroom. There were lots of questions that Jeremy had and he would ask one tonight.

As Jeremy knelt down by the side of his bed to say his personal prayer, he decided that the first thing he wanted to know was if Joseph Smith was a prophet and that is the question he asked Heavenly Father. With a deep sigh of satisfaction, Jeremy crawled into bed and pulled the covers over him. Then, he waited. He waited and he waited, but nothing happened.

Finally, he couldn't wait any longer. His eyelids were getting droopy and he was very sleepy. Maybe his answer would come tomorrow.

At breakfast the next morning, Jeremy related his experience to his mom and dad. Mother laughed lovingly. "Sometimes it takes a while for Heavenly Father to answer our prayers but when the Holy Ghost speaks to you, you will feel good. You will feel a feeling of well-being. You may feel a warm feeling inside your heart but whatever feeling comes, you will know the truth."

"If the answer is 'no,'" Father interjected, "then you will feel confused or you will have a bad feeling that it is wrong."

Jeremy thought that sounded pretty simple. Maybe his answer would come today.

A whole week went by and still Jeremy had not felt anything either way. He was a little discouraged.

Then, something horrible happened. Jeremy's little sister, Rachel, was hit by a car speeding down their street. The whole family, including Grandma and Grandpa were waiting in the hospital.

Little two year old Rachel lay very still in her hospital bed. The doctors and nurses seemed very concerned about her. Mother and Father were very worried. Finally, when the nurses and doctors left the room, Father and Grandpa gave Rachel a priesthood blessing. Jeremy had never been in the room when a priesthood blessing had been given.

He could feel such a peaceful, warm feeling as Father gave Rachel a blessing. Father told her that she would live and be healthy and run and play again.

"Wow," thought Jeremy. "How could Rachel ever run and play again when she was hurt so bad?"

Days passed and Jeremy watched for signs that Father's priesthood blessing would come true. He wanted it to come true so badly. He tried to believe with all his heart that what Father had said would happen.

Soon weeks had passed, and the day came that Rachel did indeed walk out of the hospital. Jeremy felt as though he was walking taller than even Father as they closed the doors of the hospital and stode to the car. A very warm feeling came over Jeremy - a feeling that everything was okay, a feeling of well-being and he suddenly had a testimony of priesthood blessings. What a great thing this was - his first testimony. Jeremy felt as though he could fly.

But why hadn't he gotten an answer to his questions about Joseph Smith?

Jeremy tried again that night. "Please tell me if Joseph Smith was a prophet?" he prayed.

Still no answer came. Jeremy was really discouraged this time. When two months had passed, he decided to give up. Yes, he had a testimony of priesthood blessings but maybe he was wrong about that. Heavenly Father hadn't answered his prayers so maybe there was no such thing as a testimony.

Life went on as normal around the Wilson family. Sunday came and they all climbed into the family car to go to Church. It was Fast Sunday again and Jeremy was not looking forward to it. He didn't want to hear about testimonies anymore.

Sister Allred got up. Jeremy really liked Sister Allred. She lead the music in Primary. He decided that he would listen to her "testimony."

Then something wonderful happened. Sister Allred began talking about the prophet, Joseph Smith. She said wonderful things about him. Suddenly, and without any warning, a warm feeling entered Jeremy's heart. He felt good. He had a feeling of well being. He knew that what she was saying was the truth. He had his answer!

When the Wilson family gathered around the dinner table after Church, Jeremy's face still glowed. "Isn't a testimony a wonderful thing?" he thought as the family bowed their heads to say the blessing on the food.

A testimony is a very wonderful thing. It is sacred. It is a gift from God through the Holy Ghost. Sometimes it takes time to receive an answer from the Lord. We must be patient and not give up. Heavenly Father works on His time, not ours. Sometimes we need to study about the things we are asking for a testimony about.

Once we receive a testimony of something, we need to keep working on it, reinforcing that testimony all of the time.

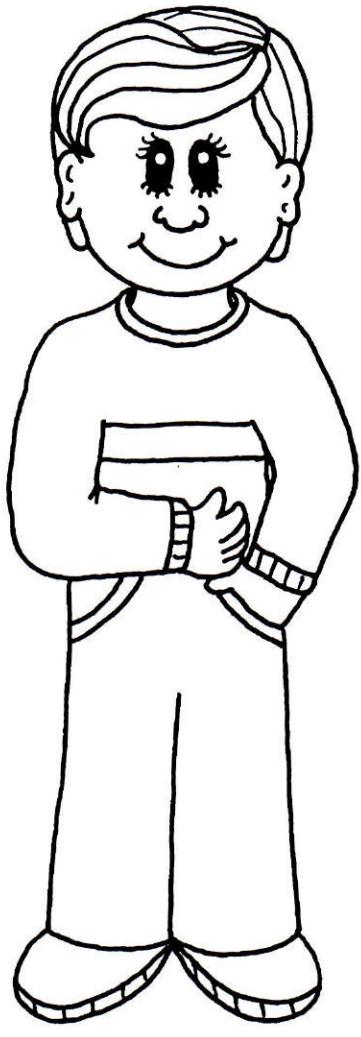
Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf said: "For members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the term testimony is a warm and familiar word in our religious expressions. It is tender and sweet. It has always a certain sacredness about it. When we talk about testimony, we refer to feelings of our heart and mind rather than an accumulation of logical, sterile facts. It is a gift of the Spirit, a witness from the Holy Ghost that certain concepts are true." (Dieter F. Uchtdorf, 'The Power of a Personal Testimony.' Ensign, Nov. 2006, 37-39)

