Coming unto Christ in His Holy House

Why this topic?

In the temple—the house of the Lord—we feel the influence of the Holy Ghost and draw nearer to God, our Eternal Father, and to His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ. We are invited to "come unto Christ, and be perfected in him" (Moroni 10:32) as we participate in temple ordinances and make covenants that point us to Him and His Atonement. Worshipping in the temple enables us to understand, receive, and honor the ordinances and covenants necessary to return to our Heavenly Father and His Son.

Prepare for an inspiring meeting

Think about your experiences in the temple. How have they strengthened your testimony of the Savior's Atonement?

How might those in your quorum or Relief Society benefit from hearing one another share their testimonies of the importance of the temple? How can you encourage them to share their testimonies?

As you prayerfully study some of the resources below, what are you impressed to do to help quorum or class members understand, receive, and honor temple ordinances and covenants?

John 17:3; D&C 109; 110

President Thomas S. Monson, "The Holy Temple—a Beacon to the World," Ensign or Liahona, May 2011, 90–94

Elder Russell M. Nelson, "Prepare for the Blessings of the Temple," Ensign or Liahona, Nov. 2010, 40–51

Elder Richard G. Scott, "Temple Worship: The Source of Strength and Power in Times of Need," Ensign or Liahona, May 2009, 43–45

Elder David A. Bednar, "Honorably Hold a Name and Standing," Ensign or Liahona, May 2009, 97–100

Teaching in the Savior's Way

The Savior invited His followers to act in faith and live the truths He taught. He wanted His followers to live the gospel with all their hearts. How can you inspire in quorum or class members the desire to understand and participate in temple ordinances?

"Temple Work: Turning Our Hearts to Our Families and to the Lord," Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Wilford Woodruff (2011), 173–83

<u>Preparing to Enter the Holy Temple</u> (booklet, 2002)

Videos: "<u>The Blessings of the Temple</u>" (3:33), "Temples Are a Beacon" (2:50)

My Role in the Work of Salvation (temple preparation resources)

Begin the meeting

As you begin the meeting, think about how to help those you teach 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 how the temple has helped them draw nearer to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and how they have been blessed through temple work.

Ideas for learning together

Here are a few suggestions to help those you teach come unto Christ by preparing for and participating in temple ordinances. As prompted by the Spirit, use one or more of these ideas, or ideas of your own to help meet the needs of those you teach.

Members could watch the video "<u>The Blessings of the Temple</u>," looking for truths it teaches about the
Savior and the temple. They could then discuss what they can do to better understand temple covenants
and ordinances and obtain temple blessings.

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Weeks 1 and 4: Locally Selected Topics

- Members could read or watch portions of one of the general conference talks suggested above. As they do, they could identify what they learn about the Father's plan, the Savior, and the temple. How does this message inspire us to enhance our temple attendance and preparation? (See, for example, the list of suggestions in Elder Richard G. Scott's talk.) Consider questions you could discuss as a class to learn more about how the temple helps us come unto Christ; for example: How do we feel when we think about Heavenly Father's plan for us? How can we express our gratitude to Heavenly Father and the Savior for the blessings promised to us?
- Members could share ways they could inspire their children, grandchildren, and other family members to
 prepare for temple ordinances and covenants. Invite them to find and share scriptures they could use to
 teach others about the temple (you might suggest that they spend time searching for scriptures in the
 Topical Guide under "Temple, House of the Lord"). Consider discussing as a class how understanding the
 Savior and the Atonement helps us better prepare for temple ordinances and covenants.
- A few days before the meeting, you could ask someone who has recently attended the temple for the first time to prepare to share his or her feelings about the temple and the Savior. You could also allow time for others in the quorum or class to share their thoughts and feelings.

Take action

Encourage those you teach to think about how to apply what they have learned and felt. How can they continue to learn about the Savior and the temple? What can they do individually, in their families, and in their quorum, group, or Relief Society? For example, you might ask:

- What can you do to enhance your temple experience? How might this help you draw closer to the Savior and to Heavenly Father?
- How can we support one another in our efforts to come unto Christ through our temple covenants?
- How can you assist your family members in preparing for and attending the temple?

You may want to ask class members to share actions they feel inspired to take individually or in their families to come unto Christ through worship in the temple.

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.