

## **Preparing to Teach**

### **Study the learning outlines well in advance**

We can no longer spend sacrament meeting preparing to teach a lesson in Sunday School. The learning outlines must be studied well in advance to teaching. Take the entire week leading up to the lesson to read the learning outlines, ponder upon their meaning, ponder upon the youth, and ask your Heavenly Father how He would have you teach His children.

### **Use the scriptures and talks as the foundation of your lessons**

The learning outlines are designed to help the youth answer basic gospel questions that will strengthen their own testimonies of the gospel and prepare them to share the gospel with others. The learning outlines have various scriptures and talks that assist you in learning the gospel and knowing what to teach.

You have been called to teach as the Savior taught. This means utilizing the scriptures and words of modern-day prophets as the foundation and focus of your lessons. The words of modern-day prophets address the concerns of latter-day youth in their language, according to their understanding. Feast upon their words, love their words, and help the youth to also feast upon and love their words.

### **Focus on what the youth need to learn, not what you want to teach**

As mentioned in the “Determining What to Teach” document, you must prepare lessons according to the needs of the youth, not according to what you want to show the youth. This means creating student-centered lessons, not teacher-centered lessons.

### **Live the gospel**

The best way to prepare yourself to teach the gospel is to live it. By doing so, you will gain a stronger testimony of the principles you are helping the youth discover, and stand as a better witness of Christ as you teach.