

Sandy Utah
Crescent
Stake

MISSION and LIFE PREPARATION



Home
Centered
Church
Supported

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are so grateful for you and your goodness and love of the Lord. It is a great privilege to serve the Lord and each other with you. During recent years, the Lord has invited us to think and behave differently under the direction of His living prophets. We embrace these revelatory changes, and invite everyone to purposefully plan and implement more gospel-oriented actions in our homes and individual lives.

Blessings will flow as we follow inspired counsel. The home is the best place to learn Christ-like characteristics and take greater personal and family responsibility for individual conversion and spiritual growth. It should be the foundation for a lifelong process of conversion.

As a stake presidency, we feel strongly that this invitation from the Lord also includes taking greater personal and family responsibility for mission and life preparation. It is with great love that we invite each member of our stake--as parents, couples, families, friends and individuals--to seek greater revelation to understand and best implement missionary and life preparation.

We have felt impressed to prepare this booklet to support those willing to heed the prophet's charge to teach, train and prepare for life and to serve as full-time missionaries. We trust that under the direction of inspired Bishops each ward will be in a position to provide "church supported" resources to supplement and assist in this effort.

We express appreciation to Craig and Carolyn Cheney, Eric and Pam Bishop, and others who have dedicated time researching, compiling and editing this information. This booklet is a compilation of Church-provided material, suggestions from returned mission presidents, and other resources. It can serve as a guide to parents and children alike.

With sincere gratitude and love,
Sandy Utah Crescent Stake Presidency

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Sandy Utah Crescent Stake
Home Centered – Church Supported

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Preparation Overview and List of Resources

Mission and life preparation begin when parents have the joy of bringing children into this world. In love and righteousness, they raise children to learn and love the gospel and understand their divine destiny. They teach that we all have an opportunity, through the atonement of Christ and repentance, to return to the presence of Heavenly Father. See “The Living Christ: The Testimony of the Apostles” and “The Family – A Proclamation to the World.”

Ongoing preparation continues from early developmental years throughout life. For example: planning for spiritual, social, physical, intellectual and financial growth; developing personal life and leadership skills; implementing ways to understand doctrine; and living the gospel. Actions beginning at a young age may help define success in life. Sharing practical ideas will benefit other individuals and families. See enclosed sample Mission and Life Preparation Matrix (pages 19-20) and sample List of Preparation Activities by Age (pages 21-25).

Continued daily study, learning, teaching, service-oriented actions, following the promptings of the spirit, and focus on setting and achieving goals and eternal objectives will provide overall success. Sharing the gospel joy with others helps gather Israel and build God’s kingdom.

A few years before serving a full-time mission, we invite increased study and discussions as individuals, families, friends and other groups (institute, other church supported preparation classes, etc.) to facilitate further learning, deeper conversion, and action plans. In addition to Come, Follow Me, the resources to study include:

- *The Book of Mormon and other scriptures – study with greater intent*
- *Missionary section of Church website – see www.churchofjesuschrist.org/callings/missionary*
- *Standard Interview Questions for Prospective Missionaries, Interviewing Introduction and Appendix of Terms (pages 26-38) See October 20, 2017 First Presidency letter & attachments*
- *Preach My Gospel – each chapter or sub-section may be a separate discussion topic*
- *Missionary Handbook – handbook content may be good lesson topics*
- *Volunteer time and talent on the Church website – see www.churchofjesuschrist.org/topics/serve-and-teach/volunteer-time-and-talent*
- *Other resources also on the Church website and mobile apps including: For the Strength of Youth, True to the Faith, Teaching in the Savior's Way, Handbook 2: Administering the Church, Adjusting to Missionary Life, Institute Missionary Preparation Manual, lesson pamphlets, etc.*
- *Various Church Videos & Media Library – such as “The District” a real missionary life video series*
- *A Guide to Preparing to Receive the Melchizedek Priesthood (pages 39-40)*
- *Preparing to Enter the Holy Temple pamphlet, Sandy Utah Crescent Stake, 2018 Temple Preparation in the Home and its supplement The Gathering of Israel (distributed separately)*
- *Lesson and study ideas from others in our stake such as: Ten Keys to Prepare for A Mission (pages 6-15), Sample Lesson / Discussion Plan (pages 16-18), etc.*

Mission and Life Preparation

A Lifelong Process and Eternal Pursuit

Throughout life we are encouraged to continue our personal and family worship through daily prayer and study of the scriptures – to utilize Church resources such as Come Follow Me for individuals and families – maintain full activity in the Church – and strive to live the gospel of Jesus Christ. These daily preparations provide a foundation for eternal life and true happiness. We encourage the natural practice of ministering to all and inviting friends and loved ones to participate in our joyful path of testimony building, family events, church conversion, and life experiences.

It is a blessing to live and share the gospel throughout life, to help gather Israel and build the kingdom of God, and to stay on the covenant path. The covenant path includes essential ordinances that lead to exaltation and eternal life. The saving ordinances include baptism, confirmation, ordination to the Melchizedek Priesthood (for men), the temple endowment, and the marriage sealing. These are important necessary steps for individuals and will bless you and your family in this life and throughout eternity.

Preparation for each ordinance is beneficial. Understanding the baptismal covenant includes taking on the name of Christ and keeping the commandments. See Mosiah 18:8-10. Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthood preparation includes learning about responsibilities, principles, and the Oath and Covenant of the priesthood. Read and Study Doctrine and Covenants 13; 20; and 84:33-48. See enclosure: Preparing to Receive the Melchizedek Priesthood.

President Russell M. Nelson stated, “the end for which each of us strives is to be endowed with power in a house of the Lord, sealed as families, faithful to covenants made in a temple that qualify us for the greatest gift of God, that of eternal life.” Temple endowment preparation includes: studying the booklet “Preparing to Enter the Holy Temple;” learning from and counseling with parents, family, ministering brothers and sisters, leaders, and others you trust; studying church and stake resources and material to understand the significance of the temple and the ordinances and covenants received therein. See “Sandy Utah Crescent Stake, 2018 Temple Preparation in the Home” and its supplement “The Gathering of Israel.”

Key prerequisites for the opportunity to serve a full-time mission include the ordinances mentioned above except for temple marriage. The Lord expects individuals and each future missionary to prepare spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally, and financially for life and service. Preparing missionaries should be a high priority for parents, children, leaders, and teachers.

