Strengthening the Spiritual Foundation in Jesus Christ for Children Turning 12

Uniting Families for Eternity Through Temple Ordinances and Covenants

Suggestions for parents and leaders to prepare children turning 12 for their first temple experience

"As we observed youth doing family history, we saw them experience almost instantaneous joy and increased confidence. They become more connected to their families. They no longer feel so alone. They begin to feel a celestial kinship. They learn what it means to feel the Spirit. Family history offers a healing influence and an assurance that each person is precious in the eyes of our Heavenly Father."

—President Dallin H. Oaks, RootsTech Family Discovery Day, 2018

Three Ways to Prepare at Home

Parents regularly use principles in *Come, Follow Me,* Appendix A.

Parents help their children by using Ordinances Ready to receive a family name and adding what they know to FamilySearch.org.

Parents have the primary responsibility to teach their children about the temple and the priesthood. They coordinate with Church leaders for a temple recommend and prayerfully consider who will attend the temple with their children (see *General Handbook*, 25.1, 12.2.1.1).

Three Ways to Prepare at Church

Primary leaders focus on temple preparation using *Come, Follow Me,* Fast-Sunday Lessons.

Leaders plan and parents and children participate in the Temple and Priesthood Preparation meeting (see *General Handbook*, 12.1.7).

The Primary organization supports parents by helping children prepare for, make, and keep sacred covenants. The Church encourages involving children in temple and family history work as part of the ward temple and family history plan (see *General Handbook,* 25.1, 12.2.1.1).

By emphasizing simple steps at home and church, parents and leaders can help children feel closer to their Heavenly Father and their Savior Jesus Christ, understand the importance of temple covenants, and experience the joy of uniting families for eternity.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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