

Focus Idea #6: The Lord has an organized kingdom part 2

(Home can be a heaven on earth—let's get our home organized)



Pick and choose any of the following items for your Family Home Evening.

Songs PSB = Primary Songbook

1. [When We're Helping](#) Pg. 198 PSB
2. [Love is Spoken Here](#) Pg. 190 PSB
3. [Saturday](#) Pg. 196 PSB
4. [Home Can Be a Heaven on Earth](#) Hymn #298
5. [Love at Home](#) Hymn #294
6. [Teach Me to Walk in the Light](#) Hymn # 304

Scripture Quotes & Stories

1. *[D&C 88:119](#) – Organize everything about your home
2. [D&C 87:8](#)—Stand in holy places

Stories

1. The Berenstain Bears and the Messy Room—(Get this from the library or purchase if you don't have it.) Discuss what happens to all the bears emotionally when things are chaotic.

Games

1. Play 3 minute pick-up—See who can pick up the most out-of-place items and put in a sack within three minutes. Then, see who can put them all in their proper location within another 3 minutes.

Outings

1. Organize the outside of your home by raking, cutting grass, winding up the hose, picking up the yard, etc.

Object Lessons

1. For this object lesson, ask everyone to go and get their toothbrushes and something that is often hard to locate at your house (ie the nail clippers, the remote, a specific book, etc.) When they return, ask them which thing was easier for them to find. Discuss the reasons why.
2. Before the lesson, get something that is hard, like a Lego or small toy, and a blanket. Place the item under the blanket without disclosing the identity of the item. Ask if anyone would like to walk, jump, or sit on the bump. Discuss the reasons why or why not.
3. Before the lesson, find an enjoyable short game, such as Boggle. Remove one of the pieces. See if anyone would like to play the game as is. Discuss why games are not as fun, or fun at all when pieces are missing. Discuss how this can be prevented.
4. Take a few sheets of paper and ask the kids to pretend it is a schoolwork assignment that is due tomorrow, or it is an important paper for work! Have the kids come up with things that could happen to the paper if it was not properly put away. Demonstrate some of these things—crumple up, thrown away, ripped, colored on, lost, etc.

Activities

1. Talk about how cleanliness is part of orderliness. Refer to the fact that the Temples are periodically closed for thorough cleaning. See discussion questions.
2. List ideas for cleaning and/or organizing your home better. Or, list things that need to be organized or cleaned that you may have missed in the past. Then pick one or two of those to begin working on right now for half an hour or so together.
3. Make a cause and effect chart of the problems of disorganization on a poster or chalkboard. Because something is not in its place... Someone can get hurt, therefore someone will feel physical pain. Things can get ruined, therefore someone might be sad because something nice is destroyed resulting in hurt feelings. Things get lost, therefore someone may become frustrated or irritated because they can't use the item or because they have to spend time looking. Discuss how these things can actually snowball farther than this.
4. Divide and conquer! Divide the family up and give them one of the following things to do for 15 minutes (or whatever time you want).—Do some research on the internet to discover some helpful, exciting, new useful organizational tips.—Make a list of every minute detail that could possibly be cleaned, organized or repaired in a certain room.—Design a chart for organization of household jobs.—Label photographs and put into photo books. When everyone is done, return and report to each other what was done or discovered. If desired, do it again but give out the same tasks to different groups. See if the results are much different.
5. Have everyone make their own bedroom to do list.
6. Make lists together entitled: 10 minute clean of the _____ (bedroom, bathroom, den, family room, etc.) Good enough for guests clean of the _____ (same rooms). Spring clean job of the _____ (same rooms). On these lists make sure to put down what would be expected if you were to clean in those particular ways.

Refreshment Ideas

1. Layer different types of berries parfait-style with yogurt in a large see-through bowl or in individual see-through serving glasses or bowls. Doesn't organization look nice??

Discussion Questions

1. How might things feel differently if the church house wasn't clean, whether we are talking about the chapel area, hallways, or bathroom?
2. What kinds of things do you think they might clean when the temple is closed? (IE. Drapes, floors, chairs, altars, chandeliers, windows, etc.)
3. How does paying attention to such details make the temple a more peaceful place?
4. Have you ever seen trash on the lawn at the temple?
5. Is everything about the outside of the temple neat, clean, and orderly? Of course the answer is yes, so, does that help contribute to the peaceful feeling there?
6. Can or should our home be "a holy place"?
7. If so, would it be good to emulate the way the Lord's house is taken care of?
8. What can we do in our home that would help us have a less chaotic atmosphere?
9. Can you see how the top problems of disorganization cause friction between family members?
10. Is it possible to have more peace, less contention simply by reducing the disorganization?