We invite all to prepare for missions in this life and for eternal life to come.

Common Principles of Mission and Life Preparation

What do the principles of Life Preparation and Mission Preparation have in common?

A. Love of God our Heavenly Father:

1. Focus on coming closer to Jesus Christ.

Our Savior invites each of us: "...will ye not now return unto me, and repent of your sins, and be converted, that I may heal you?"

2. How do I take the next step closer to Him?

B. Love our neighbors & fellowman:

1. Learn an outward focus on others

a. Lifting others & helping them become better people

b. Learn to invite and help others to do good, be good and come unto Christ

c. Learning to truly care for others, listen to them and be their friend

2. Service to others in your family, neighborhood, school or community

C. Personal Development

1. Growth and goals

a. Spiritual

b. Social

c. Physical

d. Intellectual

e. Emotional

2. Work and self-reliance

f. Financial goals

g. Learn specific skills of interest to you

h. Develop a good work ethic

i. Learn how to do hard things

Ten Keys to Prepare for a Mission

(Contributed by Craig and Carolyn Cheney)

Who should serve a mission?

President Thomas S. Monson said: “We affirm that missionary work is a priesthood duty – and we encourage all young men who are worthy and who are physically able and mentally capable to respond to the call to serve. Many young women also serve, but they are not under the same mandate to serve as are the young men. We assure the young sisters of the Church, however, that they make a valuable contribution as missionaries, and we welcome their service.” (President Thomas S. Monson, “Welcome to Conference,” Liahona, November 2012, at 4).

How do I get ready to serve?

Plan when you will serve

Talk with your parents, priesthood leaders, or trusted leader to help you find answers to your questions. Every missionary who is called and assigned or reassigned to a particular mission is called by revelation through the Lord’s servants, the prophets. A member of the Quorum of the Twelve assigns prospective missionaries to one of more than three hundred missions of the Church.

How early can I submit my missionary papers? Recommendation papers for full-time service may be submitted to Church headquarters by the prospective missionary’s stake president 120 days prior to his or her availability date.

To start the recommendation process, first meet with your bishop or branch president. He will give you access to the Missionary Online Recommendation system. (Preparing to Serve a Full-Time Mission/ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)

Key steps to prepare to serve

1. Daily prayer

One of the greatest blessings and privileges and opportunities we have as children of our Heavenly Father is that we can communicate with Him. We can speak to Him of our life experiences, trials, and blessings. We can listen for and receive celestial guidance from the Holy Spirit. We can offer our petitions to heaven and receive an assurance that our prayers have been heard and that He will answer them as a loving and wise Father.” (Dieter F. Uchtdorf, “Prayer and the Blue Horizon.”)

“Nevertheless the children of God were commanded that they should gather themselves oft, and join in fasting and mighty prayer in behalf of the welfare of the souls of those who knew not God.” (Alma 6:6)

2. Daily reading of the scriptures

Study the scriptures, especially the Book of Mormon, every day. “The scriptures can form a foundation of support. They can provide an incredibly large resource of willing friends who can help us. A memorized scripture becomes an enduring friend that is not weakened with passage of time.” (Richard G. Scott, “The Power of Scripture,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2011.)

“Behold, I would exhort you that when ye shall read these things, if it be wisdom in God that ye should read them, that ye would remember how merciful the Lord hath been unto the children of men, from the creation of Adam even down until the time that ye shall receive these things, and ponder it in your hearts.”

“And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with

a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.”

“And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things.” (Moroni 10:3-5)

3. Study Preach My Gospel (A Guide to Missionary Service)

What Is My Purpose as a Missionary? Invite others to come unto Christ by helping them receive the restored gospel through faith in Jesus Christ and His Atonement, repentance, baptism, receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, and enduring to the end.

Topics covered in “Preach My Gospel (A Guide to Missionary Service):

- How Do I Study Effectively and Prepare to Teach?
- What Do I Study and Teach?
- The Message of the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - The Plan of Salvation
 - The Gospel of Jesus Christ
 - The Commandments
 - Laws and Ordinances
- How Do I Recognize and Understand the Spirit?
- What is the Role of the Book of Mormon?
- How Do I Develop Christlike Attributes?
- How Can I Better Learn My Mission language?
- How Do I Use Time Wisely?
- How Do I Find People to Teach?
- How Can I Improve My Teaching Skills?
- How Do I Help People Make and Keep Commitments?
- How Do I Prepare People for Baptism and Confirmation?
- How Do I Work with Stake and Ward Leaders?

4. Gospel Knowledge and Testimony

Your most important preparation will be spiritual. “First seek to obtain my word, and then shall your tongue be loosed” (D&C 11:21).

- **Study Preach My Gospel and share what you have learned.** Preach My Gospel is intended to help you be a better prepared, more spiritually mature missionary and more persuasive teacher. We urge you to use it daily in your personal...preparation... Study the referenced scriptures and learn the doctrines and principles. (First Presidency Message, “Preach My Gospel”)
- **Attend church, ask questions in your class and quorum meetings, and try to answer other people’s questions.** “While learning from a good teacher is very important, it is more important for you to have meaningful learning experiences on your own. Getting good results from your study depends on having a strong desire to learn, studying with ‘real intent’ (Moroni 10:4), ‘hungering and thirsting after righteousness’ (Matthew 5:6), and searching for answers to questions and concerns.”
- **Realize the blessings of attending seminary.** “Seminary will help you to understand and rely on the teachings of the Atonement of Jesus Christ. You will feel the Spirit of the Lord as you learn to love the scriptures. You will prepare yourselves for the temple and for missionary service.” (President Thomas S. Monson, “Participate in Seminary,” Aug. 12, 2011)
- **Serve Others.** “The Savior taught His disciples, ‘For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.’ I

believe the Savior is telling us that unless we lose ourselves in service to others, there is little purpose to our own lives. Those who live only for themselves eventually shrivel up and figuratively lose their lives, while those who lose themselves in service to others grown and flourish -and in effect save their lives." (President Thomas S. Monson, "What Have I Done for Someone Today?")

5. Personal Worthiness

To teach others the gospel, you must have the Holy Spirit with you (see D&C 42:14). To have the Spirit, you must be worthy.

