

Day 4 Morning Devotional

Young Men and Young Women Presentations

YM and YW Themes

Doctrine & Covenants 64:33-34: "Wherefore, be not weary in well-doing, for ye are laying the foundation of a great work. And out of small things proceedeth that which is great. Behold, the Lord requireth the heart and a willing mind."

Purpose: Help young women and young men understand and fulfill their unique roles in God's Plan.

Note: These presentations provide a setting to address the distinct and special opportunities, needs and gifts of both young men and young women. While gospel principles are universal and will be the basis of both presentations, you are encouraged to consider how to adapt both presentations to meet the unique features of young women and young men. You are encouraged to not simply duplicate the presentation; instead, use this opportunity to address the theme specific to both groups. If your spouse is attending, you may wish to invite her/him to bear testimony, teach or share a personal experience.

Please implement teaching principles that will engage the learners.

As part of the presentation time, the young men and young women will stand and recite their respective themes. After your presentation they will sing the "FSY Medley."

Below are some suggestions of what you may wish to implement during this learning experience. You will likely not have time to do all of these activities. You are invited to seek the Spirit and utilize effective teaching methods to help learners feel and understand the intended outcome of the topic.

Young Women's Theme:

I am a beloved daughter of Heavenly Parents, with a divine nature and eternal destiny.

As a disciple of Jesus Christ, I strive to become like Him. I seek and act upon personal revelation and minister to others in His holy name.

I will stand as a witness of God at all times and in all things and in all places.

As I strive to qualify for exaltation, I cherish the gift of repentance and seek to improve each day. With faith, I will strengthen my home and family, make and keep sacred covenants, and receive the ordinances and blessings of the holy temple.

Young Men's Theme:

I am a beloved son of God, and He has a work for me to do.

With all my heart, might, mind, and strength, I will love God, keep my covenants, and use His priesthood to serve others, beginning in my own home.

As I strive to serve, exercise faith, repent, and improve each day, I will qualify to receive temple blessings and the enduring joy of the gospel.

I will prepare to become a diligent missionary, loyal husband, and loving father by being a true disciple of Jesus Christ.

I will help prepare the world for the Savior's return by inviting all to come unto Christ and receive the blessings of His Atonement.

Scripture resources:

- Mosiah 18:9 “stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places. . .”
- Esther 4:14 “who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”
- Moses 1:6; D&C 112:6 “I have a work for thee. . .”

Teaching ideas: These are some ideas you may wish to consider using as you teach.

Young Women's Presentation:

- You may wish to reference D&C 25 and discuss what it means to be an “elect woman” in the Lord's Plan. Consider how these principles relate to the Young Women's Theme.
- As noted below, you may wish to utilize faithful women in the scriptures to illustrate principles and attributes identified in the Young Women's Theme.
- You may wish to invite your spouse (if you are a male SD) to teach and share her personal witness of God's watch-care over his daughters, and their divine role in His eternal plan.
- Focus on eternal truths taught in the Young Women theme and discuss each young woman's unique and divine role in God's plan and His love for them.
- You may wish to reference the Proclamation to the World on the Family identifying and discussing specific roles and responsibilities they have as daughters of God.

Young Men's Presentation:

- You may wish to reference D&C 121: 34-45 and discuss the significance and power of righteous men, ordained with priesthood authority, and their contribution in accomplishing God's work of exaltation.
- As noted below, you may wish to utilize faithful men in the scriptures to illustrate principles and attributes identified in the Young Men's Theme.
- You may wish to invite your spouse (if you are a female SD) to teach and share his personal witness of the Lord's desire to bless His sons and their divine role in His eternal plan. Male SDs may wish to invite their wife to share her testimony of the

blessings of righteous priesthood power exercised on behalf of women and children.

- Focus on eternal truths taught in the Young Men’s Theme and discuss each young man’s unique and divine role in God’s plan and His love for them.
- You may wish to reference the Proclamation to the World on the Family, identifying specific roles and responsibilities they have as sons of God.

General Suggestions:

- The scriptures are replete with inspiring illustrations of righteous women and men who walked the covenant path. You may consider referencing some of the following, inviting participants to look for principles that guided them and discuss how these illustrate principles found in the Young Women/Young Men Themes and how they apply to the lives of youth today.
 - Adam and Eve
 - Abraham and Sarah
 - Lehi and Sariah
 - Mary
 - Esther
 - Ruth
 - Captain Moroni
 - Joseph in Egypt
 - Mormon and Moroni
 - Joseph Smith and other faithful men and women in this dispensation

Note: You may want to specifically focus on the beautiful examples of faithful women in the scriptures when addressing the young women.

