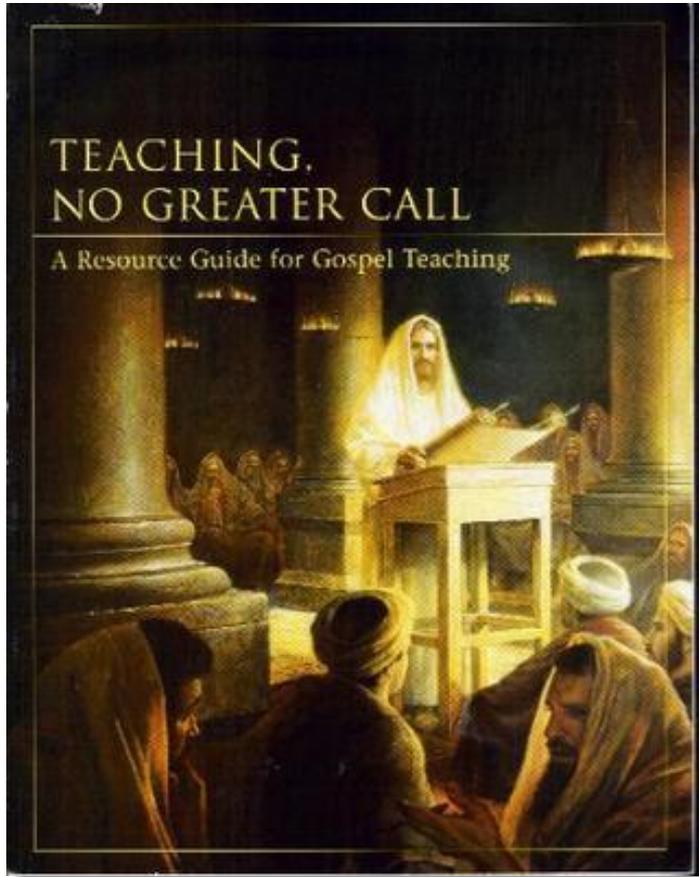


Teaching, No Greater  
Call:  
A Resource Guide for  
Gospel Teaching

Teaching the Gospel Course



# Lesson 1: The Importance of Gospel Teaching in God's Plan

Teaching the Gospel Course

# Purpose

To help you increase your desire to assist in the Lord's work by teaching His gospel.

Welcome to the “Teaching the Gospel  
Course”

# Your Instructor for this class is:

David Hill - 1<sup>st</sup> Councilor  
Sycamore Ward  
Sunday School Presidency



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# David Hill - background

- Primary teacher last 4 years
- Adult Leader Trainer in the Boy Scouts for over 30 years
  - \* Youth Instructor in the Scouts for over 40 years
  - \* Interested in teaching for over 50 years

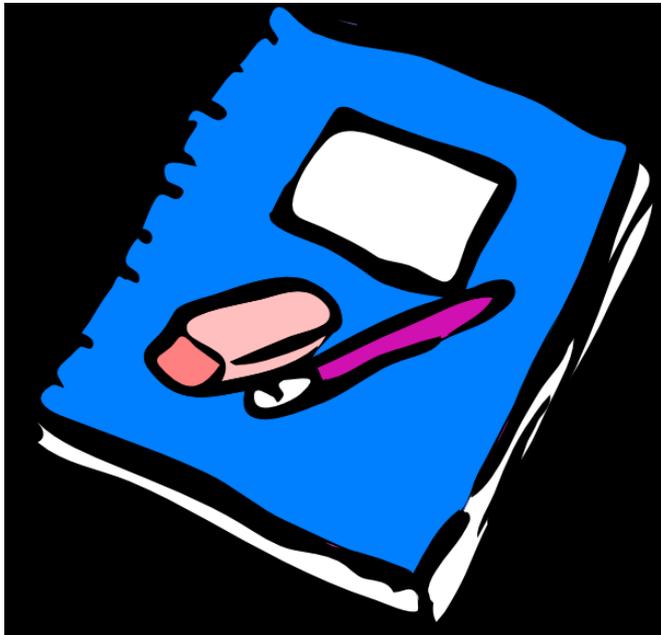


# HELLO

**my name is**

To help get things started, Please introduce yourself and your present teaching calling, so everyone else will know who you are and why you are here.

Does everyone have a notebook to use during the lesson.(or some substitute for the notebook)



The purpose of these notebooks is to record notes, impressions, plans, experiences, and progress related to the Teaching the Gospel course.