- **Learn about the standards of worthiness.** Study the section titled "Virtue" in chapter 6 of Preach My Gospel, including the Scripture Study activity.
- **Prospective Fulltime Missionary interview questions.** (See separate document). Your righteousness gives others a confirmation of the goodness of life anchored in eternal truth. If you haven't yet been a missionary, prepare to be one. You will bless many other lives and crown your own with great, enduring rewards." (Elder Richard G. Scott, "The Power of Righteousness, Ensign, Nov. 1998.)
- **Partake of the sacrament.** Each of us has a need to confess and forsake our sins and errors to our Heavenly Father and to others we may have offended. The Sabbath provides us with a precious opportunity to offer up these – our sacraments – to the Lord." (Elder L. Tom Perry, "The Sabbath and the Sacrament," Ensign, May 2011).

Before you partake of the sacrament, ponder your words, thoughts, and deeds of the past week, and repent of your sins and errors so that the Holy Ghost can be with you.

- **Get a temple recommend, keep it current, and visit the temple often.** “Qualify to enter the temple of God. Secure a temple recommend and regard it as a precious possession, for such it is.” (President Thomas S. Monson, The Holy Temple – a Beacon to the World,” Ensign, May 2011)
- **If you have any concerns regarding your worthiness, talk with your bishop or branch president as soon as possible.** “Should there be anything amiss in your life, there is open to you a way out. Cease any unrighteousness. Talk with your bishop. Whatever the problem, it can be worked out through proper repentance. You can become clean once again.” (President Thomas S. Monson, “Priesthood Power,” Ensign, May 2011)

6. Work and Self-Reliance

The work of bringing souls to Christ requires “all your heart, might, mind and strength” (D&C 4:2). Missionaries need to know how to work hard, set goals, and plan as they seek to serve the Lord.

- **If possible, work with the missionaries in your area.** “The single most important thing you can do to prepare for a call to serve is to become a missionary long before you go on a mission.” (Elder David A. Bednar, “Becoming a Missionary,” Ensign, Nov 2005.)
- **Become more proactive and independent.** “Whether future missionaries go away to college or for work, living away from home helps them adjust to the necessary

independence of being a missionary. This also provides opportunities for them to wash their own clothing, clean their own living areas, prepare food, and be responsible for their own safety and well-being. Even if future missionaries cannot live away from home, they can be more independent by taking on these responsibilities." (Robert K. Wagstaff, "Preparing Emotionally for Missionary Service," Ensign, Mar. 2011.)

- **Meet new people and talk to them about a variety of topics.** "Young people need to learn social and other skills: how to participate in a conversation, how to get acquainted and interact with others, ...how to pursue hobbies without becoming addicted, how to correct mistakes and make better choices." (Elder D. Todd Christofferson, "Brethren, We Have Work to Do," Ensign, Nov. 2012).
- **Plan and set goals.** "It is necessary to prepare and to plan so that we don't fritter away our lives. Without a goal, there can be no real success. ...Wishing will not replace thorough preparation to meet the trials of life. Preparation is hard work but absolutely essential for our progress." (President Thomas S. Monson, "Treasure of Eternal Value, Ensign Apr. 2008). Read chapter 8 of Preach My Gospel, "How Do I Use Time Wisely" study "How to Set Goals" and "Accountability" (pages 146-51).

7. Physical and Emotional Health

To be an effective servant, missionaries need to be able to endure the physical and emotional rigors of mission life and learn how the Lord can help them overcome disappointments and challenges.

- **Learn about and practice good physical health.** "Maintain your health so that you can serve with all you

heart, might, might, mind, and strength.” “They were all young..., and they were exceedingly valiant for courage, and also for strength and activity” (Alma 53:20)

- **Learn about the basic physical requirements for a mission.** A missionary must be able to walk an average of six miles (10km) per day and ride a bicycle 12 miles (19km) per day.” (Donald B. Doty, *Missionary Health Preparation*,” Ensign, Mar 2007).
- **Learn about and practice good emotional health.** “Missionary service is emotionally demanding. Your support system is going to be withdrawn from you as you leave home and go out into the world. ...There will be days of rejection and disappointment. Learn now about your emotional limits and learn how to control your emotions under the circumstances you will face as a missionary.” (Elder L. Tom Perry, “Raising the Bar,” Ensign, Nov. 2007).

8. Financial Preparation

A mission is a financial sacrifice made primarily by the missionary and his or her family.

- **Find a way to earn and save money for your mission.** “You need to prepare financially. ...I speak to that young man who doesn’t have any idea how he can finance a mission. I do not know either. But I do know this: if you have faith and determine that you will go, there will be a way. Opportunities will come to you as manna from heaven. Do not let that deter you from your duty.” (President Boyd K. Packer, “Come, All Ye Sons of God,” Ensign, Aug. 1983).
- **Pay tithing.** “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, ...and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if

I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." (Malachi 3:10)

"All...who...are willing to observe their covenants by sacrifice...are accepted of me" (D&C 97:8).

9. Capture the Vision

"After all that has been said, **the greatest and most important duty is to preach the Gospel**" (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith).

"We are all in this together. With fellow ward members and missionaries, we plan and pray and help one another. Please keep the full-time missionaries in your thoughts and prayers. Trust them with your family and friends. The Lord trusts them and has called them to teach and bless those who seek Him." (Elder Neil L. Andersen)

"I hope you enjoy this work. I really do. Notwithstanding all the problems, this is a work of happiness. This is the good news! This is a work of joy! I hope you can laugh and smile and be happy and rejoice before the Lord over the great opportunity that you have to serve as a leader in carrying forth the work to the world wherever you may be assigned to go. And I'd like to say, concerning that, it doesn't matter where you go. A soul saved in Provo is as valuable as a soul saved in Copenhagen, or anywhere else in the world. We're out to save the sons and daughters of God by teaching them the gospel. Find your happiness doing it." (*Mission Presidents Seminar, June 24, 1995. Teachings of Gordon B. Hinckley, p. 255*)

"Remember that this work is not yours and mine alone. It is the Lord's work, and when we are on the Lord's errand, we are entitled to the Lord's help. Remember that the Lord will shape the back to bear the burden placed upon it"

President Thomas S. Monson, “To Learn, to Do, to Be,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2008).

“The Savior invites all to follow Him into the waters of baptism and, in time, to make additional covenants with God in the temple and receive and be faithful to those further essential ordinances. All these are required if we want to be exalted with our families and with God forever.

