Pumpkin ACORN Blessing Gift Instructions

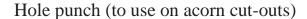
Supplies:

Acorns (collected from the trees in the neighborhood)

Pumpkins (Dollar Tree – some are already decorate, some would have to be decorated w/fall leaves)

Fall leaves & fall decor trim (only need this if the pumpkins are not already decorated.)

Acorn cut-outs printed on brownish colored cardstock (used for tags – optional, but cute)

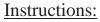


Hot glue gun to glue acorns on to pumpkins

Black ribbon & scissors to tie devotion and acorn cut-out to the pumpkin

Devotion below printed in color

Mini rubber bands to put around devotions rolled up like a scroll



Decorate your pumpkin if not already done.

Print and cut out acorn tags with scissors

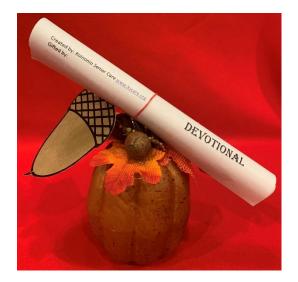
Hole punch each acorn in small stem (to "thread" with ribbon later)

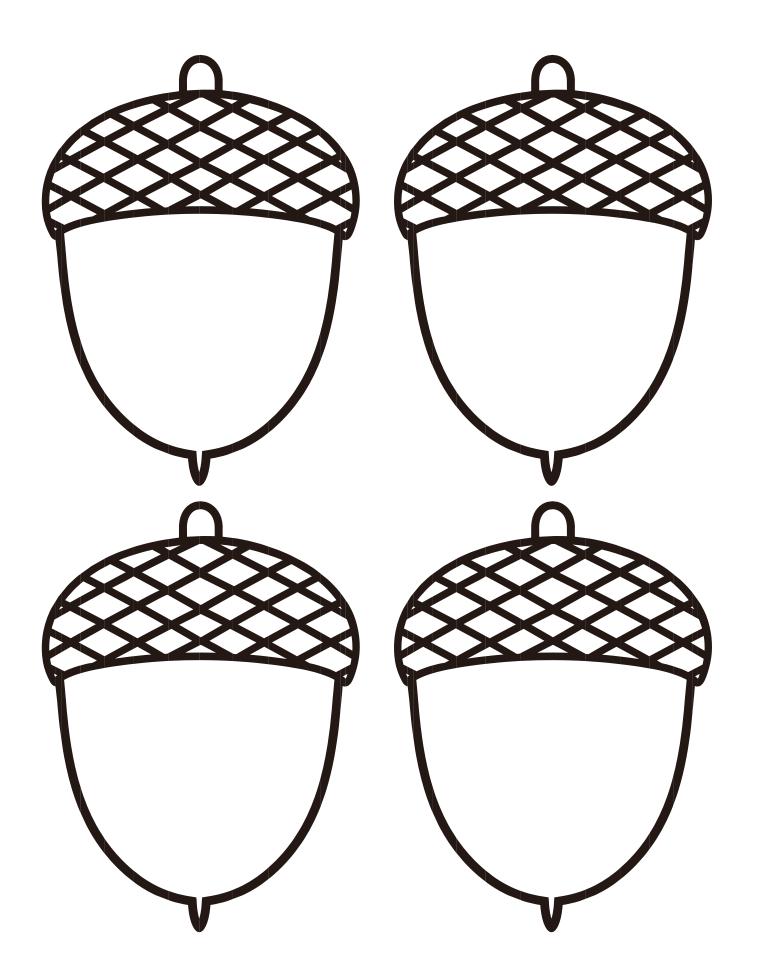
Hot glue 1-3 acorns to the top of each pumpkin where it will look nice.

Roll the devotions into a scroll. Use mini rubber bands to secure.

Cut black ribbon to about 9."

"Thread" the ribbon through the rubber band on the scroll and then "Thread" the acorn cut-out through it, too, before tying the ribbon to the stem of the pumpkin.





Mighty Oaks & Little Acorns

As I was walking around the lake with my dog, I noticed acorns on the ground. I picked one up. I remembered I had a good children's book about the acorn, written by Max Lucado, called, *The Oak Inside the Acorn*. The story highlights the adventure of a sweet little acorn becoming a



big, strong oak tree. The reader follows with wonder as the tree grows up and eventually learns his very special purpose in life. His mother's words came back to him on many occasions, "Within you is a great oak, Little Acorn. Just be the tree God made you to be."

As I re-read the book, however, I looked at life from the Big Mama Oak's perspective. She's losing her little acorns because they've all grown up and left home. Below are some additional insights worth sharing with you, my Big *Senior* Oaks, reading this devotional:

- Letting go and saying good-bye never seems to get easier.
- All of us, no matter our age, has unique gifts and purpose throughout life.
- Life is a journey, and God has a plan for us through each season.
- It takes time to grow into all God has created us to be.
- As Big Oaks, we still have purpose and contribute to the well-being of others.
- Our words matter. Encourage others to be what God is making them to be.
- Our roots are what keep us strong and mighty as a Big Oak. Keep them well-watered and nourished in God's Word.

Animals and birds stock up on acorns during the autumn months to build up their fat layers to carry them through winter. As Big Oaks, let's make sure we stock up on God's Word to sustain us through the winter seasons of our lives, too.

You have been gifted an acorn from my morning walks to remind you of your blessed and holy calling of being a Big Oak in your family and in the lives of those around you.



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