

## How Seminary and Institute Can Support Our Efforts in the Home

### Why this topic?

The objective of seminary and institute is to “help youth and young adults understand and rely on the teachings and Atonement of Jesus Christ, qualify for the blessings of the temple, and prepare themselves, their families, and others for eternal life with their Father in Heaven” ([si.lds.org](http://si.lds.org)). Seminary and institute can support and strengthen families as they strive to learn and teach the gospel at home.

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### Prepare for an inspiring meeting

How might this meeting help Relief Society or quorum members better understand what youth and young adults are experiencing in seminary and institute? How might such an understanding influence learning experiences in the home?

Does a called or full-time seminary or institute teacher live in your ward? Could he or she be asked to teach a portion of the class?

As you prayerfully study the resources below, what are you impressed to do to encourage members in their efforts to connect what youth are learning at home with what they learn in seminary or institute?

[2 Nephi 28:30](#)

[D&C 88:118](#)

[D&C 130:18–19](#)

Elder L. Tom Perry, “[Receive Truth](#),” *Ensign*, Nov. 1997, 60–62

“[Objective of Seminaries and Institutes of Religion](#),” [si.lds.org](http://si.lds.org)

[The Charted Course of the Church in Education](#)

“[Participate in Seminary](#),” [seminary.lds.org](http://seminary.lds.org)

“[Make Institute a Priority](#),” [institute.lds.org](http://institute.lds.org)

#### Teaching in the Savior’s Way

The Savior asked questions that caused others to think and feel deeply. He was sincerely interested in their answers and rejoiced in their expressions of faith. He gave them opportunities to ask their own questions, and He listened to their experiences. What questions can you ask that will help those you teach think and feel deeply about the gospel?

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### 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 members 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 have benefited from seminary and institute classes or how members of their family have benefited.

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### Ideas for learning together

To help members connect gospel learning in seminary and institute with gospel learning in the home, use one or more of the following ideas or prepare your own.

- A few seminary and institute students in the ward could share experiences they have had in seminary or institute. For example, students could read the “Objective of Seminaries and Institutes of Religion” to the quorum or class and then share how this objective has been fulfilled in their lives. They could also share how seminary or institute has influenced their testimonies of the Savior and His Atonement. You could ask them to suggest ways youth and parents could use learning experiences in seminary and institute to reinforce gospel learning in the home. Members could ask the students questions they have about seminary and institute, such as “What have you learned recently in seminary or institute, and why was it meaningful to you?”
- Members could brainstorm ideas to help make connections between gospel principles youth are learning at home and scriptures they are studying in seminary or institute. Examples could include inviting youth to teach

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the family what they are learning in seminary or institute, studying as a family the book of scripture youth are studying in seminary, contacting the seminary or institute teacher to talk about what the youth are learning, memorizing scripture mastery verses as a family, and so on.

- Members could search some of the resources listed above and look for answers to questions such as the following: What do youth and young adults gain from seminary and institute? How can we encourage increased attendance and participation in seminary and institute? Members could discuss what they find in small groups or with the entire quorum or class.
- If possible, you could invite a seminary or institute teacher to talk to members. He or she could explain what students are studying, the kinds of learning experiences students are having, what students are required to do, and so on. The teacher could then participate in a discussion about how to connect the learning experiences youth are having at home with the learning experiences they are having in seminary or institute. (Note that if the teacher is not a member of your ward, you should seek the bishop's permission before extending this invitation.)
- You could show members the online versions of the [seminary](#) and [institute](#) manuals to make them aware of resources available to assist in their personal and family scripture study. Consider spending some time in class going over the features of the manuals and inviting members to share how they might use them in family study.

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### Take action

Help members think about how to apply—individually, in their families, and in your quorum, group, or Relief Society—what they have learned. For example, you might ask:

- What do you feel inspired to do to help you connect what youth are learning at home with what they learn in seminary and institute?
- Who do you know who would benefit from seminary or institute but is not currently attending? What can you do to encourage him or her to attend?

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.