

Trust in the Students

Read the following statements and underline words or phrases that help you understand why you can trust your students' ability to fulfill their role as they learn, teach, and apply gospel doctrine and principles.

1. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught:
 "All the minds and spirits that God ever sent into the world are susceptible of enlargement" (*Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* [2007], 210).
2. President J. Reuben Clark Jr. (1871–1961) of the First Presidency declared:
 "The youth of the Church are hungry for things of the Spirit; they are eager to learn the gospel, and they want it straight, undiluted. . . . They are not now doubters but inquirers, seekers after truth. . . .
 "These students as they come to you are spiritually working on toward a maturity which they will early reach if you but feed them the right food. They come to you possessing spiritual knowledge and experience the world does not know"
 (*The Charted Course of the Church in Education*, rev. ed. [1994], 3, 5–6).
3. President Henry B. Eyring of the First Presidency taught:
 "I can make a promise to you: If you treat [students] as seekers, they will feel that you love them. And that may awaken a hope in them that they could have a softer heart. It may not happen every time, and it may not last. But it will happen often, and sometimes it will last. And all of them will at least remember that you believed in the best in them—their inheritance as a child of God" ("And Thus We See: Helping a Student in a Moment of Doubt" [address to Church Educational System religious educators, Feb. 5, 1993], 5, si.lds.org).
4. President Spencer W. Kimball (1895–1985) taught:
 "The Lord is sending forth great and powerful spirits that have been reserved to help move his work forward in these critical times. These spirits need to be trained and prepared for the work they have to do" ("Men of Example" [address to Church Educational System religious educators, Sept. 12, 1975], 5, si.lds.org).
5. President Dieter F. Uchtdorf of the First Presidency taught:
 "Our young people want to believe; they yearn to know more about the Savior" ("A Teacher of God's Children" [address to Church Educational System religious educators, Jan. 28, 2011], 6, si.lds.org).
6. Elder Neil L. Andersen of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles testified:
 "I like these words from President George Q. Cannon [1827–1901], who served in the First Presidency: 'God has reserved spirits for this dispensation who have the courage and determination to face the world and all the powers of the evil one, visible and invisible, to proclaim the gospel and maintain the truth and establish and build up the Zion of our God fearless of all consequences. He has sent these spirits in this generation to lay the foundation of Zion never more to be overthrown, and to raise up a seed that will be righteous, and that will honor God, and honor Him supremely, and be obedient to Him under all circumstances' [*Deseret News*, May 31, 1866, 203].
 "The young men and women in your classes are these spirits. They are the hope of the future" ("A Classroom of Faith, Hope, and Charity" [evening with a General Authority, Feb. 28, 2014], lds.org/broadcasts).
7. President Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994) declared:
 "For nearly six thousand years, God has held you in reserve to make your appearance in the final days before the Second Coming of the Lord. . . . God has saved for the final inning some of his strongest children, who will help bear off the Kingdom triumphantly. And that is where you come in, for you are the generation that must be prepared to meet your God. . . . Make no mistake



about it—you are a marked generation. . . . Will [you] be true to [your] last-days, foreordained mission?" ("In His Steps" [Brigham Young University fireside, Mar. 4, 1979], 1, speeches.byu.edu).

8. President Henry B. Eyring of the First Presidency explained:

"[Our students] will be hungry for the things of the Spirit. They will recognize when the truth is

confirmed to them by the Spirit. They will be eager to have their testimonies deepened by feeling the fire of our testimonies of the fundamental truths of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ" ("The Lord Will Multiply the Harvest" [address to Church Educational System religious educators, Feb. 6, 1998], 2, si.lds.org).