I testify that God lives! Jesus is the Christ. His Church and fulness of His gospel have been restored to bless our lives with joy, here and hereafter. I so testify in the name of Jesus Christ, amen. (President Russell M. Nelson, “Come Follow Me,” General Conference Apr. 2019)

- 10. Learn how to minister to all; and then invite and help others take the next step closer to Jesus Christ.**

Sample Lesson / Discussion Plan
Missionary Preparation in the Home
(Contributed by Eric and Pamela Bishop)

Long before you leave to serve a fulltime mission and as you think about others, pray for ways to invite and help them take the next step closer to the Savior.

This document follows the pattern found in Preach My Gospel of learning with help from the Holy Ghost in order to understand a doctrine or principle and then taking positive, faith-based actions.

Audience: All families and individuals that live within the stake.
(This material should be adapted to each family and individual's unique circumstances)

Scope: Home Centered, Church Supported.

How can families and individuals have experiences that will help them to build the desire and faith necessary to share the restored gospel, minister to others and serve missions?

What doctrine(s) if understood would lead a family or individual to action?

Doctrine &

Principles: A sample place to start...

Reflect upon and discuss, how do families and individuals access the Atonement of Jesus Christ?

In a family setting or as an individual read, memorize, discuss and act upon the following:

- Luke 4:18-19 The Savior's declaration regarding the scope of His Atonement:

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

How can I implement these attitudes and behavior in my personal ministry & missionary service?

- Missionary Purpose found in Preach My Gospel ("PMG")

Invite others to come unto Christ by helping them receive the restored gospel through faith in Jesus Christ and His Atonement, repentance, baptism, receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, and enduring to the end.

How can I invite and help others to come unto Christ?

- Watch and discuss the church video: "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go"

What did I learn? What did I feel? What will I do?

Application: Invitation to act.

Invite each family member or individual to discuss and build an Action Plan* based on insights, impressions and understanding received while studying and discussing the

doctrines and principles mentioned above. Some examples for your consideration:

1. In your invitations and ministry, how can you emulate the Savior's attitudes and behaviors as mentioned in Luke 4:18-19?
2. How can I invite someone to take the next step closer to the Savior?
3. How can I help others receive the restored gospel through...? (see Preach My Gospel page 1)
 - Faith in Jesus Christ & His Atonement
 - Repentance
 - Baptism
 - Receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost
 - Enduring to the end
4. What actions did I observed in the "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go" video that I will do as an individual or with my family?

* After completing your action plan and applying the doctrine or principle learned, report your experience to your family or a friend. Talk about how the experience made you feel and what you learned or what you may do differently next time.

It would also be a powerful experience to model this behavior through group discussions and role-plays.

Mission and Life Preparation Matrix

	Birth - Seven	Eight - Ten
Prayer & Fasting	Have daily personal and family pray - follow parents example	Expand fasting concept
Scriptures	Develop personal & family reading habits with scriptures - parents read to ... then child reads	
Family Home Evening	Listen to family members' testimonies then begin to share what you believe	Teach concepts and baptismal covenants at FHE
Personal - Family Council	Listen, observe and participate - Family fun and vacations	Learn to plan and set goals
Service	Sharing - Assist family and friends - Love your neighbor (give help or a gift)	
Study, Learn & Teach	Books - Hands on learning & discovery - "Come Follow Me" Individual & family program - School studies - Develop positive learning habits - Use Church website	
Spirit & Testimony	Quiet time - Recognize peace vs. contention - Share testimony at home	Baptism and gift of Holy Ghost
Desire & Faith	Play and share with others. Make friends and Invite friends to family events and church activities	
Worthiness	Learning right from wrong - Commandments - Choose the Right	Choice and Accountability
Work & Health	Do household chores - put away toys and expand to cleaning, washing dishes, cooking, mowing lawn, etc. Develop good grooming	
Savings & Tithing	Open savings account and learn tithing concepts	Add to savings account - pay Lord first (tithing)
Music	Parents sing - Child learn primary and other songs	Consider learning to play an instrument
Church	Nursery activities/Primary Lessons - Baptism and Gift of Holy Ghost preparation - Utilize church resources	Begin Children & Youth Programs

Eleven - Sixteen	Seventeen - Adults
Power of fasting and praying for self and others - Seek Heavenly Father's will	<p>All you have learned and achieved thus far in life through personal development (spiritual, social, physical, intellectual); service to God and others; leadership; etc. has helped you prepare to further assist Heavenly Father in gathering Israel and building His kingdom.</p> <p>Continue to study, learn, teach, act on the promptings of the spirit, and proceed with your goals and eternal objectives with increased focus now and throughout your life. Remember love of Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, the Holy Ghost and all the people you meet. Seek God's will and be humble.</p> <p>– Well before time to go on a full-time mission, complete Melchizedek Priesthood, temple, and missionary preparation. Then use the online missionary portal to</p> <p>1)determine when you are available to go 2)complete mission application with required medical and dental exams in advance and submit based on indicated lead-time - currently 120 days before availability date 3)Continue to meet with your bishop regularly 4)Receive Melchizedek Priesthood 5)Receive temple endowment 6)follow all instructions received with mission call. Enjoy the wonderful opportunity to represent our Savior, Jesus Christ.</p> <p>– Note for adults: review various opportunities on Church website - in addition to full-time missions, see part-time CSM, MLS, Intercity, etc. missions - consider Alma Branch, Temple and other service.</p>
Re-read and study Book of Mormon and other curriculum	
Aaronic Priesthood preparation - Plan and teach full lessons/activities - Teach priesthood, temple & missionary preparation lessons to family	
Plan, set goals, organize, personal schedule and management - Help parents and siblings more each year - Family to pattern best practices	
Assist in gathering Israel - Ministering (plan, teach & improve each year) - Temple and Family History work	
Temple recommend questions, Learn Teaching in the Saviors Way, Missionary recommendation questions, Seminary, Preach My Gospel - Gospel doctrine	
Share testimony at church, Recognize the spirit, Act on feelings of the spirit and Deepen personal conversion	
Continue inviting friends to be with family ... to church ... and to be baptized - Seek spiritual gifts & magnify callings	
Plan of Salvation - Seek to reciprocate Heavenly Father's and Savior's love - Understanding Atonement and Repentance - Repentance is a process of joy	
Add other chores like laundry, ironing, sewing on buttons, bike repair, etc. - Physical and mental health (exercise and address anxiety, depression, etc.). Part-time job	
Pay tithe on increase. Save as much as possible from gifts, work, allowance, etc.	
Lead music at church and perform - Music has power to invite the spirit	
Continue Children & Youth Program - Priesthood and Temple preparation - AP & YW meet with bishopric regularly and teach quorum and class lessons - add Ministering in year you turn 14 - add Mission preparation in year you turn 16	

List of Preparation Activities by Age

This is a checklist and timeline for preparation to gain Life Skills, receive the Temple Endowment, receive the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthood, and serve a Full-time Mission – It is a list of ideas each family and individual should expand to meet individual needs. Also see summary Mission and Life Preparation Matrix.

