

June: Priesthood Ordinances and Temple Work Bless My Family

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JUNE WEEK 1
Priesthood ordinances bless and strengthen my family.



How much light does a light bulb give when it is not screwed in? How much work does a windmill do when there is no wind? How much energy does a waterwheel produce when there is no water to make it move? These man-made inventions need a source of power in order to function. Jesus knew that men could not direct His church on earth without power from God. He said that this power would be given by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority.

Our Heavenly Father gave his authority to certain men so that his work could be done. It is called the priesthood. Priesthood means the power and authority to act for our Heavenly Father. The priesthood can bless my family in many ways. I can request a blessing when I am sick or need comfort. However, some of the greatest blessings come from ordinances such as baptism, confirmation, temple marriage and even the sacrament. All of these ordinances require the priesthood and allow us to progress and grow in the gospel. The priesthood helps to strengthen and bless all families.

JUNE WEEK 2
Temples make it possible for families to be together forever.



When Adam and Eve left the Garden of Eden, they became the parents of the first family on earth. Adam and Eve had sons and daughters and taught them the gospel (see Moses 5:12). They experienced the challenges and also the great joy of family life (see 2 Ne. 2:23).

Since then, through Heavenly Father's plan, each of us has come to earth as part of a family. Each family is different—there may be two parents or one parent, lots of children or few children; sometimes there are cousins or grandparents also living in the home. It is important for family members to love each other and do their part to have a happy home.

Learning and living gospel standards can help you do your part to build a happy home and have an eternal family. As you choose the right—by being baptized, paying tithing, repenting, keeping the Sabbath day holy, helping Mom and Dad, taking the sacrament, praying, reading the scriptures, and living worthy to go to the temple—you are learning righteous family traditions.

As we do our part to build an eternal family by learning and living the gospel of Jesus Christ, we will rejoice in Heavenly Father's plan for us. Sacred ordinances and covenants available in holy temples make it possible for us to return to the presence of God and for families to be together forever.

JUNE WEEK 3
I can prepare now to be worthy to enter the temple.



Imagine that you have been invited to the home of someone you have always liked and looked up to. They live in a magnificent home and you have been invited to a special dinner with them. What things would you do to prepare? Maybe you would dress nicely, groom yourself or be prepared for conversation. You wouldn't want to go there unprepared. It would be uncomfortable. This is also the same for the Lord's temples. It is His special house and we need to prepare now.

Sometimes here in Primary we sing "I Love to See the Temple". It teaches that a temple is "a house of God, a place of love and beauty." It also teaches that a temple is "a holy place where we are sealed together." When we sing the words "I'm going there someday," this is a promise we are making to ourselves and to

Heavenly Father that we will be worthy to enter His holy house. We can read about the teachings of the prophets in the scriptures. We can listen to the prophet in general conference. If we listen carefully, we can learn what Heavenly Father wants us to do now. When we obey the prophet's counsel, our faith will grow.

A person is never too young or too old to become acquainted with the Lord. . . . Although your first trip to the temple may seem far away, you should begin preparing now.



The Prophet Joseph Smith declared that our "greatest responsibility in this world . . . is to seek after our dead." Family history is an important part of the work of salvation and exaltation.

Why do we do temple work? Our answer is simple: "Because we love them. Because they deserve the same blessings that we enjoy. Heavenly Father loves our ancestors as much as He loves us. He needs us to help them by finding their names, learning about their lives, and making sure their temple work gets done.

We can learn how to do family history work and piece together the stories of some of our ancestors. President Monson has also said, "I admonish all families: search out your heritage. It is important to know . . . those who came before us. We discover something about ourselves when we learn about our ancestors."

Someday we will meet them and be an eternal family.

