

Hatch Patch Creations

Family Home Evening Made Easy

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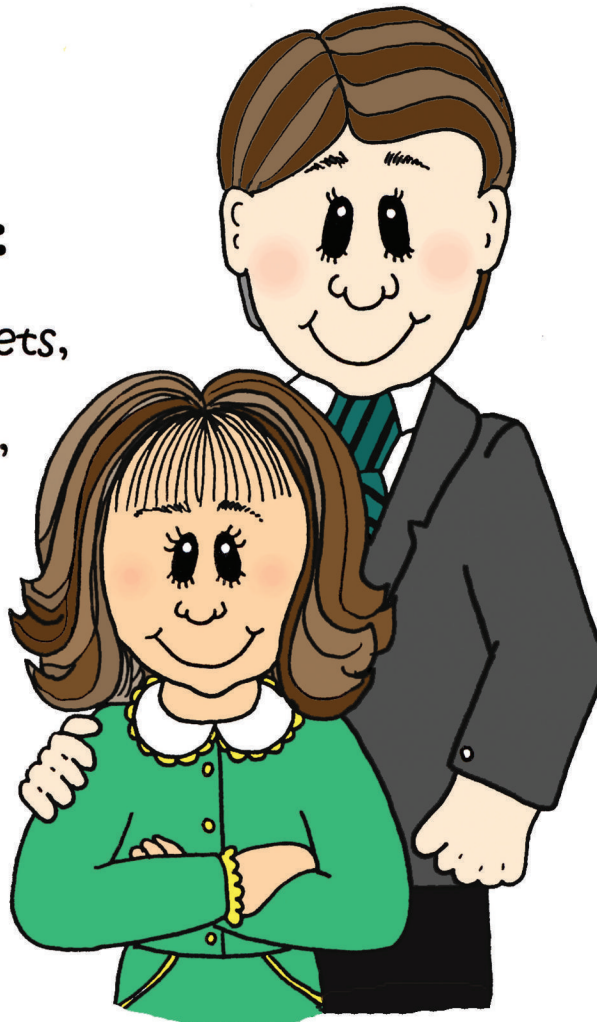
Jill's Patriarchal Blessing Family Home Evening Packet

Contents:

Story, Picture Sheets,

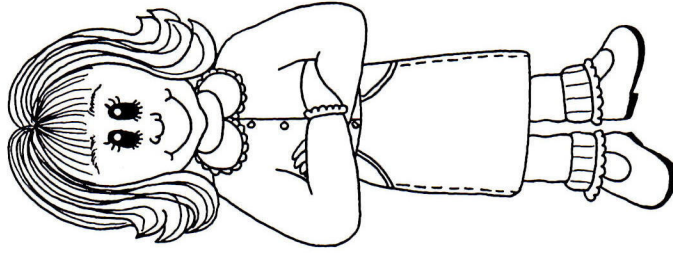
Activity, Quote,

Treat Recipe



\$7.00

Jill's Special Day Cake



Ingredients:

- 20 oz. can of crushed pineapple with juice
- 21 oz. can of cherry pie filling
- 1 white cake mix
- 3/4 to 1 cup melted butter

Directions:

Mix together crushed pineapple and cherry pie filling in a 9x13 cake pan. Sprinkle dry cake mix over fruit mixture, covering evenly. Drizzle melted butter over entire top of cake. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 40 - 50 minutes. Ovens vary, so watch that the top does not burn. Cool and serve with whipped topping. FANTASTIC!!!!!!

Jill's Patriarchal Blessing Family Home Evening Packet Home Evening Outline

- Opening Prayer
- Opening Song
- Scripture
- Story
- Game
- Closing Song
- Closing Prayer
- Refreshments

Suggested Songs: "I Will Follow God's Plan", pg. 164 (Childrens)
"Dearest Children, God Is Near You", pg. 96 (Hymn)

Scriptures: 2 Nephi 28:30

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

"PATRIARCHAL" Letters Activity: Preparation - Laminate and cut out each of the twelve "Letter" cards.

