Sharing the Gospel as the Lord Hastens His Work

Why this topic?

President Thomas S. Monson declared: "Now is the time for members and missionaries to come together, to work together, to labor in the Lord's vineyard to bring souls unto Him. He has prepared the means for us to share the gospel in a multitude of ways" ("Faith in the Work of Salvation" [worldwide leadership training broadcast, June 2013]). As we respond in faith to this prophetic call, the Lord will assist us in our efforts.

Prepare for an inspiring meeting

When have you and those you teach shared the gospel with others? How did you feel? Why are we sometimes hesitant to share the gospel? How can we encourage each other to overcome our concerns?

Do those you teach see sharing the gospel as something we do with nonmembers only? Do they understand that fellowshipping newly baptized members and less-active members is also part of this work?

Teach in the Savior's Way

The Savior used scriptures to teach about His mission. He taught people to think about scriptures for themselves. How can you

As you pray and study the resources below, what do you find that will inspire members to share the gospel?

<u>Matthew 28:19–20; Alma 17:16; D&C 88:81;</u> 123:12 (purposes of missionary work)

3 Nephi 18:32; D&C 18:10–16; Moses 1:39 (encourage to participate in the work of salvation)

Elder M. Russell Ballard, "<u>Put Your Trust in</u> the Lord," *Ensign* or *Liahona,* Nov. 2013, 43–45

"The Work of Salvation in the Ward and Stake," *Handbook 2: Administering the*

Church (2010), 5.1–3; these sections teach about conversion, retention, and activation

"The Importance of Members" Preach My Gospel: A Guide to Missionary Service (2004), 160–62

"Hastening the Work of Salvation"; the videos on the site help us see ourselves in the work of salvation

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 to talk about experiences they have had sharing the gospel with others.

Ideas for learning together

To help members strengthen and act on their desire to share the gospel with others, use one or more of the following ideas or prepare your own.

- Who in your quorum or class might be able to share meaningful experiences and insights about a particular aspect of the work of salvation from *Handbook 2*: conversion (5.1), retention (5.2), and activation (5.3)? How can members assist the bishopric, ward council, and ward mission leader in this essential work?
- As a quorum or class, you could discuss evidence that the Lord is hastening His work in our day (see <u>D&C 88:73</u>). What role do we have in this work? The video "<u>I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go</u>" shows examples of how members can participate. You could use other resources on the "Members and Missionaries" tab at hasteningthework.lds.org.
- When we remember people who have shared the gospel with us, we often feel more inspired to share the gospel ourselves. You could invite members to ponder and discuss the influence of full-time missionaries, members, and home teachers or visiting teachers on their lives. You could ask them how they feel about those who have helped them and how they can follow their example.
- You could give each member part of Elder M. Russell Ballard's talk "<u>Put Your Trust in the Lord</u>" to study individually or in small groups. They could share counsel from Elder Ballard that inspires them to share the gospel with others.

Take action

Help the members you teach think about how to apply what they have learned individually, in their families, and in your quorum or class. How could they take action to share the gospel with others this week? For example, you might ask:

- What have you felt to do today to share the gospel? What names have come into your mind?
- How has this discussion inspired you to be a better home teacher or visiting teacher? What specific actions will you take as a result of what you have felt?
- Is there someone in your family with whom you could share the gospel? What will you do to reach out to him or her?

Weeks 1 and 4: Locally Selected Topics

You may want to ask class members to share other specific actions they feel inspired to take individually or in their families to share the gospel with others.

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.

