

Nurturing God's Children with Love

Why this topic?

As daughters of God, we have been given divine gifts and responsibilities to nurture Heavenly Father's children—to care for them and help them flourish in various aspects of their lives. These gifts and responsibilities did not begin on earth, and they do not end here. They apply to all women, even those who do not currently have children of their own. One of the great blessings of Relief Society is the strength and encouragement we can give each other in our roles as nurturers.

Prepare for an inspiring meeting

Consider the sisters you are called to teach and serve. Do they understand what it means to nurture? What examples of nurturing have class members seen that inspire them? What experiences have they had nurturing children and youth that they can share with each other?

As you pray for guidance and study the resources below, what impressions do you have about how to inspire and encourage the sisters in their roles as nurturers of God's children?

Teaching in the Savior's Way

Video: "[Oatmeal and Sunday School](#)" (2:37)

[Ephesians 6:4](#); [Enos 1:1](#); [Alma 53:20–21](#);
[56:47–48](#); [57:27](#)

Elder D. Todd Christofferson, "[The Moral Force of Women](#)," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2013, 29–32

Elder Quentin L. Cook, "[LDS Women Are Incredible!](#)" *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2011, 18–22

Julie B. Beck, "[A 'Mother Heart'](#)," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2004, 75–77

"[The Noble Calling of Parents](#)," *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: David O. McKay* (2003), 152–61

"[The Family: A Proclamation to the World](#)," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2010, 129

"[Guardians of the Hearth: Establishing, Nurturing, and Defending the Family](#)," *Daughters in My Kingdom: The History and Work of Relief Society* (2011), 147–49

Video: "[Motherhood: An Eternal Partnership with God](#)" (3:46)

Begin the meeting

As you begin the meeting, think about how to help your sisters 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 what it means to them to be a nurturer of God's children.

Ideas for learning together

Here are a few suggestions to help sisters learn about nurturing Heavenly Father's children. Use these or other ideas.

- Sisters could search scriptures and general conference talks from the list above to find principles that explain the divine role and nature of women in Heavenly Father's plan. Also invite them to review "[The Family: A Proclamation to the World](#)," looking for principles of nurturing. Ask them to share what they learn from these prophetic messages.
 - Sisters could divide into groups and share ideas and experiences about nurturing others (such as youth and children, the elderly, the downtrodden, or others in need). Topics for discussion could include strengthening the testimonies of others, helping youth learn from mistakes, taking care of our own spiritual and physical needs so we can be good nurturers, and other relevant issues. Use scriptures or other prophetic teachings, such as those listed above, to keep the discussion grounded in gospel doctrine and principles.
 - You could show the video "[Motherhood: An Eternal Partnership with God](#)," and ask several sisters to share insights about how nurturing children has brought them closer to God.
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Take action

Help the sisters think about how to apply what they have learned individually, in their families, and in your Relief Society. How could they take action this week to nurture Heavenly Father's children? For example, you might ask:

- When have you felt nurtured? What do you feel inspired to do to follow examples of nurturing you have seen?
- What personal goals do you have to nurture others? How can we as Relief Society sisters help each other accomplish our goals?
- Are there young women in the ward who need to understand their divine potential as nurturers of God's children? What can you do to inspire and prepare them?

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

Assigned Topics for Relief Society

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.

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