DISCUSSION

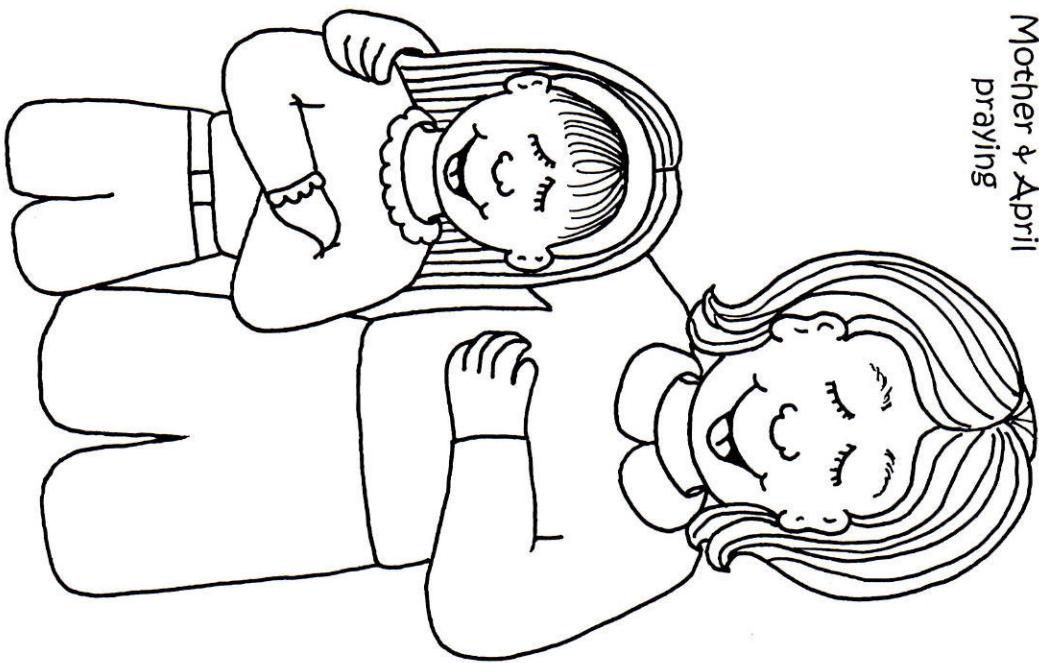
- What is a testimony?
- How does one get a testimony?
- What would you like to have a testimony of?