Activity - Begin by holding up card #1, which is the "P" card. Read the front of the card which has the large letter on it and what the letter stands for. Hold the card so that all family members can see the front. Then take turns reading the correlating explanation card also included. Discuss and answer any questions family members may have. Once you have completed that card, tape it on the wall. Continue this process until all eleven "Letter" cards have been completed. The twelfth card with each letter of the word "patriarchal" on it, is simply for reference of the order the letters are to go in.

DO NOT COPY

Jill's Patriarchal Blessing

Jill Jeppson was about to have something wonderful happen to her. She was going to get her patriarchal blessing. She was so excited. She had waited a long time for this day and finally, it was here.

Mother, Father, brothers, Ryan and Porter and little sister Emily climbed into the family van and they were off. It really wasn't very far to Patriarch Lancaster's house but it seemed to Jill that it was taking hours to get there.

She held the small slip of paper that was her recommend from Bishop Welling. She had to admit that she had been a little scared when she went for her interview. Everyone must go to their bishop and have a patriarchal recommend interview.

The bishop asks you some questions to see if you are worthy to receive your blessing and then he signs a piece of paper that you take to the patriarch. It really hadn't been scary at all once Jill sat down in front of the bishop. She liked Bishop Welling and he was very nice to her.

He had explained to her the importance of receiving a patriarchal blessing. The ancient prophet Jacob had given patriarchal blessings to each one of his twelve sons, predicting what the future held for them. Because we are descendants of Jacob and the twelve tribes of Israel, we too can have a patriarchal blessing.

A patriarch is a very special man who holds the Melchizedek Priesthood. He has been called by the general authorities of the Church to be the one who gives the members of his stake their patriarchal blessings. Once he is called and set apart, he is a patriarch all of the rest of his life.

Jill watched the street signs and trees go by in her window as she shifted nervously in her seat. Usually, a patriarchal blessing will tell you of things that can happen in your future and Jill was very excited to see what Patriarch Lancaster had to say to her. This blessing would be a revelation given to Patriarch Lancaster who would then give it to her. Imagine - words directly from Heavenly Father. How wonderful!

There was a little tickle rumbling in Jill's stomach. She was a little hungry but it wasn't bad. The patriarch had asked her to fast on this special day so that they would have the spirit with them. Patriarch Lancaster said he would be fasting too. Jill could feel the spirit already.

There it was! Patriarch Lancaster's house came into view as Father turned the next corner. Soon, the car came to a stop and Father opened the door for Mother and for Jill. The boys had scampered out of the other side of the car and were already running for the front door. It was nice that they could come to Patriarch Lancaster's house to hear this blessing.

The church was a wonderful place to be but it just seemed more personal to be able to come to his house. Most patriarchs give blessings from their homes.

Ryan began pounding loudly upon the front door to the huge, white stucco house. Sister Lancaster opened the door and smiled broadly. "Come in, children," she said as she pointed the way into the house. "Hello, Jill," she spoke sweetly, putting her arm around Jill and guiding her in the direction of Patriarch Lancaster's office.

The gentle patriarch stood in the doorway smiling at the group. Jill felt at ease already. Now Father's arm was wrapped around her shoulders as they entered the cozy room.

It was a beautiful room, filled with books of all kinds and decorated with dozens of pictures of the Lancaster family.

Patriarch Lancaster told Jill to sit in the special chair in the center of the room. He took her recommend and set it on his desk. Father, Mother and the children sat in chairs around the room.

"Is it alright if Sister Lancaster joins us this afternoon, Jill?" Patriarch Lancaster asked. "She is my scribe. You see, we use a tape recorder to record the blessing I will give you, but just as a precaution, I will have Sister Lancaster write it down also."

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Jill had wondered how the patriarch would be able to remember everything he said today. "That made sense," she thought as she spied the tape recorder sitting on Patriarch Lancaster's desk.

The patriarch began speaking in hushed tones. He explained that a patriarchal blessing is a blessing directly from God. He told Jill how special it was and that she should read it often and follow its advice. He spoke of the sacredness of it and how she shouldn't read it to just anybody but that she should hold it sacred and keep it private except for very special family and friends.

Patriarch Lancaster also told her that he would tell her what her lineage was. Do you know what that word means? Your lineage is made up of your ancestors. It is your family line. We are all descendants of Jacob and the twelve tribes of Israel and so she would be told in her blessing which of the sons of Jacob she was a relative of. Isn't that a wonderful thing to be told?