The below checklist of ideas and requirements is additive – continue to do each step throughout life and include the next steps when age appropriate.

➤ *Infant – early childhood*

- ✓ Family open bank account to save for mission and college and add tithing concepts when age appropriate
- ✓ Regular family home evening, family council and “Come Follow Me” program to study gospel, build faith and testimony
- ✓ Develop desire to help and serve family, friends, the Lord and others
- ✓ Daily family/personal prayer and scripture study, especially the book of Mormon, children scripture books, church videos and resources, etc.
- ✓ Parents pattern actions of love (sharing, quiet time, cleaning, picking up toys, etc.) read stories and sing – learning right from wrong – enjoy learning and the discovery process – begin to recognize peace vs. contention – expand friendships – etc.

➤ *8 Years old*

- ✓ Utilize the Children and Youth program for gospel learning, service activities and personal development by growing spiritually, socially, physically and intellectually – set goals and achieve
- ✓ Begin doing more specific chores around the house (washing dishes, cleaning, mowing lawn, etc.)
- ✓ Implement D&C 68: 25-28 to prepare for baptism

- ✓ Baptism and Confirmation
- ✓ Learn more about choices and accountability
- ✓ Develop improved study habits at home and school
- ✓ Learn about fasting concepts to go along with prayer and caring for others
- ✓ Share testimony and begin teaching gospel topics and lead music in the home
- ✓ Begin discussing desire and worthiness to attend the temple, receive the priesthood, and serve a mission
- ✓ Identify more opportunities for service such as taking cookies or small gifts to neighbors or to someone who has had a hard day; and increase invitations to friends (family activities, primary, ward events, etc.)
- ✓ Increased sharing of gospel with family and friends
- ✓ Learn steps of repentance and repent often

➤ *11 Years old*

- ✓ Continue to benefit from the Children and Youth program setting spiritual, social, physical and intellectual goals
- ✓ Enjoy increased family and youth opportunities for service and activities
- ✓ Read the Book of Mormon regularly
- ✓ Study of the plan of salvation, atonement and repentance
- ✓ Teach lessons and lead “Come Follow Me” discussions
- ✓ Focus on recognizing the spirit and sharing testimony
- ✓ Engage in further responsibilities at home, school, church and extracurricular activities – learn to calendar your schedule and organize various aspects of your life
- ✓ Increase level of home responsibilities and work (cooking, cleaning, ironing, laundry, etc.)
- ✓ Discuss ancestors and helping them receive ordinances so they can gain exaltation
- ✓ Prepare for the temple and further understand the importance of the temple as a very special and sacred place
- ✓ Review temple recommend questions

- ✓ Understand the importance of the priesthood and preparing young men to receive the Aaronic priesthood
- ✓ Talk about and prepare to enter Young Women and Young Men organizations

➤ *13 Years old*

- ✓ As part of the Children and Youth program, seek revelation to learn, exercise agency to become what you desire, and build relationships with true friends
- ✓ Regularly use your limited use temple recommend
- ✓ Act quickly after receiving feelings of the spirit
- ✓ Talk about and prepare to advance in Young Women or being ordained a Teacher.
- ✓ Discuss the blessing of ministering assignments and how to take on more responsibility
- ✓ Teach your class or quorum regularly
- ✓ Read the Book of Mormon regularly
- ✓ Develop more specific goals and plans
- ✓ Learn additional life skills to take care of self, including things like improved grooming, household repairs, etc.
- ✓ Learn more about saving money, how to expand knowledge from reliable sources, exercise, health – including mental health regarding stress, anxiety, depression, etc.
- ✓ Learn how and begin doing challenging things

➤ *15 Years old*

- ✓ As part of the Children and Youth program, further talk with your parents and leaders about your personal development action plans; and as a class, quorum and combined youth, plan and lead weekday and multiday activities / camps, For Strength of Youth (FSY) events and other youth conferences
- ✓ Talk about and prepare to advance in Young Women or be ordained a Priest and ways to improve ministering and teaching (incorporate Teaching in the Savior's Way methods)

- ✓ Obtain a better understanding and practice good mental health – dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, etc.
- ✓ Review in greater depth the steps and importance of repentance read the Missionary Handbook
- ✓ Repent quickly and often – repentance is a joyful process
- ✓ Develop additional work skills – work smart and hard
- ✓ Seek to obtain a job outside of home and save money
- ✓ Attend seminary
- ✓ Invite more friends to activities, church, and to be baptized
- ✓ Read Book of Mormon regularly
- ✓ Deepen conversion
- ✓ The Lord expects spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, and financial preparation

➤ *17 Years old*

- ✓ Recognize and remember that during your life to-date and with the Children and Youth program, you have met life's challenges through increased faith in Jesus Christ – you have helped yourself and your family progress along the covenant path
- ✓ Enhance study of the Book of Mormon (continue to read and re-read regularly)
- ✓ Review standard Interview Questions for Prospective Missionaries with parents
- ✓ Read and study Preach My Gospel
- ✓ Participate in temple preparation home or church lessons/courses
- ✓ Study the importance of the Melchizedek Priesthood and the Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood
- ✓ Participate in missionary preparation home or church lessons/courses and talk/visit with returned missionaries
- ✓ Establish reverse timeline for key dates to serve mission
 - Determine availability date to start mission
 - Begin mission application 120 days prior to availability date

- Obtain medical and dental exams using documentation from application
- ✓ Use the online Missionary Portal to submit application, review missionary information packet, accept your call, and receive further missionary training. Also, the portal may be used during your mission to report to your mission president and receive information and materials to help you serve.

