



**By Elder M. Russell Ballard**  
Of the Quorum  
of the Twelve  
Apostles

# What is a family council?

A family council is a meeting on any day of the week. It can be with just you and a parent or with your whole family. It's a time when you can . . .



Turn off electronics and look at and listen to each other.



Tell your parents about your worries or fears.



Make goals and write them down.



Offer to help a sibling during a hard time.

Combined with prayer, a family council can invite the Savior's presence in your home. It can help your family be happy.

*From "Family Councils," Ensign, May 2016, 63–65.*

When Elder M. Russell Ballard was growing up, his dad owned a peach orchard and kept honeybees. Russell didn't always like going near the bees with his dad. But years later Russell learned things about honeybees that he thought were really awesome. Russell was amazed at how much honeybees can get done when they work together. He learned that each bee does only a small part. They have to go to millions

of flowers to get even a little honey for their hive, which is like their family. When all of those bees do their best, they help the hive grow. Russell learned that, like the busy bees, we all need to work together and help each other. We might feel like we only do a little bit to help, but together those little things can make a big difference. ♦  
*Adapted from "Be Anxiously Engaged," Ensign, Nov. 2012, 29–31.*

# Busy Like a Bee



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