- Discuss and allow youth to share how they are currently living the gospel principles found in the themes, and identify how the Lord is blessing them in their own lives and in their family.
- Reference President Nelson’s invitation to the youth to enlist in the “Lord’s youth battalion,” and engage in the gathering of Israel

Quotes:

- “My dear extraordinary youth, you were sent to earth at this precise time, the most crucial time in the history of the world, to help gather Israel. There is nothing happening on this earth right now that is more important than that. There is nothing of greater consequence. Absolutely nothing. This gathering should mean everything to you. This is the mission for which you were sent to earth.” (President Russell M. Nelson, “Hope of Israel,” Worldwide Youth Devotional, June 3, 2018)

- We, your brethren, need your strength, your conversion, your conviction, your ability to lead, your wisdom, and your voices. The kingdom of God is not and cannot be complete without women who make sacred covenants and then keep them, women who can speak with the power and authority of God!⁷ President Packer declared: “We need women who are organized and women who can organize. We need women with executive ability who can plan and direct and administer; women who can teach, women who can speak out. ... “We need women with the gift of discernment who can view the trends in the world and detect those that, however popular, are shallow or dangerous.”⁸ Today, let me add that we need women who know how to make important things happen by their faith and who are courageous defenders of morality and families in a sin-sick world. We need women who are devoted to shepherding God’s children along the covenant path toward exaltation; women who know how to receive personal revelation, who understand the power and peace of the temple endowment; women who know how to call upon the powers of heaven to protect and strengthen children and families; women who teach fearlessly. Attacks against the Church, its doctrine, and our way of life are going to increase. Because of this, we need women who have a bedrock understanding of the doctrine of Christ and who will use that understanding to teach and help raise a sin-resistant generation.¹² We need women who can detect deception in all of its forms. We need women who know how to access the power that God makes available to covenant keepers and who express their beliefs with confidence and charity. We need women who have the courage and vision of our Mother Eve. My dear sisters, nothing is more crucial to your eternal life than your own conversion. It is converted, covenant-keeping women—women like my dear wife Wendy—whose righteous lives will increasingly stand out in a deteriorating world and who will thus be seen as different and distinct in the *happiest* of ways. So today I plead with my sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to step forward! Take your rightful and needful place in your home, in your community, and in the kingdom of God—more than you ever have before. I plead with you to fulfill President Kimball’s prophecy. And I promise you in the name of Jesus Christ that as you do so, the Holy Ghost will magnify your influence in an unprecedented way!” Pres. Russell M. Nelson, A Plea to My Sisters, Oct. 2015)
- Every woman and every man who makes covenants with God and keeps those covenants, and who participates worthily in priesthood ordinances, has direct access to the power of God. Those who are endowed in the house of the Lord receive a gift of God’s priesthood power by virtue of their covenant, along with a gift of knowledge to know how to draw upon that power. The heavens are just as open to *women* who are endowed with God’s power flowing from their priesthood covenants as they are to men who bear the priesthood. I pray that truth will register upon each of your hearts because I believe it will change your life. Sisters, you have the right to draw liberally upon the Savior’s power to help your family and others you love. Now, you might be saying to yourself, “This sounds wonderful, but how do I do it? How do I draw the Savior’s power into my life?”

“. . .What I can tell you is that accessing the power of God in your life requires the same things that the Lord instructed Emma and each of you to do. So, I invite you to study prayerfully [section 25 of the Doctrine and Covenants](#) and discover what the Holy Ghost will teach you. Your personal spiritual endeavor will bring you joy as you gain,

understand, and use the power with which you have been endowed.” (Pres. Russell M. Nelson, *Spiritual Treasures*, Oct. 2019)

- “You are *all* remarkable young women. You are unique, each with your own gifts and experiences yet alike in a very important and eternal way. You are literally the spirit daughters of Heavenly Parents, and nothing can separate you from Their love and the love of your Savior.¹ As you draw closer to Him, even taking the smallest baby steps forward, you will discover the lasting peace that settles into your soul as a faithful disciple of our Savior, Jesus Christ.” (Bonnie Cordon, *Beloved Daughters* Oct. 2019)

Suggested Music from FSJ:

- “Divine” (Young Women)
- “Son of God” (Young Men)