➤ *18 Years old*

- ✓ For young men, receive Melchizedek Priesthood and be ordained an Elder
- ✓ For young women, study and understand how Priesthood authority and blessings are available to women
- ✓ Receive temple endowment

➤ *Leave home with confidence*

- ✓ Have confidence – you are prepared more than you realize
- ✓ You will be a good missionary and a good student – you are worthy through regular repentance – you will have the spirit to be with you as you are obedient and do your best

Standard Interview Questions for Prospective Missionaries

Interviewing Introduction, List of Questions, and Appendix of Terms and Policies Attached to the October 20, 2017 letter from the First Presidency

Interviewing Prospective Missionaries

For many members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, missionary service is a significant milestone in their lifelong spiritual growth. Church leaders desire that this sacred time of service be a joyous and faith-building experience for every missionary, from young men and women to senior couples. With this goal in mind, it is imperative that each missionary be appropriately prepared, worthy, and healthy.

Preparing a missionary for service is the collective blessing and responsibility of the prospective missionary, their family, and Church leaders. All are encouraged to engage in candid and meaningful conversations to ensure that the prospective missionary is adequately prepared to meet the rigors and challenges that a mission might present.

Missionaries, no matter their assignment, have the sacred privilege to represent the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church. As such, they must be properly called, assigned, and set apart (see D&C 42:11). Bishops and stake presidents therefore have the responsibility to identify members who are spiritually, physically, mentally, and emotionally prepared for missionary service. These priesthood leaders should submit a recommendation only when they are satisfied to the best of their knowledge that a missionary candidate is able to fulfill the responsibilities for which he or she is being recommended.

The enclosed interview questions are intended to guide these conversations with missionary candidates. Priesthood leaders should ensure that each prospective missionary and his or her parents or guardians (in the cases of young prospective missionaries) receive and understand the requirements for full-time missionary service, as described in the enclosed questions and appendix, well in advance of the missionary candidate's interview. These questions do not represent any change in the standards for missionary service.

The bishop and stake president represent the Lord in conducting thorough interviews to certify that each missionary candidate is worthy to serve and that he or she has been, is now, and will continue abiding by the standards described in the enclosed interview questions. The bishop and stake president should seek the gift of discernment as they interview missionary candidates, so that they may understand the individual's mind, heart and capacity to serve (see 1 Samuel 16:7).

They ensure that each candidate clearly understands every question. If needed, they discuss and explain the meanings of terms and policies so that the candidate can honestly and completely answer the question. An appendix of terms and policies taken from the scriptures, Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops, Preach My Gospel, True to the Faith, and For the Strength of Youth follows the enclosed list of questions.

If during an interview or at any other time during the recommendation process the bishop or stake president discerns that a missionary candidate may be unable to fulfill the requirements of a full-time mission because of physical, emotional or mental health challenges, he may suggest the possibility of serving a Church-service mission if the candidate still desires to serve after being honorably excused by the Missionary Department from serving in a proselyting assignment.

If a missionary candidate has not lived in the same ward continuously for at least one year, the bishop must contact the previous bishop(s) to certify the candidate's worthiness and physical, mental, and emotional ability to serve before interviewing him or her for missionary service. This usually is necessary when a member has been attending a young single adult ward.

Interviewing a prospective missionary should be a sacred experience for the individual and their priesthood leader, characterized by great love and the guidance of the Holy Ghost. As prospective missionaries and their priesthood leaders counsel together, they will discern the ability and capacity of each individual to serve. When appropriate, bishops and stake presidents should help prospective missionaries to understand when they are honorably excused from fulltime missionary service and help them find meaningful ways to remain faithful as they contribute to the building up of the Lord's kingdom — a blessing for which all can be qualified (see D&C 4:5).

Interview Questions

1. Do you have faith in and a testimony of God the Eternal Father; His Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Ghost?
2. Do you have a testimony that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God and the Savior and Redeemer of the world? Please share your testimony with me. How has the Atonement of Jesus Christ influenced your life?
3. What does it mean to you to repent? Do you feel that you have fully repented of past transgressions?
4. Will you share your testimony with me that the gospel and Church of Jesus Christ have been restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith and that [current Church President] is a prophet of God?

5. Full-time missionary service requires living gospel standards. What do you understand about the following standards?
 - a. The law of chastity
In reference to the law of chastity, have you always lived in accordance with what has been discussed? If not, how long ago did the transgression(s) occur? What have you done to repent?
 - b. Avoiding pornography
 - c. The law of tithing
 - d. The Word of Wisdom, including the use of drugs or the abuse of prescribed medications
 - e. Keeping the Sabbath day holy
 - f. Being honest in all you say and do

Have you lived in accordance with all these standards? Are you now living in accordance with them? Will you live in accordance with them as a full-time missionary?

6. Do you have any legal actions pending against you? (If yes, ask the candidate to explain in detail possible legal or financial obligations. See Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops [2010], 4.4.)
7. Have you ever committed a serious violation of criminal law, regardless of whether or not you were arrested, you were convicted, or the record was expunged? (If yes, ask the missionary candidate to explain in detail what happened, the outcome of any criminal charges, whether there are criminal or other legal requirements that have not been completed, and what he or she has done to repent. See Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops [2010], 4.4 and “Serious Transgressions” in 4.5.2.)
8. Have you ever sexually abused a child in any way, regardless of whether or not you were charged, you were convicted, or the record was expunged? (If yes, and the abuse

has not been reported, see Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops [2010], 17.3.2, for instructions. If the abuse was previously resolved, see Handbook 1, 4.4, for direction.)

9. Have you ever committed any other serious transgression or misdeed that should be resolved before your mission? (If yes, ask the candidate to explain in detail what happened, the outcome of any criminal charges, whether there are criminal or other legal requirements that have not been completed, and what he or she has done to repent.)
10. Do you support, affiliate with, or agree with any group or individual whose teachings or practices are contrary to or oppose those accepted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints?
11. Do you have any unpaid debts? How will these debts be paid off before your mission or managed while you serve a mission? (See Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops [2010], 4.4.)
12. Do you currently have or have you ever had any physical, mental, or emotional condition that would make it difficult for you to maintain a normal missionary schedule, which requires that you work for 12–15 hours a day, including studying for 2–4 hours a day, walking or biking for up to 8–10 hours a day, and so forth?
13. Have you ever been diagnosed with or received treatment for dyslexia or other reading disorder? If so, are you comfortable reading the scriptures and other documents aloud? Do you believe that you could memorize appropriate scriptures and other information with the assistance of your companion? In what ways do you now compensate for this disorder?
14. Have you ever been diagnosed with or received treatment for a speech disorder? If so, are you comfortable speaking in front of others? Do you feel that you have adequate tools to help you learn, teach, and communicate?

