
LESSON 3:

Studying Effectively

Ponder: The Importance of Diligent Study for Effective Teaching

Ponder the message in the following scriptures about the importance of effective study of the gospel:

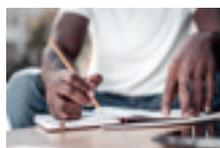
- Doctrine and Covenants 11:20-21, 26-28
- Doctrine and Covenants 84:85
- 1 Timothy 4:12-16
- John 15:4-11, especially verse 7

President Russell M. Nelson has taught how missionaries are to become true examples of the Savior. He said: “We, as agents of the Lord, are privileged to preach His gospel. The Apostle Paul taught an amazing concept. He declared that each agent, each disciple, yes, each missionary, can become a living “epistle of Christ..., written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God... [embedded] in fleshy tables of the heart” (2 Corinthians 3:3).

Missionaries who strive for the Lord’s law to be inscribed upon their hearts literally become—by their action, example, and ministry — “[epistles] of Christ” to be “known and read of all men” (2 Corinthians 3:2-3). Because the gospel of Christ is written indelibly upon their hearts, they become true messengers and eloquent examples of the Lord” (*Epistles of the Lord, 2015 Seminar for New Mission Presidents*).



How will you prepare yourself to become the kind of missionary spoken of by President Nelson?



Record Your Feelings:

Study and Discuss: Effective Study

- Study the following sections from *Preach My Gospel*, Chapter 2 “Effective Study,” including the activities and scriptures referenced in each section.
 1. How Do I Study Effectively and Prepare to Teach?
 2. Learning by the Holy Ghost

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3. Live What You Learn
 4. Studying and Preparing to Teach the Lessons
 5. Study Ideas and Suggestions
- Plan to discuss what you learn with your missionary preparation class, your Sunday School teacher, quorum or auxiliary leader, a family member, a class member, or a friend.
 - Write down the impressions you feel and ideas you learn through these discussions about effective study of the gospel.

Prepare to Serve

- Review in *Preach My Gospel*, Chapter 2 “Ideas for Study and Application.” Do some of the exercises under the subtitle “Personal Study” so you will gain a personal witness of the principles you have learned.
- Write down your answers in your study journal.
- Plan to discuss your answers with your teacher or quorum or auxiliary leader. Add to your journal any new impressions and ideas you learn through these discussions.
- Read and do all the exercises pertaining to the principle: “Seek Learning: Resolve Where You Are Going and How to Get There” in Chapter 11 of the self-reliance booklet *My Foundation for Self-Reliance*. If you have not done so, ask your quorum or auxiliary leader about joining a self-reliance group in your ward or stake. Plan to complete the twelve-week group process as part of your missionary preparation.