Excitement was everywhere through the room as Mother smiled and Father leaned forward to listen better. Patriarch Lancaster placed both of his hands upon Jill's head. "Are you ready, Jill?" he whispered.

Jill nodded her head up and down and clasped her hands in her lap. Mother got a little teary eyed, Father looked very proud and even the children were being reverent. You could feel the spirit very strong. It was a wonderful feeling.

Patriarch Lancaster gave Jill the most beautiful blessing. He told her she came from the tribe of Ephraim. He gave her amazing promises for her future if she was faithful. He warned her about dangers that might come in her life and how to avoid them. He spoke to her as God would speak to her. It was a great experience.

At the close of the blessing, Brother Lancaster gave Jill a hug and shook Father's hand. In fact, he shook everyone's hand as they all paraded out the door to the car.

Soon, the little family was tucked neatly in the van and on their way home. Jill didn't feel like talking. She had a warm, fuzzy feeling inside her that she didn't want to lose. She felt loved by her Father in Heaven. She felt good.

In two weeks, there was a large letter sitting on the table when Jill got home from school. It was addressed to her and it was from Patriarch Lancaster. Jill fumbled to get it open and read her blessing. It was exactly the same. That good feeling came again. She would read it often and she marched upstairs to put it in a very special place.

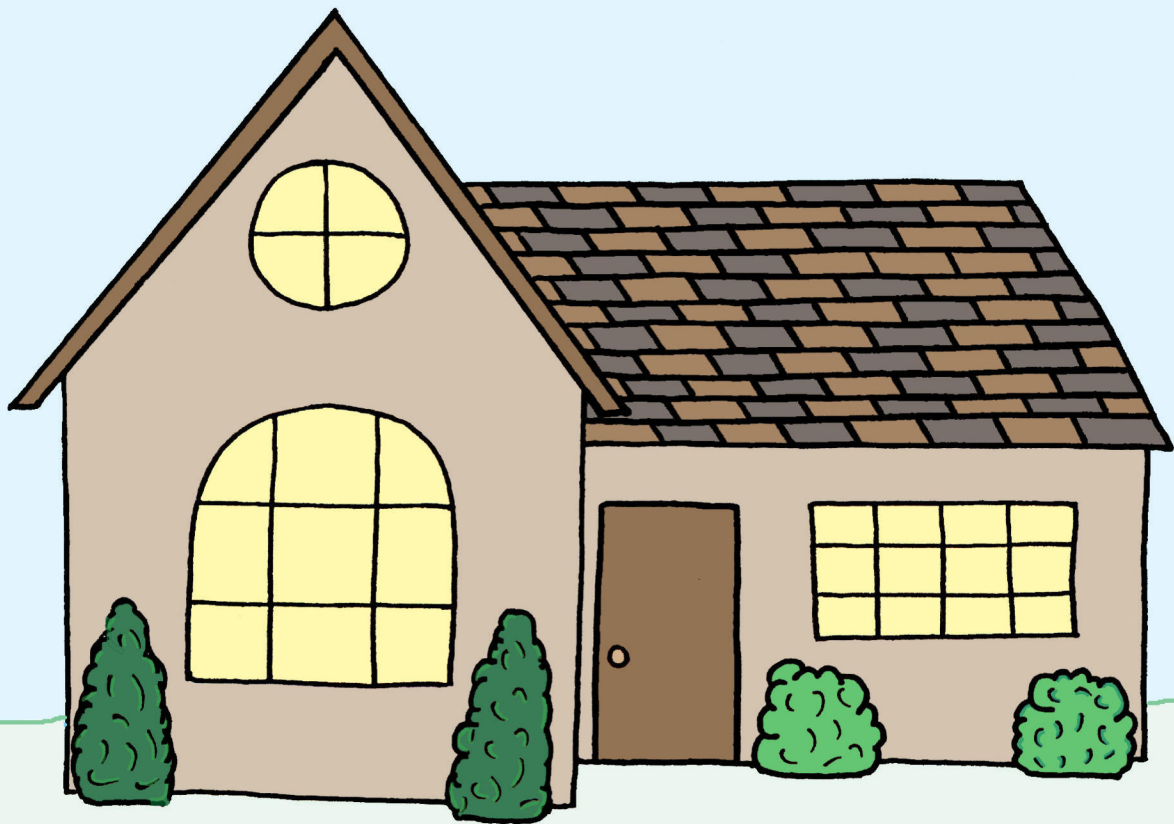
When David O. McKay was the prophet of the Church in 1957, he and his counselors defined what a patriarchal blessing is. They said, "Patriarchal blessings contemplate an inspired declaration of the lineage of the recipient, and also where so moved upon by the Spirit, an inspired and prophetic statement of the life mission of the recipient, together with such blessings, cautions, and admonitions as the patriarch may be prompted to give for the accomplishment of such life's mission, it being always made clear that the realization of all promised blessings is conditioned upon faithfulness to the gospel of our Lord, whose servant the patriarch is. All such blessings are recorded and generally only one such blessing should be adequate for each person's life. The sacred nature of the patriarchal blessing must of necessity urge all patriarchs to most earnest solicitation of divine guidance for their prophetic utterances and superior wisdom for cautions and admonitions."