15. Have you ever been on medication or otherwise treated for any of the following conditions: attention deficit disorder (ADD), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), anxiety, depression, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), or autism spectrum disorder (including Asperger's)? If yes, please explain.
16. If you were being treated for one of these conditions and discontinued treatment, did you do so under a doctor's supervision? If not, why did you stop? How well have you been functioning without treatment or medication? When was the last time you were on medication for these issues?

Appendix to Interview Questions for Prospective Missionaries

Worthiness

A person who has been guilty of adultery, fornication, heavy petting, homosexual activity, other sexual perversions, serious violation of civil law, or other serious transgressions must repent before he or she may be recommended for missionary service. A prospective missionary must also overcome any addictions before being considered for missionary service.

Mere confession and refraining from a sin for a period of time do not on their own constitute repentance. There must also be evidence of a broken heart, a contrite spirit, and a lasting change of behavior (see Mosiah 5:2). The bishop and stake president are to confirm that the member is free of transgression for a sufficient time to manifest genuine repentance and to prepare spiritually for the temple and for a sacred mission call. This period could be as long as three years for multiple serious transgressions and should not be less than one year from the most recent serious transgression.

Questions about specific individuals may be directed to a General Authority in the Missionary Department, the Area Presidency, or a member of the Presidency of the Seventy" (Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops [2010], 4.5.2).

Extended Pattern of Serious Transgressions

A person who has been promiscuous with several partners or with one partner over an extended period of time in a relationship outside of marriage will not be considered for missionary service. Stake presidents and bishops help these individuals repent and provide them with other meaningful ways to serve the Lord.

If priesthood leaders believe that unusual circumstances or situations warrant an exception, the stake president may submit a recommendation for the First Presidency to consider. He submits the recommendation through the Missionary Department and includes

specific details of the situation and a letter from the candidate describing the nature of his or her repentance. Bishops and stake presidents should not recommend exceptions that are unwarranted or that they do not endorse without reservation” (Handbook 1: Stake Presidents and Bishops [2010], 4.5.2).

Repentance

By this ye may know if a man repenteth of his sins – behold, he will confess them and forsake them” (D&C 58:43).

The second principle of the gospel is repentance. Our faith in Christ and our love for Him lead us to repent, or to change our thoughts, beliefs, and behaviors that are not in harmony with His will. Repentance includes forming a fresh view of God, ourselves, and the world. “When we repent, we feel godly sorrow, then we stop doing things that are wrong and continue doing things that are right. Bringing our lives in line with God’s will through repentance is a central purpose of our lives. We can return to live with God the Father only through Christ’s mercy, and we receive Christ’s mercy only on condition of repentance.

To repent, we recognize our sins and feel remorse, or godly sorrow. We confess our sins to God. We also confess very serious sins to God’s authorized Church leaders, who can help us repent. We ask God in prayer to forgive us. We do all we can to correct the problems our actions may have caused; this is called restitution. As we repent, our view of ourselves and the world changes. As we change, we recognize that we are children of God and that we need not continue making the same mistakes over and over. If we sincerely repent, we turn away from our sins and do them no more. We resist any desire to commit sin. Our desire to follow God grows stronger and deeper.

Sincere repentance brings several results. We feel God’s forgiveness and His peace in our lives. Our guilt and sorrow are

swept away. We feel the influence of the Spirit in greater abundance. And when we pass from this life, we will be more prepared to live with our Heavenly Father and His Son.

Even after we have accepted Christ and repented of our sins, we may fall short and sin again. We should continually try to correct these transgressions. In addition, we should continually improve – to develop Christlike qualities, to grow in knowledge, and to serve more effectively. As we learn more about what the Savior expects of us, we will want to show our love by obeying Him. Thus, as we repent daily, we will find that our lives will change and improve. Our hearts and our behavior will become more Christlike. We will come to feel great joy in repenting daily” (Preach My Gospel: A Guide to Missionary Service [2004], 62–63).

The Law of Chastity

Chastity is sexual purity, a condition that is ‘pleasing unto God’ (Jacob 2:7). To be chaste, you must be morally clean in your thoughts, words, and actions. You must not have any sexual relations before you are married” (True to the Faith: A Gospel Reference, [2004], 29).

“ Before marriage,] do not participate in passionate kissing, lie with or on top of another person, or touch the private, sacred parts of another person’s body, with or without clothing. Do not allow anyone to do such things with you. (True to the Faith: A Gospel Reference, [2004], 32).

Do not view, read, or listen to anything that depicts or describes the human body or sexual conduct in a way that can arouse sexual feelings. Pornographic materials are addictive and destructive. They can rob you of your self-respect and of a sense of the beauties of life. They can tear you down and lead you to evil thoughts and abusive conduct” (True to the Faith: A Gospel Reference, [2004], 32).

Like other violations of the law of chastity, homosexual activity is a serious sin. It is contrary to the purposes of human sexuality (see Romans 1:24–32). It distorts loving relationships and prevents people from receiving the blessings that can be found in family life and the saving ordinances of the gospel” (True to the Faith: A Gospel Reference, [2004], 30– 31).

The Lord’s standard regarding sexual purity is clear and unchanging. Do not have any sexual relations before marriage and be completely faithful to your spouse after marriage. Do not allow the media, your peers, or others to persuade you that sexual intimacy before marriage is acceptable. . . .

Never do anything that could lead to sexual transgression. Treat others with respect, not as objects used to satisfy lustful and selfish desires. Before marriage, do not participate in passionate kissing, lie on top of another person, or touch the private, sacred parts of another person’s body, with or without clothing. Do not do anything else that arouses sexual feelings. Do not arouse those emotions in your own body” (For the Strength of Youth [2011], 35–36).

God delights in chastity and hates sexual sin. Chastity includes strict abstinence from sexual relations before marriage and complete fidelity and loyalty to one’s spouse after marriage. . . . Chastity requires faithfulness in thought and action. We must keep our thoughts clean and be modest in our dress, speech, and actions.” (Preach My Gospel: A Guide to Missionary Service [2004], 77).