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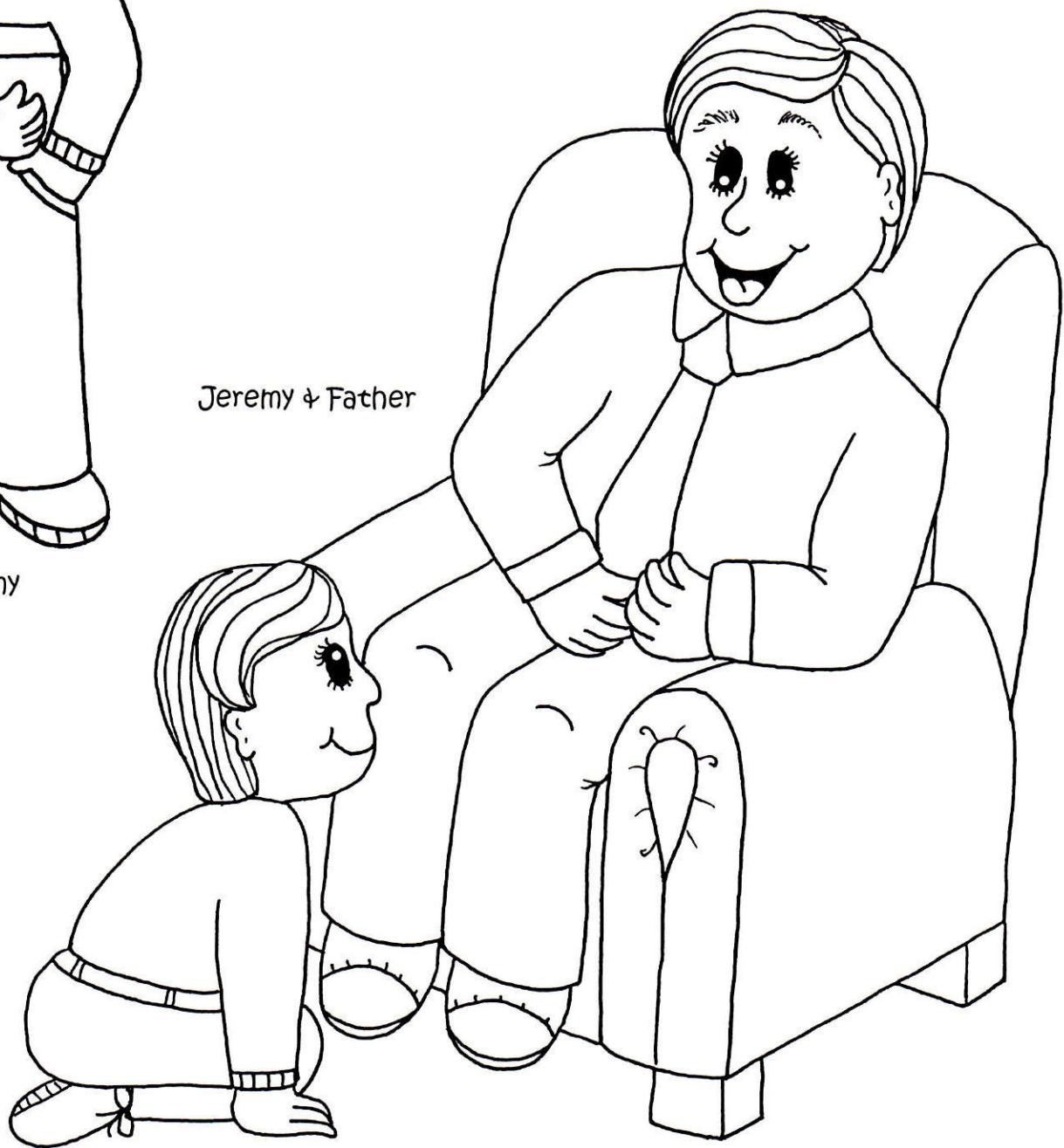
Mother & April
praying