A patriarchal blessing is not a fortune being told. It is not scary. It is special and sacred, coming directly from Heavenly Father. We must never think of it as being anything else. When a person feels they are old enough and mature enough, they can receive a recommend from their bishop and then receive their blessing. It is something that will give us counsel, strength, wisdom, comfort and warnings for our individual lives. It is something that we should all take advantage of when the time is right.

DISCUSSION

- Why do you think Heavenly Father has given us this special opportunity to have patriarchal blessings?
- How does it make you feel to know that the words that the patriarch speaks to you, are directly from your Heavenly Father?
- How can a patriarchal blessing help you in your life?

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Patriarch Lancaster's House

Patriarch Lancaster
112 Cedar St.
Evanston, Wyoming 82941

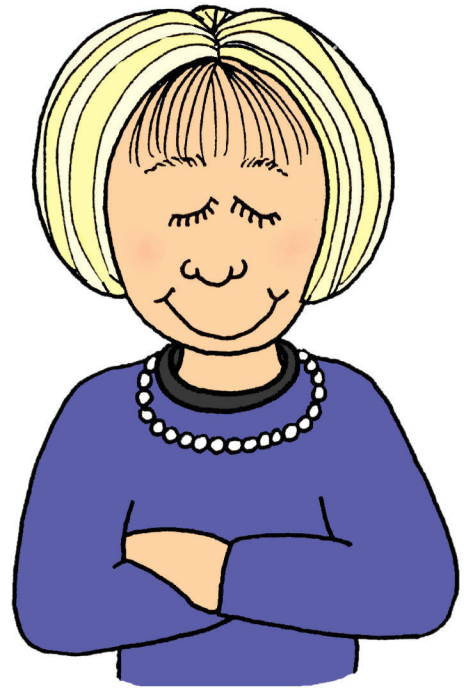
Sister Jill Jeppson
420 Miller Lane
Evanston, Wyoming 82941

Jill's patriarchal blessing

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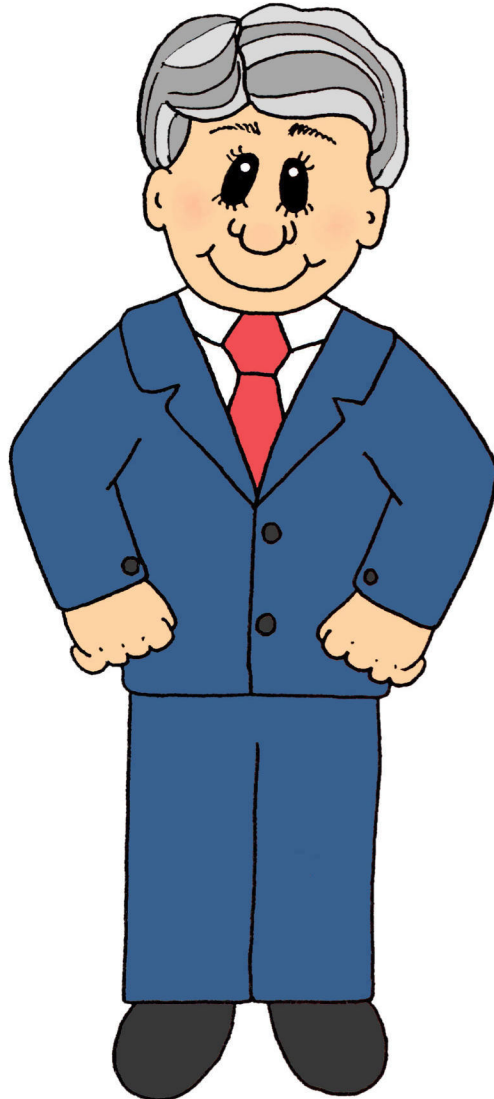