The Law of Tithing

One of the great blessings of membership in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the privilege of contributing to the growth of the kingdom of God through paying tithing. Tithing is an ancient, divine law. For example, the Old Testament prophet Abraham paid tithes of all he possessed (see Alma 13:15).

To those who pay tithing, the Lord promises that He will “open . . . the windows of heaven, and pour . . . out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10). These blessings may be temporal or spiritual, but they will come to those who obey this divine law.

Tithing means one-tenth, and the Lord has commanded us to give a tenth of our increase, which is understood to mean income, that we may be blessed. The law of tithing gives us the opportunity to help build His kingdom. Our tithes are holy to the Lord, and we honor Him by paying tithing. God promises to abundantly bless those who pay an honest tithe. Those who do not pay tithing rob God (see Malachi 3:8). They keep for themselves something that rightfully belongs to Him.

We should seek first the kingdom of God, and tithing is an important way of doing that. Paying tithing is an expression of our faith. It is an outward sign of our belief in God and His work” (Preach My Gospel: A Guide to Missionary Service [2004], 78–79).

The Word of Wisdom

The Lord revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith a law of health called the Word of Wisdom. This law teaches us what foods and substances we should and should not use to maintain the health of our bodies and to keep us free from evil influences. The Lord promises blessings of health, strength, protection against evil, and greater receptiveness to spiritual truths.

Remember that our bodies are sacred. We should treat them with respect and reverence. The Word of Wisdom teaches that we are to eat healthy foods. It teaches very specifically that we are to avoid harmful substances, including alcohol, tobacco, tea, and coffee. We must also avoid harmful drugs in any form” (Preach My Gospel: A Guide to Missionary Service [2004], 78).

Sabbath-Day Observance

Our Sabbath-day behavior is a reflection of our commitment to honor and worship God. By keeping the Sabbath day holy, we show God our willingness to keep our covenants. Each Sabbath day we go to the Lord's house to worship Him. While there we partake of the sacrament to remember Jesus Christ and His Atonement. We renew our covenants and show that we are willing to repent of our sins and mistakes.

On this day, we enjoy a rest from our labors. As we attend Church services and worship together, we strengthen each other. We are renewed by our association with friends and family. Our faith is strengthened as we study the scriptures and learn more about the restored gospel.

When a community or nation grows careless in its Sabbath activities, its religious life decays and all aspects of life are negatively affected. The blessings associated with keeping the Sabbath day holy are lost. We should refrain from shopping on the Sabbath and participating in other commercial and sporting activities that now commonly desecrate the Sabbath.

Latter-day Saints should set this holy day apart from activities of the world by entering into a spirit of worship, thanksgiving, service, and family-centered activities appropriate to the Sabbath. As Church members endeavor to make their Sabbath activities compatible with the intent and Spirit of the Lord, their lives will be filled with joy and peace" (Preach My Gospel: A Guide to Missionary Service [2004], 74).

Honesty and Integrity

Be honest with yourself, others, and God at all times. Being honest means choosing not to lie, steal, cheat, or deceive in any way. When you are honest, you build strength of character that will allow you to be of great service to God and others. You will be blessed with

peace of mind and self-respect. You will be trusted by the Lord and will be worthy to enter into His holy temples.

Dishonesty harms you and harms others as well. If you lie, steal, shoplift, or cheat, you damage your spirit and your relationships with others. Being honest will enhance your future opportunities and your ability to be guided by the Holy Ghost. Be honest at school; choose not to cheat in any way. Be honest in your job, giving a full amount of work for your pay. Do not rationalize that being dishonest is acceptable, even though others may think it does not matter.

Closely associated with honesty is integrity. Integrity means thinking and doing what is right at all times, no matter what the consequences. When you have integrity, you are willing to live by your standards and beliefs even when no one is watching. Choose to live so that your thoughts and behavior are always in harmony with the gospel" (For the Strength of Youth: A Gospel Reference, [2004], 19).

A Guide to Preparing to Receive the Melchizedek Priesthood Sandy Utah Crescent Stake

Study and learn about the priesthood. Each young man, young woman and prospective Elder should receive training and gain an understanding of each of the following topics:

1. Name of the priesthood (D&C 107:1-4, Alma 13:1-19)
2. Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood (D&C 84:33-48)
3. Review Church Handbook 2, Chapters 1-7 and 20 (see churchofjesuschrist.org). During your initial preparation, give priority to the following chapters:
 - a. Priesthood Principles – Chapter 2
 - b. Leadership in The Church of Jesus Christ – Chapter 3
 - c. Melchizedek Priesthood – Chapter 7
 - d. Priesthood Ordinances and Blessing – Chapter 20
4. As you study, pay attention to:
 - a. Priesthood duties and privileges (blessing, performing ordinances, serving others, etc.)
 - b. Priesthood keys and priesthood. Authority
 - c. Priesthood power and priesthood authority
 - d. Ministering (Section 4 of Chapter 7 in Handbook 2)
5. Power of Godliness (D&C 84:19-22)
6. Work of Salvation – Focus on introductory paragraph of Chapter 5 Handbook 2
7. Instruction in performing ordinances – refer again to Chapter 20 of Handbook 2 for requirements of how to perform ordinances

Additional priesthood reference materials to study:

- “The Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood,” Elder Carlos E. Asay, October 1985 General Conference
- “The keys of the Priesthood are required for the Government of the Church” in “Teachings of the Presidents of the Church: Joseph F. Smith [1998], p. 141 [chapter 16]
- “The Powers of Heaven,” Elder David A. Bednar, April 2012 General Conference
- “Priesthood – Authority and Power,” Bishop H. Burke Petersen, April 1976 General Conference

Scripture references:

- Alma 13:1-19: Called & Prepared
- Abraham 1:1-4: Desire
- D&C 107:99-100: Learn Duty
- D&C 88:76-86: Prepare & Do
- D&C 13 & 20: Aaronic & Duties
- D&C 4: Give it Your All
- Hebrews 7:1-3: Melchizedek
- D&C 84:19-21: Power
- JST Genesis 14:25-34 Melchizedek
- D&C 132:19-21: Men & Women Sealed
- D&C 121:34-46: Authority
- D&C 84:33-44: Oath & Covenant

Notes and Action Plans:

