Presiding with Love and Righteousness in the Home

Why this topic?

"By divine design, fathers are to preside over their families in love and righteousness and are responsible to provide the necessities of life and protection for their families" ("The Family: A Proclamation to the World," Ensign, Nov. 2010, 129). Husband and fathers are to follow the example of Heavenly Father as they lead their families. One of the great blessings of a priesthood quorum is the strength and encouragement we can give each other to magnify the priesthood as we preside in our homes.

Prepare for an inspiring meeting

Consider the brethren you are called to teach and serve. What do you feel when you visit them in their homes? What do they need to understand about what it means to preside?

Teaching in the Savior's Way

Video: "Oatmeal and Sunday School" (2:37)

Which of the brethren have children or grandchildren? Do any of the fathers or children have special needs?

As you pray about and study the resources below, what impressions do you have about how to inspire and encourage the brethren who preside in their homes or who will someday preside in their homes?

D&C 68:25-28; 121:36-46

President Boyd K. Packer, "<u>The Power of</u> the Priesthood," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2010, 6–10

"<u>Father, Consider Your Ways</u>," a message by the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in 1973, republished in *Ensign*, June 2002 "Fathers in the Home," Teachings of

Presidents of the Church: Joseph F. Smith (1998), 380–87

"The Family: A Proclamation to the World,"

Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2010, 129

Video: "The Power of the Priesthood in the

Family" (10:31)

"O My Father," Hymns, no. 292

Begin the meeting

As you begin the meeting, think about how to help quorum members recognize the spiritual growth happening in their own lives and in their families. You could ask them to share what they have thought about or done as a result of last week's meeting, or you could prepare them for today's discussion by asking them to talk about how they fulfill their divine responsibility to preside in love and righteousness in their homes.

Ideas for learning together

Here are a few suggestions to help your quorum members learn about presiding in the home. Use these or other ideas.

- Quorum members could search scriptures and general conference talks from the list above to
 find principles that explain the divine roles of men and women in Heavenly Father's plan. They
 could also review "The Family: A Proclamation to the World." What do they learn from these
 prophetic messages?
- As a quorum or in small groups, quorum members could share ideas and experiences about the responsibility husbands and fathers have to preside with love and righteousness. Topics for discussion could include differences between presiding in the Church and in the home, finding strength to be an exemplary leader, experiences of those who are not married or have no children, and other relevant issues. Use scriptures or other prophetic teachings to support your discussion.
- You could show the video "<u>The Power of the Priesthood in the Family</u>" and ask quorum members to share insights about how presiding in their families has brought them closer to God.

Take action

Help quorum members think about how to apply what they have learned individually, in their families, and in your quorum. How could they take action this week to preside in their home with love and righteousness? For example, you might ask:

- What good examples have you seen of priesthood leadership in the home? What do you feel
 inspired to do to follow these examples?
- What personal goals do you have to be a better priesthood leader in your home this week?
- How can you help future husbands and fathers prepare for this important responsibility?

You may want to ask quorum members to share other specific actions they feel inspired to take to fulfill their duty to preside in the home in love and righteousness.

During the week, you may want to send out a reminder (through email, text message, or social media) to invite members to act on what they have learned and to share additional learning and teaching resources.