Patriarch
Lancaster

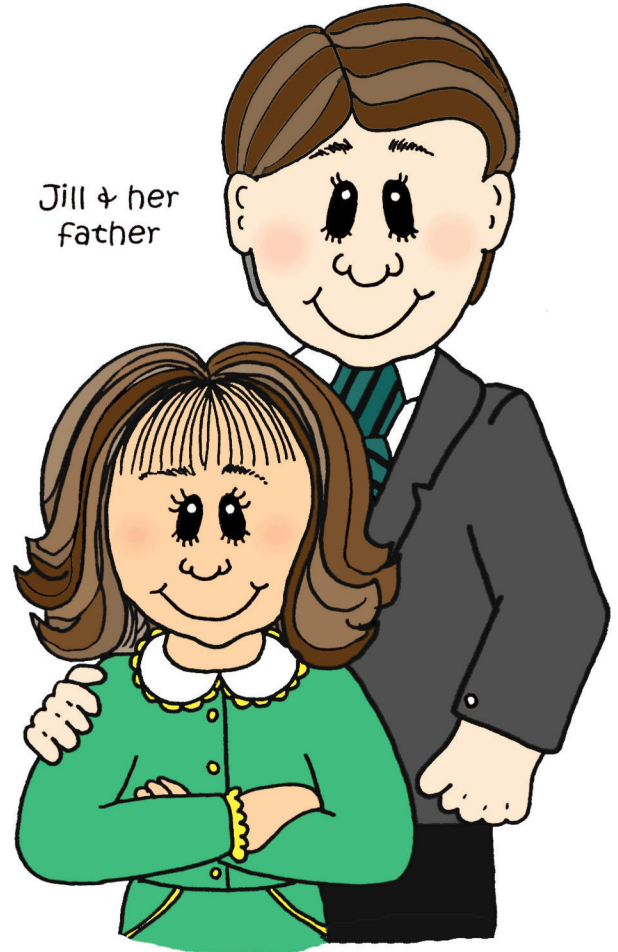


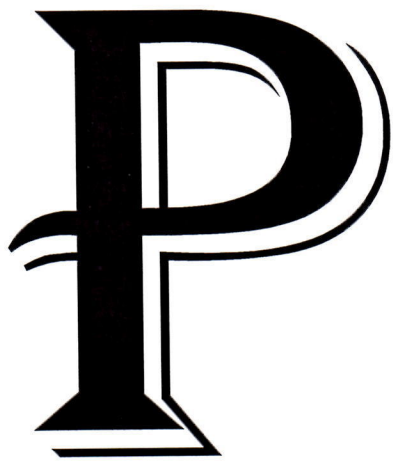
Mother listening
to the
patriarchal
blessing