Jeremy



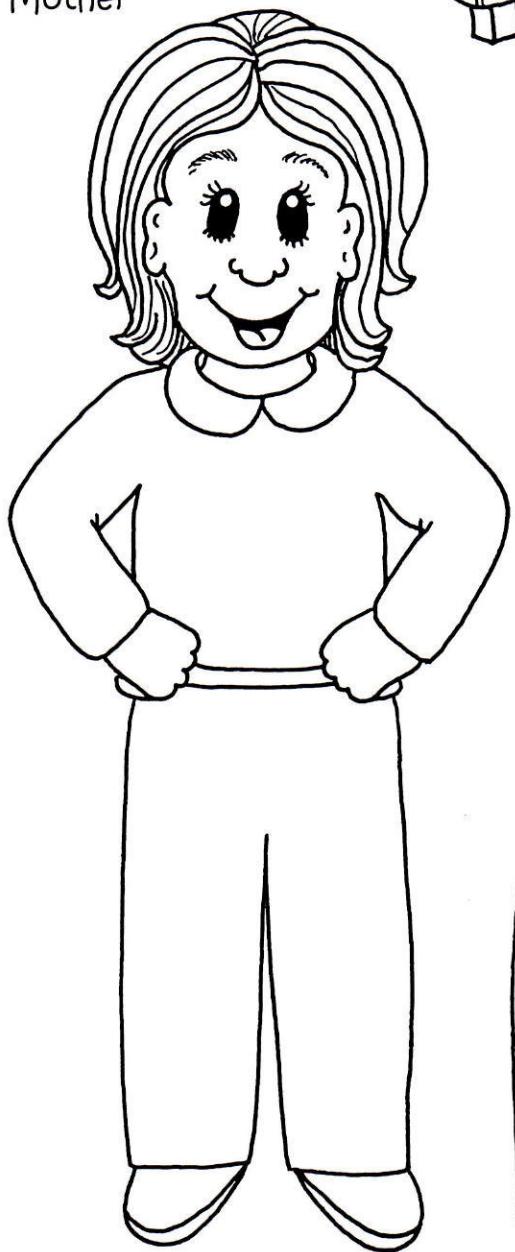
Jeremy & Father



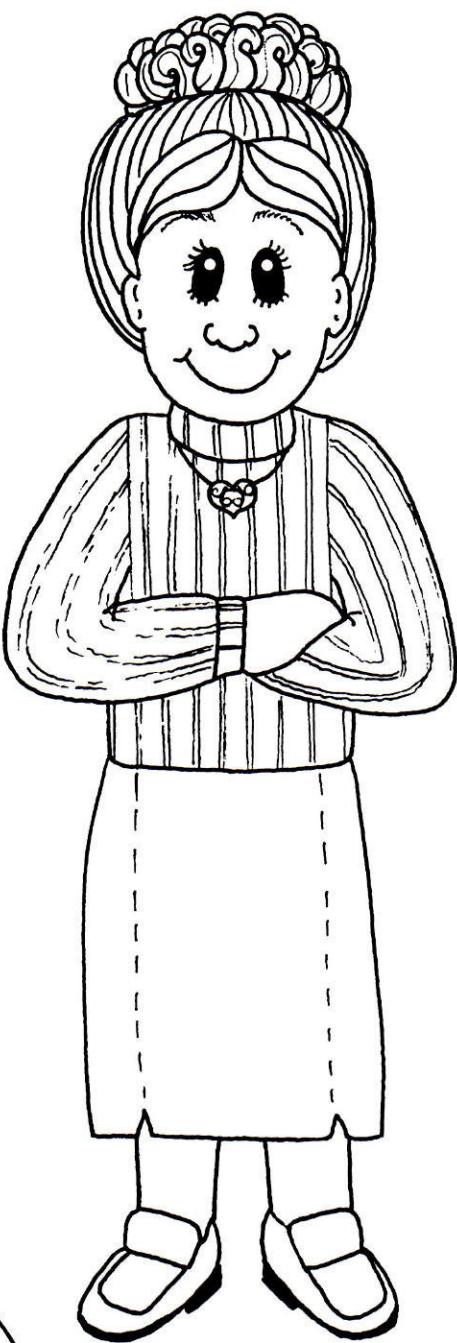
Jeremy praying



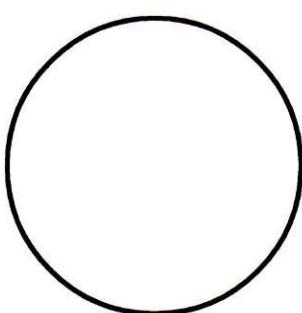
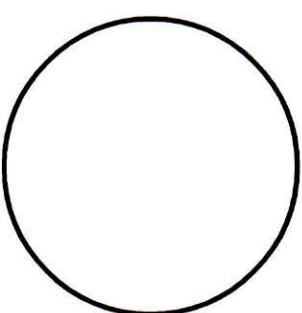
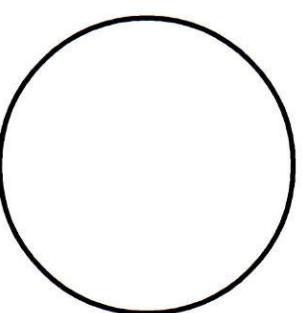
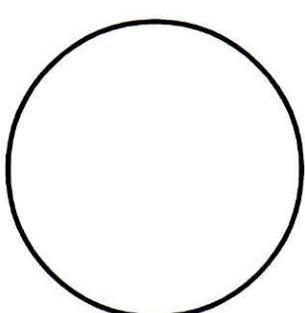
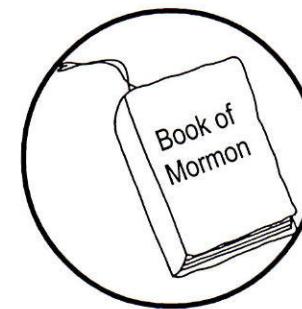
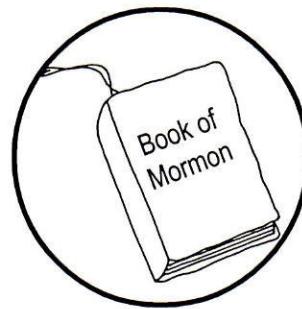
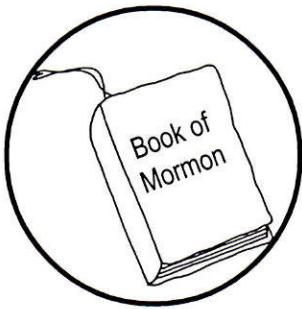
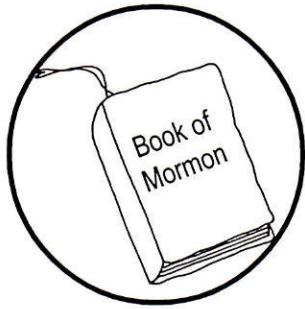
Mother

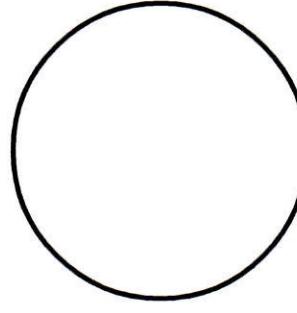
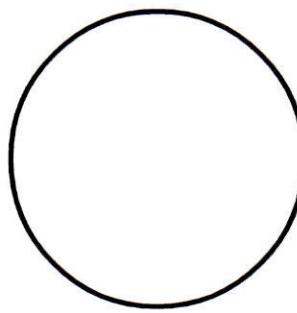
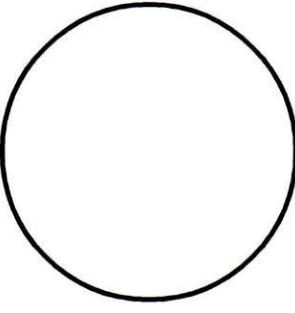
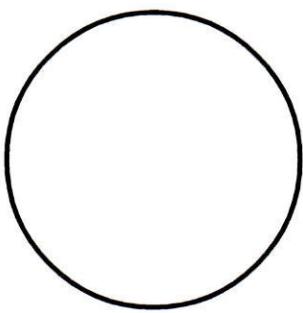
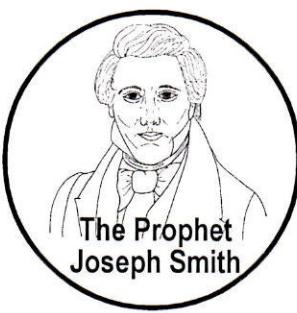
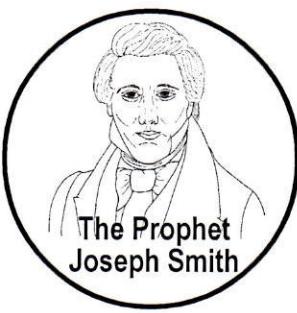
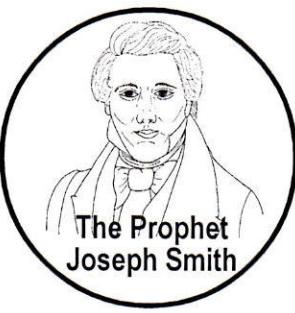
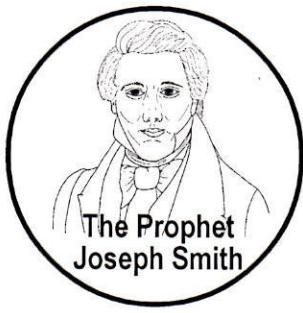
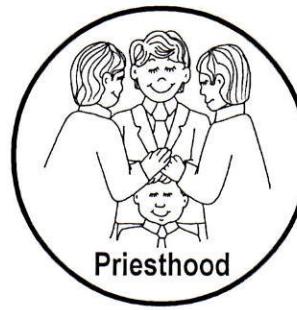


