

Teachings of Church Leaders 3

Study and Apply the Teachings of the Lord's Servants

Prepare to study by listening to a hymn or song and saying a prayer. Create a note for this lesson in your seminary notebook. As you study, write any questions you have and look for answers.

Throughout the seminary year, you will have several opportunities to study messages from Church leaders. This lesson provides you with skills and ideas to help you study such messages effectively.

Studying the Messages of Church Leaders

Today you will have the opportunity to hear the Lord's words as you study a message from one of His appointed Church leaders. Use the following skills to help you study the message. As you use these skills, the Holy Ghost can help you understand the Lord's guidance for you.

To complete this lesson, choose a general conference talk from the most recent general conference.

Gospel Library Skills and Tools

Gospel Library has many tools to help you study messages from Church leaders. As you study, apply the skills listed in this lesson.

A great way to feel the spirit of a message is to play the audio or video of the message.

Create

In Gospel Library, you can create links between conference messages, scriptures, and other content.

Identify and mark doctrine and principles

Look for gospel doctrine and principles. Mark them in Gospel Library in a way that allows you to review and remember them.

Make a notebook for your notes

Create a notebook for the notes you take while listening to or studying the messages. It may be helpful to create a new note for each message. Add important insights or promptings you want to remember.

Organize by topic using tags and notebooks

In Gospel Library, you can organize content by topics using the Tag and Notebook features. Create tags or a notebook on subjects you study.

Look up related content

To deepen your understanding of a speaker's message, look up in Gospel Library the scriptures and prophetic teachings referenced in the message.

Define words

If a word seems unusual or sticks out in your mind, study it. Use the Define feature to learn the meaning of the word. Think about why the speaker may have chosen it instead of other words.

Look for ...

There are many things you can look for as you study messages from Church leaders. As you study, you could look for the following:

Answers to your questions

Think of questions you have about life, your family, your friends, your calling, school, or anything else on your mind. As you study, prayerfully ask the Lord for help with the questions you have. As you receive answers and promptings, be sure to write them down and apply them in your life.

Cause-and-effect and if-then statements

Cause-and-effect statements include an action and the blessings that come by following that action. These statements can help you because they describe how you can receive specific blessings.

Invitations

Church leaders invite us to do things to change our lives. Each time you find an invitation, write it down using the Note feature in 36 Gospel Library. As you make a list, you'll get a clearer idea of ways you can become better.

Testimonies and descriptions of Jesus Christ

Find testimonies of the Savior and descriptions of His life, teachings, Atonement, and power.

Key words and phrases

Words such as therefore, finally, remember, and thus and phrases such as "in conclusion" and "in summary" introduce main points or conclusions.

Lists

Church leaders frequently list a series of steps or principles to follow. Sometimes these lists are easy to find because they are numbered or bulleted. Sometimes, however, lists may occur as a series in a sentence or spread out over several paragraphs.

Memorable phrases

Look for phrases and sentences that have a depth of meaning. When you ponder these phrases, they can help you understand important principles. Memorizing these phrases will give you a reserve of inspiration and guidance you can call on when you need it.

Promised blessings

The prophet often makes promises to those who follow the principles he teaches. Seeking promised blessings can help inspire you to live righteously.

Repeated words and phrases

Look for recurring doctrinal teachings, themes, and ideas. You might even review notes from previous conferences to identify topics that are emphasized over time.

Testimonies from the Lord's special witnesses

Powerful, faith-building testimonies are great sources of strength to our own testimonies. Church leaders may share their testimony at any time during the talk but frequently share their witness of Jesus Christ and His gospel at the end.

Now What?

Follow the promptings you had while studying the talk.

Complete the following prompts to help you apply what you learned. You may want to share your plan with a family member or friend to help you accomplish it.

Because of this talk, I will _____.

The next step I will take for completing my plan is _____.

I will try to do this by _____(date).

I will remind myself of my plan by _____.

Reflect and Connect

Share with me something you learned from this lesson. You could share:

- What you learned and how a teenager could apply the Lord's word in their life.