# A word about this power point presentation

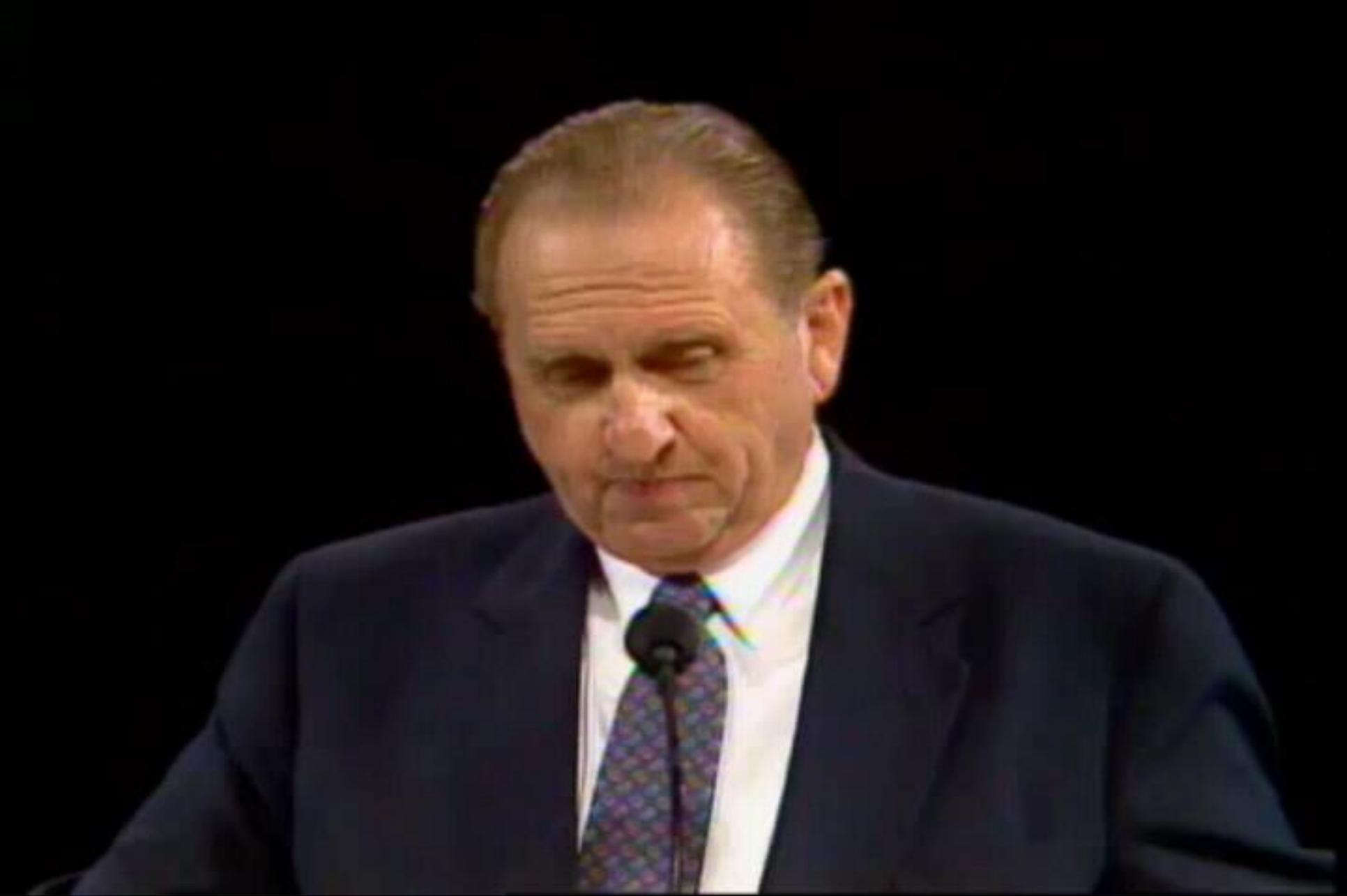
- This is the lesson manual (“Teaching, no Greater Calling” Section G) in Power point form.
- We have added some audio, video, pictures, etc. to make it have a better impact on your learning.
- You are welcome to follow along in your manuals, but most of the words you find in the book, will be appearing in this presentation.

Teachers of the gospel influence the lives of  
many people.