Father & Grandpa
giving a blessing

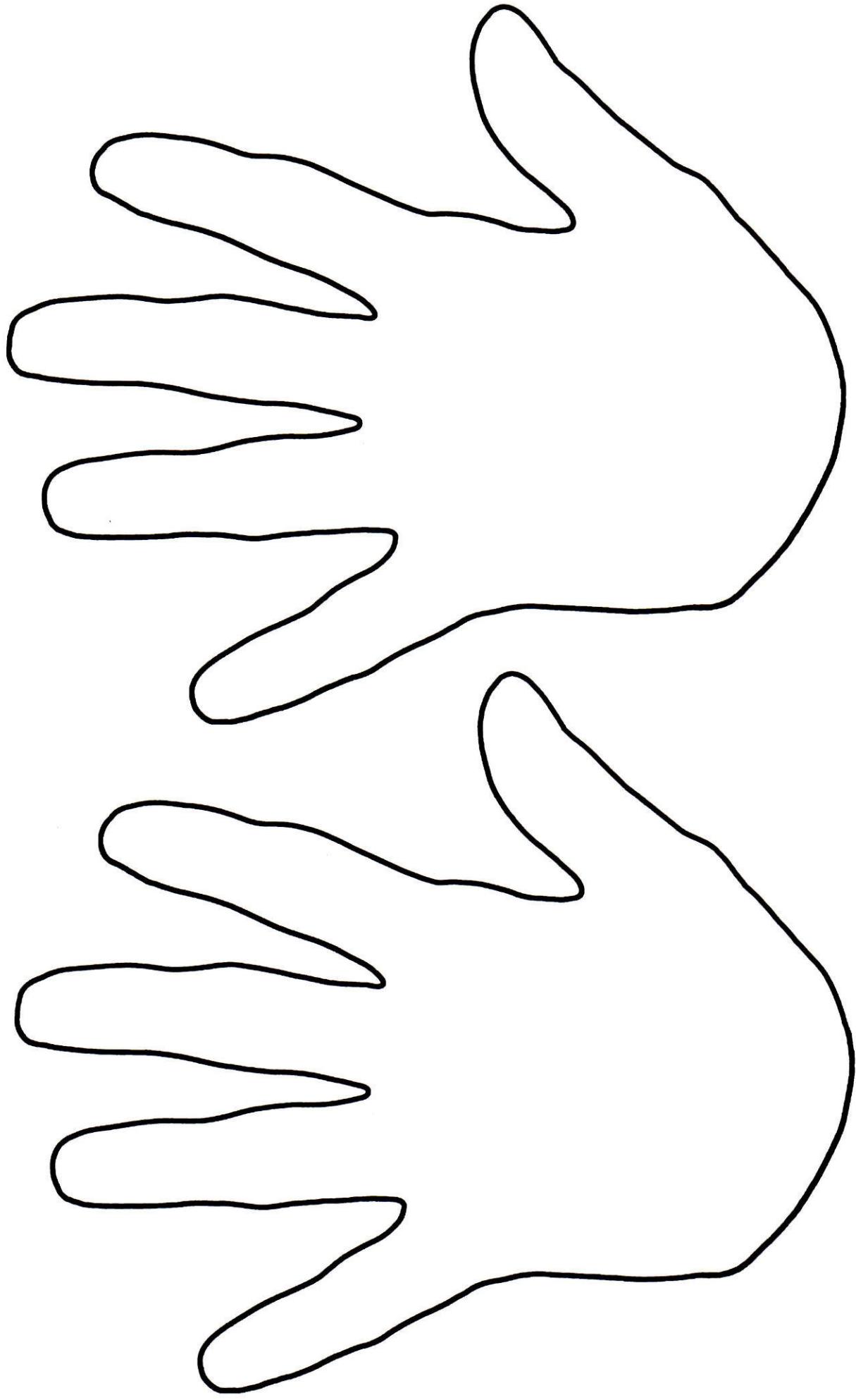


Sister Allred

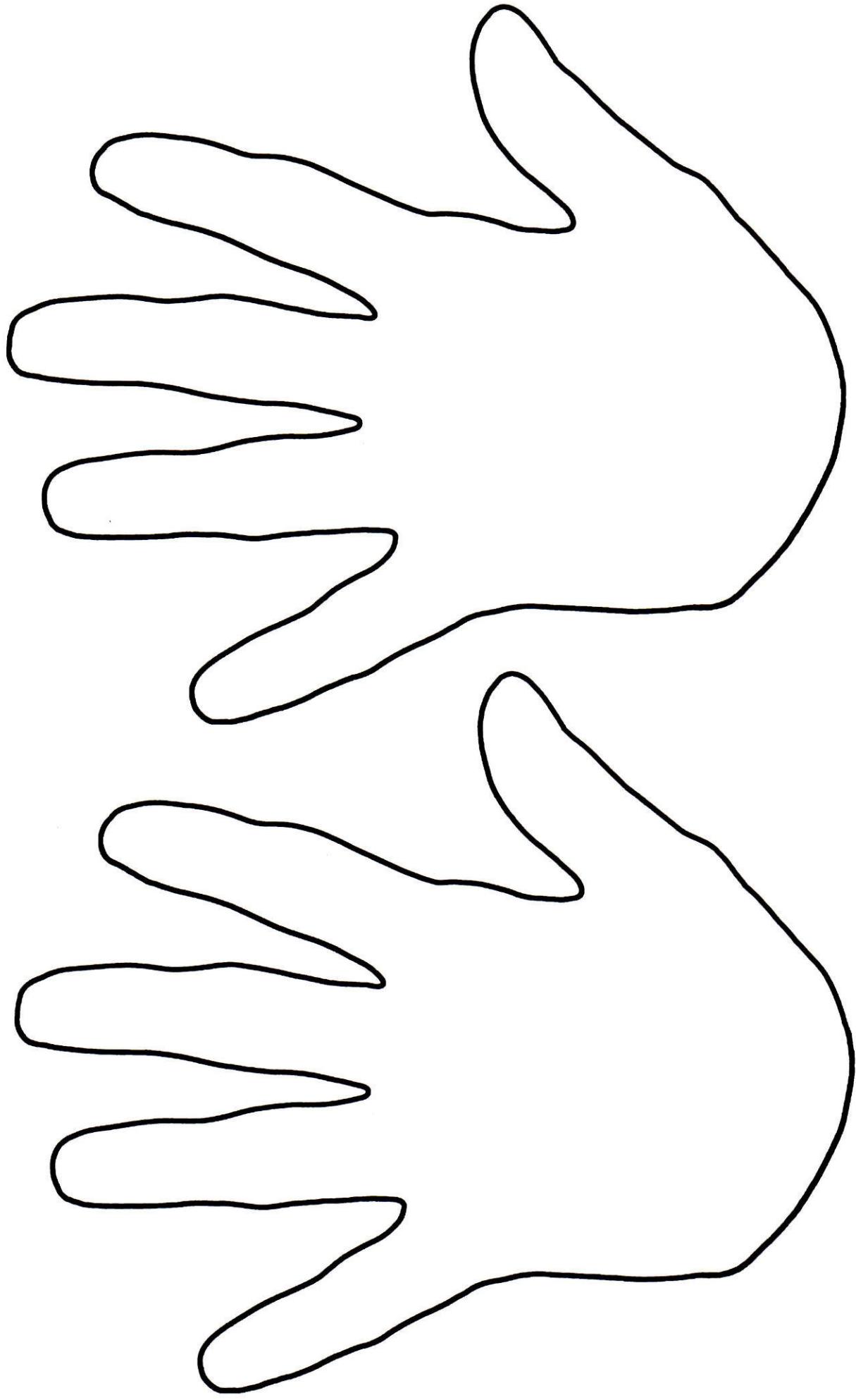




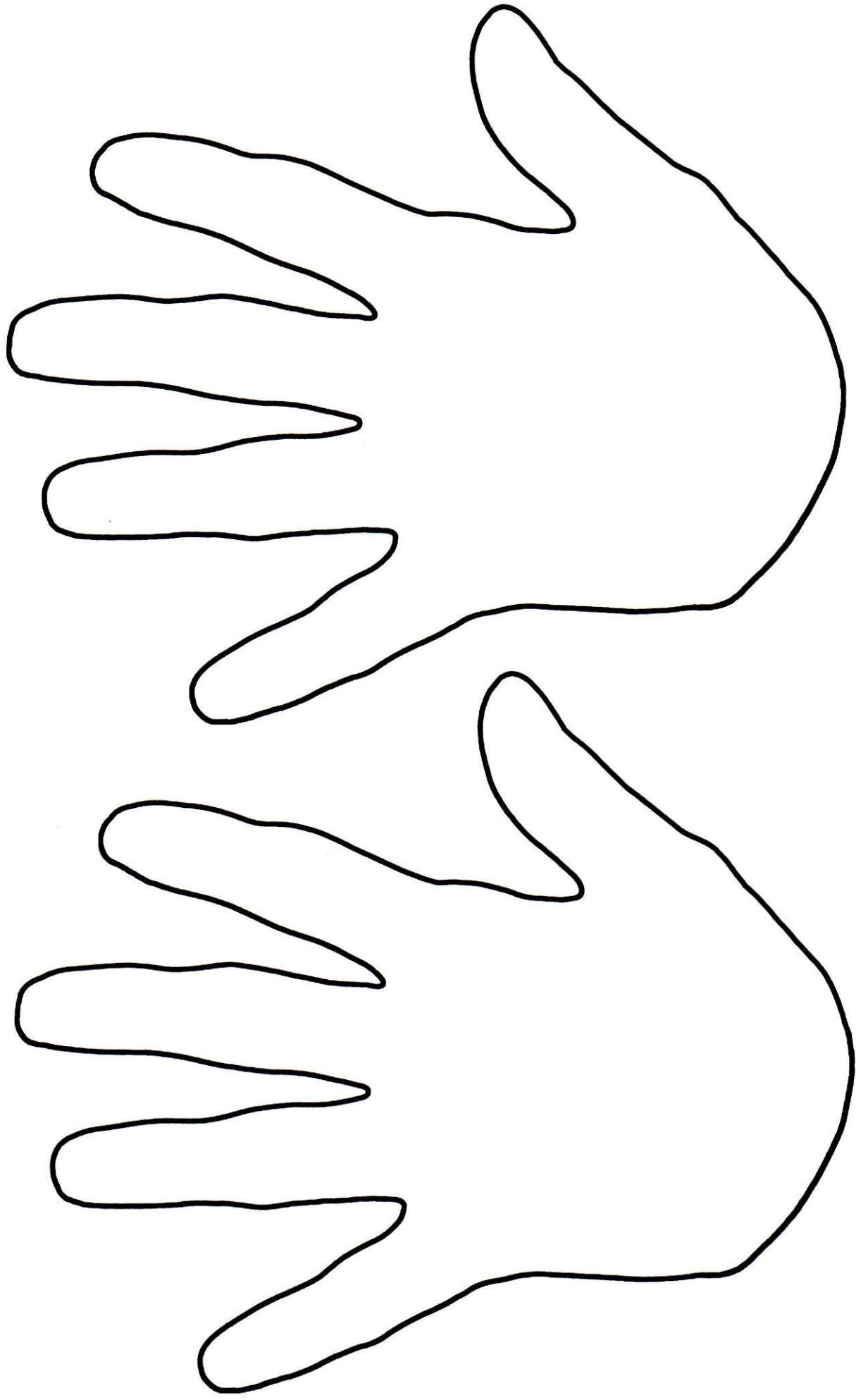