Jill



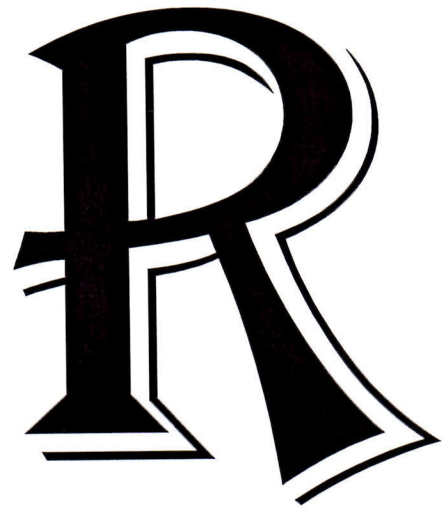
Jill & her
father





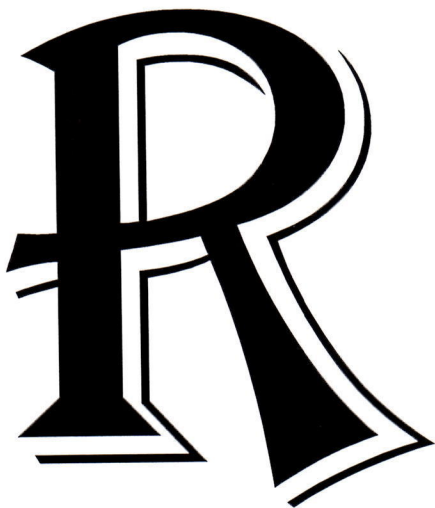
is for

Patriarch



is for

Revelation



is for

Recipient



is for

Admonitions

"R" is for Revelation

"A patriarchal blessing is a **revelation** to the recipient, even a white line down the middle of the road, to protect, inspire, and motivate activity and righteousness. A patriarchal blessing literally contains chapters from your book of eternal possibilities."

Thomas S. Monson

#4

"A" is for Admonitions

Admonition means warning.

Often times, a patriarchal blessing will give admonitions to the recipient, to help them stay on the strait and narrow path. We need to pay attention to these warnings and follow the admonitions given in our patriarchal blessings.

#10

"P" is for Patriarch

"It is the duty of the Twelve, in all large branches of the church, to ordain evangelical ministers, as they shall be designated unto them by revelation."

D&C 107:39

An **evangelist** is a **patriarch**. Stake patriarchs are called and ordained by the apostles. A patriarch is a high priest. A patriarch's duty is to give patriarchal blessings to the members of the Church.

#1

"R" is for Recipient

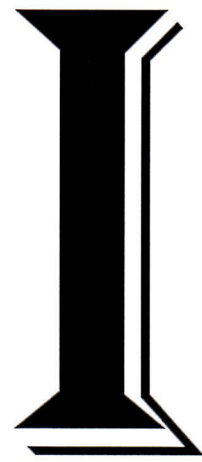
A **recipient** is the person receiving the patriarchal blessing. It is recommended that a recipient be at least twelve years of age. When the recipient feels that he or she is ready and worthy to receive their patriarchal blessing, they can request an interview with their bishop.

#7



is for

Adhere



is for

Interview



is for

Compass



is for

Lineage

"I" is for Interview

Before we can receive a patriarchal blessing, we need to schedule an **interview** with the bishop. He will ask you questions to make sure that you are worthy to receive this special blessing.

#5

"L" is for Lineage

Our lineage is one of the most significant things given to us in our patriarchal blessing.

"Regardless of our race, nationality, or ethnic background, our patriarchal blessings declare that we are of the lineage of Abraham and therefore heirs to all the blessings of the Abrahamic covenant."

S. Michael Wilcox

#11

"A" is for Adhere

"I would encourage you . . . to receive a patriarchal blessing. Study it carefully and regard it as personal scripture to you - for that indeed is what it is."

Ezra Taft Benson

Adhere means to follow. As President Benson stated, we need to regard our patriarchal blessings as personal scripture, and adhere to what it tells us.

#2

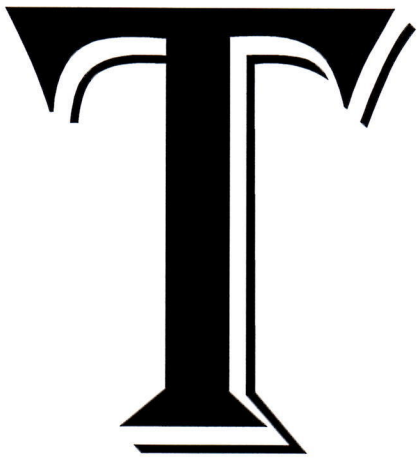
"C" is for Compass

"The same Lord who provided a Liahona for Lehi provides for you and for me today a rare and valuable gift to give direction to our lives."

