



12

CONTINUING TO GIVE AND TO BLESS OTHERS

MY FOUNDATION PRINCIPLE

- Receive Temple Ordinances

FINANCIAL PRINCIPLES AND SKILLS

1. Share the Principle of Self-Reliance with Your Family and Friends
2. Press Forward with Faith



REPORT—Maximum Time: 25 Minutes

LAST WEEK'S COMMITMENTS:

- Ⓐ Practice and share last week's My Foundation principle.
- Ⓑ Continue to put money toward my financial priority.
- Ⓒ Discuss planning for retirement during family council.
- Ⓓ Contact and support my action partner.

STEP 1: EVALUATE WITH ACTION PARTNER (5 minutes)

Take a few minutes to evaluate your efforts to keep your commitments this week. Use the "Evaluating My Efforts" chart at the beginning of this workbook. Share your evaluation with your partner and discuss with him or her the question below. He or she will then initial where indicated.

Discuss: What challenges did you have with keeping your commitments this week?

EVALUATING MY EFFORTS					
INSTRUCTIONS: Evaluate your effort to keep the commitments you made each week. Share your evaluation with your action partner. Ponder ways you can continue to improve as you practice forming these important habits.					
KEY: ● Minimal Effort ● Moderate Effort ● Significant Effort					
Practice and share the My Foundation principle	Plan and Manage My Finances	Hold a Family Council	Contact and Support My Action Partner	Action Partner's Initials	
Example Be obedient ● ● ●	Track expenses ● ● ●	Counsel about obedience ● ● ●	● ● ●	JW	
Week 1 Self reliance is a principle of salvation ● ● ●	Track expenses ● ● ●	Counsel with the Lord ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 2 Exercise faith in Jesus Christ ● ● ●	Track expenses ● ● ●	Counsel about income and expenses ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 3 Repent and be obedient ● ● ●	Track expenses ● ● ●	Counsel about tithes and offerings ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 4 Live a balanced life ● ● ●	Build a budget ● ● ●	Counsel about budgeting ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 5 Solve problems ● ● ●	Choose a budgeting system ● ● ●	Counsel about budgeting ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 6 Use time wisely ● ● ●	Put money toward financial priority ● ● ●	Counsel about emergency fund, insurance ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 7 Show integrity ● ● ●	Put money toward financial priority ● ● ●	Counsel about debt ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 8 Work, take responsibility and give ● ● ●	Put money toward financial priority ● ● ●	Counsel about debt ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 9 Communicate, partner and listen ● ● ●	Put money toward financial priority ● ● ●	Counsel about crisis management ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 10 Seek learning, resolve where you are going and how to get there ● ● ●	Put money toward financial priority ● ● ●	Counsel about saving, home ownership, education ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	
Week 11 Become one, serve together ● ● ●	Put money toward financial priority ● ● ●	Counsel about retirement planning ● ● ●	● ● ●	_____	

STEP 2: REPORT TO THE GROUP (8 minutes)

After evaluating your efforts, come back together and report your results. Go around the group and each state whether you rated yourself “red,” “yellow,” or “green” for each of last week’s commitments.

STEP 3: SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES (10 minutes)

Now share as a group the things you learned during the week from your commitments.

- Discuss:**
- What experiences did you have practicing or sharing the My Foundation principle?
 - What challenges have you had putting money toward your financial priority?
 - What did you learn from discussing your retirement plan?

STEP 4: CHOOSE ACTION PARTNERS (2 minutes)

Choose an action partner from the group for this coming week. Generally, action partners are the same gender and are not family members.

Take a couple of minutes now to meet with your action partner. Introduce yourselves and discuss how you will contact each other throughout the week.

Action partner’s name

Contact information

Write how and when you will contact each other this week.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT



MY FOUNDATION: RECEIVE TEMPLE ORDINANCES

—Maximum Time: 20 Minutes

Ponder: What are some of the things that matter most to you?

Watch: “Doing What Matters Most,” available at srs.lds.org/videos.
(No video? Read page 201.)

Discuss: What insignificant things distract us from progressing? How can gospel ordinances help us?

Read: Doctrine and Covenants 84:20 and the quote by President Boyd K. Packer (on the right)

Discuss: As we seek self-reliance, why is it important to be temple worthy?

ACTIVITY

Step 1: With a partner, read the quote by Elder Quentin L. Cook (on the right) and the following scriptures. Underline the promised blessings for those who worship in the temple.

“Therefore, in the ordinances thereof, the power of godliness is manifest”
(D&C 84:20).

“And that they may grow up in thee, and receive a fulness of the Holy Ghost, and be organized according to thy laws, and be prepared to obtain every needful thing”
(D&C 109:15).

“And when thy people transgress, any of them, they may speedily repent and return unto thee, and find favor in thy sight, and be restored to the blessings which thou hast ordained to be poured out upon those who shall reverence thee in thy house”
(D&C 109:21).

“And we ask thee, Holy Father, that thy servants may go forth from this house armed with thy power, and that thy name may be upon them, and thy glory be round about them, and thine angels have charge over them” (D&C 109:22).

“We ask thee, Holy Father, . . . that no weapon formed against them shall prosper”
(D&C 109:24–25).

Step 2: Individually ponder, “What do I need to change in my life to participate in temple ordinances more often?”

“In the ordinances thereof, the power of godliness is manifest.”

DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 84:20

“The Lord will bless us as we attend to the sacred ordinance work of the temples. Blessings there will not be limited to our temple service. We will be blessed in all of our affairs. We will be eligible to have the Lord take an interest in our affairs both spiritual and temporal.”

BOYD K. PACKER,
The Holy Temple
(1980), 82

“We would do well to study the 109th section of the Doctrine and Covenants and to follow President [Howard W.] Hunter’s admonition ‘to establish the temple of the Lord as the great symbol of [our] membership.’”

QUENTIN L. COOK,
“See Yourself in the Temple,” Ensign or Liahona,
May 2016,
99; quoting *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Howard W. Hunter* (2015), 178

Commit: Commit to do the following actions during the week. Check the box when you complete each action:

- If you have a temple recommend, set a date to attend the temple.
- If you don't have a temple recommend, meet with your bishop or branch president to discuss how you can prepare to receive your temple ordinances.
- Share what you've learned about temple ordinances with your family or friends.

DOING WHAT MATTERS MOST

If you are unable to watch the video, read this script.



Of course, the malfunctioning lightbulb didn't cause the accident; it happened because the crew placed its focus on something that seemed to matter at the moment while losing sight of what mattered most.

NARRATOR: A plane crashed in Florida one dark night in December. Over 100 people were killed. It was just 20 miles from safety.

PRESIDENT DIETER F. UCHTDORF: After the accident, investigators tried to determine the cause. The landing gear had indeed lowered properly. The plane was in perfect mechanical condition. Everything was working properly—all except one thing: a single burned-out lightbulb. That tiny bulb—worth about 20 cents—started the chain of events that ultimately led to the tragic death of over 100 people.

The tendency to focus on the insignificant at the expense of the profound happens not only to pilots but to everyone. We are all at risk. . . . Are your thoughts and heart focused on those short-lived fleeting things that matter only in the moment or on things that matter most?

("We Are Doing a Great Work and Cannot Come Down," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2009, 59, 60)

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LEARN — Maximum Time: 45 Minutes

TODAY'S DISCUSSION:



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CONTINUE TO GIVE AND TO BLESS OTHERS



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP SUCCESS MAP

1. SHARE THE PRINCIPLES OF SELF-RELIANCE WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Share the Principles of Spiritual Self-Reliance

Read: When we become spiritually self-reliant, it is our duty to help others also become spiritually self-reliant. In the Doctrine and Covenants, we read, “And if any man among you be strong in the Spirit, let him take with him him that is weak, that he may be edified in all meekness, that he may become strong also” (D&C 84:106). Similarly, in the New Testament, Peter writes, “As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God” (1 Peter 4:10).

Discuss: How do these scriptures apply to you? How have the principles of self-reliance in *My Foundation* blessed your life? What does it mean to be spiritually self-reliant?

Share the Principles of Temporal Self-Reliance

Read: When we become temporally self-reliant, it is our duty to help others also become temporally self-reliant. One of the best ways to help others become self-reliant is serving and giving to others. President Marion G. Romney taught: “There is an interdependence between those who have and those who have not. The process of giving exalts the poor and humbles the rich. In the process, both are sanctified. The poor, released from the bondage and limitations of poverty, are enabled as free men to rise to their full potential, both temporally and spiritually. [Those who have more], by imparting of their surplus, participate in the eternal principle of giving. Once a person has been made whole, or self-reliant, he reaches out to aid others, and the cycle repeats itself” (“The Celestial Nature of Self-Reliance,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1982, 93).

Discuss: How does this quote apply to you? Who are the poor? How can you help the poor or those in need in your life?

Ponder: Take a minute to ponder the following question: Who do I know who needs *Personal Finances for Self-Reliance*? How will I share it with them? Write down names and plans to share below.

2. PRESS FORWARD WITH FAITH

Read: Congratulations! You have completed the Personal Finances for Self-Reliance group meetings. To assess your progress, write down where you are and how you plan to continue to progress in the table below.

ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Individually review the Financial Stewardship Success Map, and ponder the progress you have made over the last 12 weeks. Think about the next steps in your journey, and fill out the table below.

OBJECTIVE	YES OR NO	PROGRESS TO DATE/NEXT STEPS
I feel unified with my spouse and the Lord about my finances.		
I am committed to being self-reliant.		
I have faith in Jesus Christ.		
I pay a full tithe and contribute fast offerings.		

OBJECTIVE	YES OR NO	PROGRESS TO DATE/NEXT STEPS
I am free of dependence on family, church, and government support.		
I regularly review and follow my budget.		
I have a one-month emergency fund.		
I am debt free or am actively paying down debt.		
I have a three- to six-month emergency fund.		
I have adequate insurance (such as health, life, auto, and disability insurance).		
I am regularly saving and investing for the future.		

Discuss: How have you improved over the last 12 weeks to become a wise and faithful steward of your finances?

Read: Many of the things we have discussed cannot be accomplished in 12 weeks. However, you should have developed the habits necessary to continue your progress toward successful financial stewardship. Continue to hold regular family councils. Continue to review the chapters in this workbook. And continue to work toward your financial priorities. Commit to follow the “Next Steps” you wrote down in the last column of the assessment on the previous pages.

Ponder: Take five minutes to think about the following question and write down your thoughts below: What are the most meaningful things I have learned over the last 12 weeks?

ACTIVITY (20–30 minutes)

As a group, voluntarily share testimonies, experiences, things you have learned, and ways in which the Lord has blessed you over the last 12 weeks.