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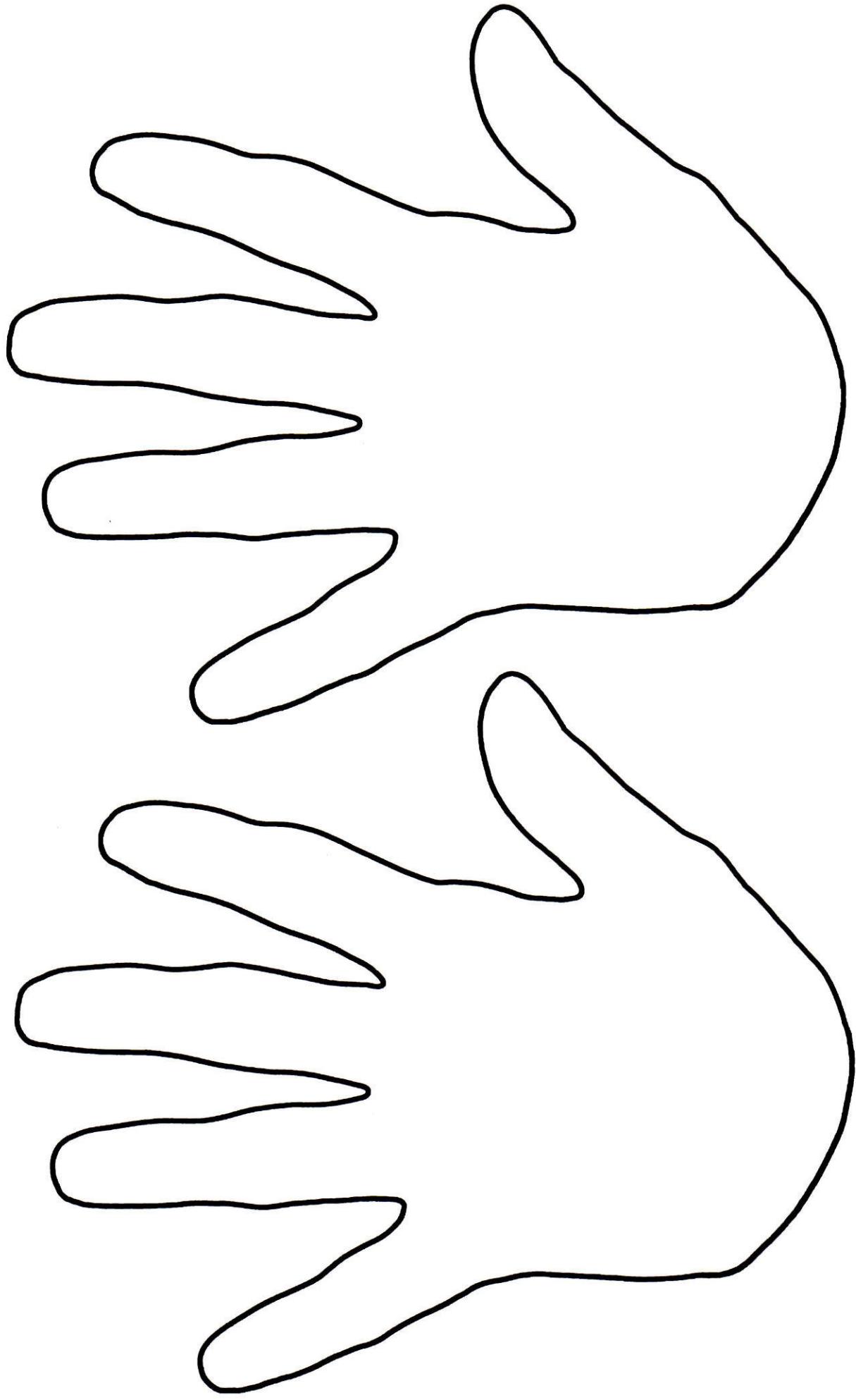
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"And ye may know that he is,
by the power of the Holy Ghost;
wherefore I would exhort you that
ye deny not the power of God;
for he worketh by power,
according to the faith of the
children of men, the same
today and tomorrow,
and forever."

Moroni 10:7