Thomas S. Monson

We can use our patriarchal blessings as a **compass** in our lives. We can use it as a guide, to direct us in our walk through this life. Ultimately, if followed, we can return and live with our Heavenly Father.

#8

A large, bold, black letter 'T' with a white outline and a drop shadow effect, centered in the top-left box.

is for

Treasure

A large, bold, black letter 'A' with a white outline and a drop shadow effect, centered in the top-right box.

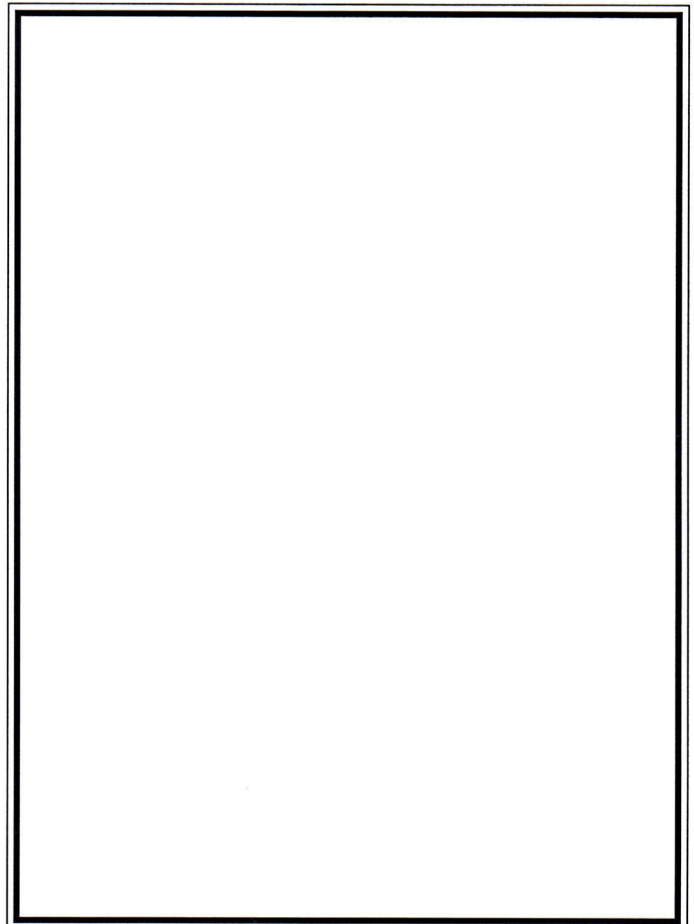
is for

Abstain

A large, bold, black letter 'H' with a white outline and a drop shadow effect, centered in the bottom-left box.

is for

*Heavenly
Father*



"A" is for Abstain

The patriarch normally asks the recipient to **abstain** from food or in other words, fast and pray for twenty-four hours before receiving a patriarchal blessing. The Patriarch also fasts and prays before giving a patriarchal blessing. This is to ensure that both the patriarch and the recipient are spiritually in tune with the spirit.

#6

P is for *Patriarch*
A is for *Adhere*
T is for *Treasure*
R is for *Revelation*
I is for *Interview*
A is for *Abstain*
R is for *Recipient*
C is for *Compass*
H is for *Heavenly Father*
A is for *Admonitions*
L is for *Lineage*

"T" is for Treasure

"Every worthy member of the Church is entitled to receive such a precious and priceless personal treasure."

Thomas S. Monson

We should treat our patriarchal blessings as a priceless **treasure**.

We should treat them with reverence and consider them sacred.

We should only share them with close family members and friends.

#3

"H" is for Heavenly Father

Isn't it wonderful that we have this opportunity to receive a direct revelation from our **Heavenly Father** that pertains to just you and I? Your **Heavenly Father** loves you, and He wants you to return to live with Him again! A patriarchal blessing is His personal message to you. He will give you words of advice to help you with your life mission, warn you of potential pitfalls and tell you of blessings that can be yours. All of course, depending on your faithfulness.

#9

"The same Lord who provided a Liahona for Lehi provides for you and for me today a rare and valuable gift to give direction to our lives, to mark the hazards to our safety, and to chart the way, even safe passage - not to a promised land, but to our heavenly home. The gift to which I refer is known as your patriarchal blessing."

Thomas S. Monson