In the  
April 1992 General Conference,

President Thomas S. Monson    Second  
Counselor in the First Presidency

told the following Story:



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- Your efforts to teach the gospel of Jesus Christ can likewise touch the lives of many people.

- To teach, to pass on some of your wisdom to others, to help direct people back onto that straight and narrow path, or to keep them going on the straight and narrow path is very important.

- Everyone in this room has been called to a teaching position, because you are right people to fill these important callings.

- Let's listen to the following Statement from Elder Jeffrey R. Holland from the April 1998 General Conference.



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- Teaching has always played an important role in God's plan of redemption.

- In Doctrine and Covenants 138:56, We “received our first lessons in the world of spirits”, Let’s read it:

\*56 Even before they were born, they, with many others, received their first lessons in the world of spirits and were prepared to come forth in the due time of the Lord to labor in his vineyard for the salvation of the souls of men.

- After Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden, God helped them learn of the plan of redemption. He sent angels to teach them, and He answered their prayers. He gave them commandments *after* they had been taught the plan of redemption. Let's read about this in Alma 12:27-32:

- 27 But behold, it was not so; but it was appointed unto men that they must die; and after death, they must come to judgment, even that same judgment of which we have spoken, which is the end.
- 28 And after God had appointed that these things should come unto man, behold, then he saw that it was expedient that man should know concerning the things whereof he had appointed unto them;

- 29 Therefore he sent angels to converse with them, who caused men to behold of his glory.
- 30 And they began from that time forth to call on his name; therefore God conversed with men, and made known unto them the plan of redemption, which had been prepared from the foundation of the world; and this he made known unto them according to their faith and repentance and their holy works.

- 31 Wherefore, he gave commandments unto men, they having first transgressed the first commandments as to things which were temporal, and becoming as gods, knowing good from evil, placing themselves in a state to act, or being placed in a state to act according to their wills and pleasures, whether to do evil or to do good—

- **32** Therefore God gave unto them commandments, after having made known unto them the plan of redemption, that they should not do evil, the penalty thereof being a second death, which was an everlasting death as to things pertaining unto righteousness; for on such the plan of redemption could have no power, for the works of justice could not be destroyed, according to the supreme goodness of God.

- In Moses 6:57-58, The Lord commanded Adam and Eve to teach the gospel freely to their children, Let's read it:

- 57 Wherefore teach it unto your children, that all men, everywhere, must repent, or they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there, or dwell in his presence; for, in the language of Adam, Man of Holiness is his name, and the name of his Only Begotten is the Son of Man, even Jesus Christ, a righteous Judge, who shall come in the meridian of time.
- 58 Therefore I give unto you a commandment, to teach these things freely unto your children, saying:

- Does anyone have any insights you gained from this verse about the role that teaching plays in Heavenly Father's plan that you would like to share?

- To summarize what we have been reading,  
Lets read Romans 10:13-15,17 and 2 Nephi  
2:8.

- 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.
- 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?
- 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!
- 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- 8 Wherefore, how great the importance to make these things known unto the inhabitants of the earth, that they may know that there is no flesh that can dwell in the presence of God, save it be through the merits, and mercy, and grace of the Holy Messiah, who layeth down his life according to the flesh, and taketh it again by the power of the Spirit, that he may bring to pass the resurrection of the dead, being the first that should rise.

- The role of gospel teaching is an important part in Heavenly Father's Plan.

- We have many opportunities to learn the gospel and teach it to others.

- Church members teach the gospel in many different roles.

- We need a volunteer to read the following quote from the First Presidency.

- *To Parents*
- The First Presidency said:
- “We call upon parents to devote their best efforts to the teaching and rearing of their children in gospel principles which will keep them close to the Church. The home is the basis of a righteous life, and no other instrumentality can take its place or fulfill its essential functions in carrying forward this God-given responsibility.
- “We counsel parents and children to give highest priority to family prayer, family home evening, gospel study and instruction, and wholesome family activities. However worthy and appropriate other demands or activities may be, they must not be permitted to displace the divinely-appointed duties that only parents and families can adequately perform” (First Presidency letter, 11 Feb. 1999).

- We need another volunteer to read the following quote from the Elder Gordon B. Hinckley

- *To Priesthood and Auxiliary Leaders*
- Elder Gordon B. Hinckley said: “Effective teaching is the very essence of leadership in the Church. Eternal life will come only as men and women are taught with such effectiveness that they change and discipline their lives. They cannot be coerced into righteousness or into heaven. They must be led, and that means teaching”
- (“How to Be a Teacher When Your Role as a Leader Requires You to Teach,” General Authority Priesthood Board Meeting, 5 Feb. 1969; quoted by Jeffrey R. Holland in Conference Report, Apr. 1998, 31; or *Ensign*, May 1998, 26).

- We can use another volunteer to read what President Thomas S. Monson Taught.

• Or

- We can watch what President Thomas S. Monson Taught.

• Which would you like to do?

• Continue

- *To Teachers in Church Classrooms*
- President Thomas S. Monson taught:
- “The classroom at church adds a vital dimension to the education of every child and youth. In this setting each teacher can provide an upward reach to those who listen to [the] lessons and feel the influence of [the teacher’s] testimony. In Primary, Sunday School, Young Women meetings and those of the Aaronic Priesthood, well prepared teachers, called under the inspiration of the Lord, can touch each child, each youth, and prompt all to ‘seek . . . out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning, even by study and also by faith’ (D&C 88:118). A word of encouragement here and a spiritual thought there can affect a precious life and leave an indelible imprint upon an immortal soul. . . .
- “The humble and inspired teacher in the church classroom can instill in . . . Pupils a love for the scriptures. Why, the teacher can bring the Apostles of old and the Savior of the world not only into the classroom but also into the hearts, the minds, the souls of our children”
- (in Conference Report, Oct. 1991, 92; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1991, 68). 191

- We need another volunteer to read the following quote from President Spencer W. Kimball.

- *To Home Teachers and Visiting Teachers*
- President Spencer W. Kimball said: “When you go into [people’s] homes, . . . You are going to save souls. . . . Who can tell but that many of the fine active people in the Church today are active because you were in their homes and gave them a new outlook, a new vision. You pulled back the curtain. You extended their horizons. You gave them something new”
- (*The Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball*, ed. Edward L. Kimball [1982], 526).

- We need another volunteer to read the following quote from President Lorenzo Snow.

- *To All Church Members*
- President Lorenzo Snow said, “Though one teach with the eloquence of an angel, yet one’s good practice, good examples, one’s acts constantly manifesting wholeheartedness for the interests of the people, teach much more eloquently, much more effectually”
- (*The Teachings of Lorenzo Snow*, comp. Clyde J. Williams [1984], 78–79).

- Consider the different teachers described in the statements that have been read: parents, priesthood and auxiliary leaders, teachers in Church classrooms, home teachers, visiting teachers, and those who teach by example.

- Let's go around the room and ask you to briefly tell about someone who, in one or more of these roles, has helped you to gain a better understanding of the gospel and a greater desire to live according to its principles.
- (If you can't think of anyone, you can pass, but try not to do this)

- There are blessings that come to us because of our many opportunities to learn and teach the gospel—in our homes, in the Church, and in our everyday associations.

- I am grateful for these opportunities.

- The Lord provides these opportunities to help us resist the evil teachings and influences that surround us.

- Let's listen to the following statement made by President Gordon B. Hinckley:



- “There is hunger in the land, and a genuine thirst—a great hunger for the word of the Lord and an unsatisfied thirst for things of the Spirit. ... The world is starved for spiritual food. Ours is the obligation and the opportunity to nourish the soul” (“Feed the Spirit, Nourish the Soul,”

**The purpose of the Teaching the Gospel course is to help us improve as teachers.**

In His loving-kindness, our Father in Heaven has provided teachers to help His children learn what they must do to receive eternal life.

Each of us is a beneficiary of gospel teaching, and each of us has been commanded to teach the gospel to others.

The following statements by President Gordon B. Hinckley reflect a message that you should think about as we go through this course together.

“We must strengthen ourselves and our people to get our teachers to speak out of their hearts rather than out of their books, to communicate their love for the Lord and this precious work, and somehow it will catch fire in the hearts of those they teach”

*(Teachings of Gordon B. Hinckley [1997], 619–20).*



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“We have work to do, you and I, so very much of it. Let us roll up our sleeves and get at it, **with a new commitment, putting our trust in the Lord. ... We can do it, if we will be prayerful and faithful. We can do better than we have ever done before”**

(in Conference Report, Apr. 1995, 117; or *Ensign*, May 1995, 88).

The purpose of the Teaching the Gospel course is to help us teach the gospel of Jesus Christ “**better than we have ever done before.**”

# Resources for this course

- **The Scriptures**
  - **Teaching, No Greater Call**
  - **“Gospel Teaching and Leadership”  
section of the Church Handbook of  
Instructions**
- \* Does everyone have a copy or access to the above?

# Teaching, No Greater Call

- This book contains materials that relate to the lessons in the course.
- You will benefit from reading these materials before and after each lesson.

# Teaching the Gospel Course

- Lesson 1: The Importance of Gospel teaching in God's Plan (Tonight's Lesson)
- Lesson 2: Love Those you Teach
- Lesson 3: Teach by the Spirit
- Lesson 4: Teach the Doctrine
- Lesson 5: Invite Diligent Learning
- Lesson 6: Part 1 Create a Learning Atmosphere

# Teaching the Gospel Course

- Lesson 7: Part 2 Create a Learning Atmosphere
- Lesson 8: Part 1 Use Effective Methods
- Lesson 9: part 2 Use Effective Methods
- Lesson 10: Prepare Every Needful Thing
- Lesson 11: Improve upon your Talents
- Lesson 12: Go Forth and Teach

# Teaching the Gospel Course

- As you strive to apply the principles taught in this course, if you have any problems, let me know and I will do what I can to help you solve those problems.

# Teaching the Gospel Course

- I would also encourage each of you to:
  - a. Study the scriptures; *Teaching, No Greater Call*; and the “Gospel Teaching and Leadership” section of the *Church Handbook of Instructions*.
  - b. Bring the scriptures to class each week.
  - c. Bring their notebooks to class each week.

# Teaching the Gospel Course

- d. Come to class each week prepared to participate in the lessons and contribute to the learning of others in the class.
- e. Ponder and pray about opportunities to teach.
- f. Begin to develop and implement a personal plan for improving as a teacher.

# Teaching the Gospel Course

- Elder Boyd K. Packer made this statement:

# Teaching the Gospel Course

- Elder Boyd K. Packer made this statement:
- “It has been said that the responsibility of Church members is divided into three main categories: to provide for the salvation of the living members of the Church, to accomplish the necessary work for our kindred dead, and to preach the gospel to all the world. All of these responsibilities require learning, and all that is learned must somehow be taught. We are among those who must teach it” (Teach Ye Diligently, rev. ed. [1991], 7).

# Summary

- Tonight was an introduction into this Teach the Gospel Course and also to try to show the importance of teaching in Heavenly Father's plans.
- It is up to you to take what you can from this course and develop into a better teacher than you were before.
- We are all at different teaching levels and it is my wish that you will be at a higher level at the conclusion of this course.

# Testimony

- I want to testify to you that there is no greater calling than to teach.
- The difference between instructing and teaching is that with teaching, the students learn. (Instructing just covers the materials)
- If you will take what you learn in this class to prayer, and let the spirit guide you, you will be a better teacher, a better messenger to get the gospel out to your students.

**OUR CLOSING PRAYER WILL BE GIVEN  
BY**

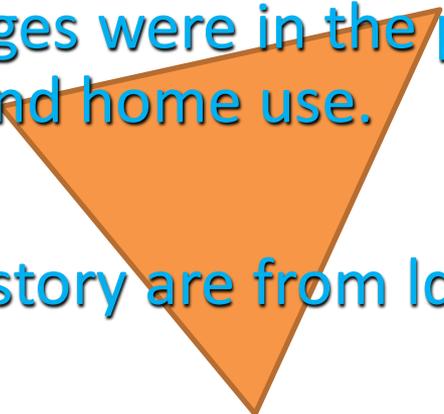
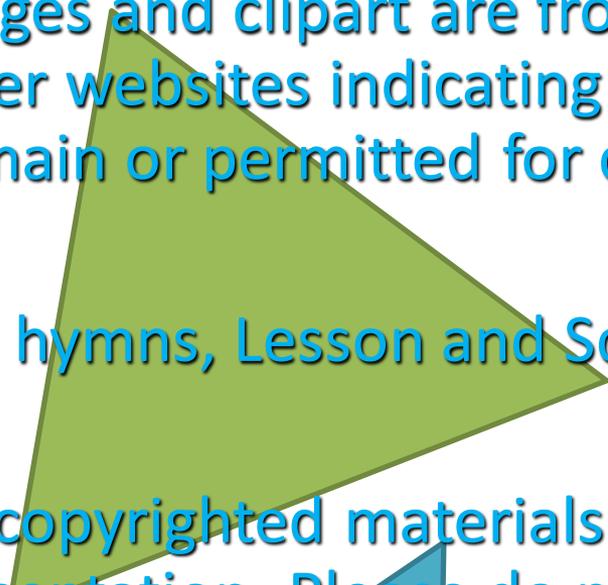


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# Assignments

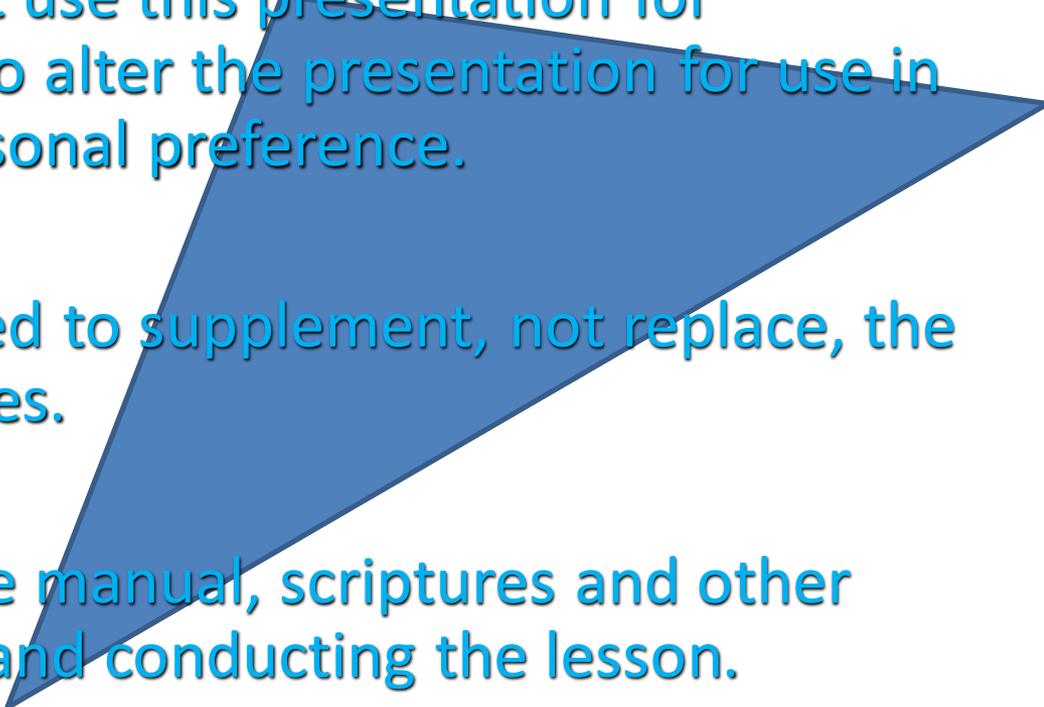
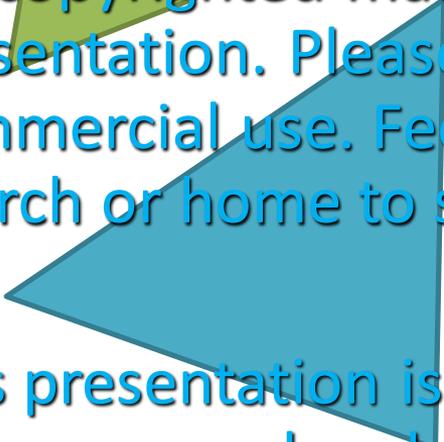
- I want to encourage you to:
- **1. Write in their notebooks about teaching and learning opportunities that come as they participate in the course.**
- **2. Seek the guidance of the Spirit (the Holy Ghost) in connection with an upcoming family home evening lesson, Church assignment, or other opportunity to teach. Remember the Lord's words: "The Spirit shall be given unto you by the prayer of faith" ([D&C 42:14](#)). Write in their notebooks about their experiences with this assignment. (As part of lesson 3, some class members will be asked to report on these experiences.)**
- **3. Review the principles taught in this lesson by studying the section of this book titled "The Importance of Gospel Teaching in God's Plan" (pages 2–10).**

*THE END*



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This presentation is intended to supplement, not replace, the lesson manual and scriptures.

Teachers should refer to the manual, scriptures and other resources when preparing and conducting the lesson.



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