

Engaging Gospel Doctrine (Episode 107)

LESSON 30

“Come to the House of the Lord”

Hook	These narratives focus on temple worship and scripture study, but the underlying theme is to take opportunities to improve our worship and behavior. How do we react when we see areas we need to improve?
Goal	
Overview	
Conclusion	

Manual Goal: To inspire each class member to receive the promised blessings that come from temple work and scripture study.

EGD Goal: Class members should be motivated to examine those areas of their life where they could improve and act on insights about how to do so.

Teaching Suggestions: (Once again highly endorse Study Bibles)

Narratives Covered (2 Chronicles 29; 30; 32; 34; 2 Kings 18, 19, 22, 23; Isaiah 37:10-20, 33-38)

- Hezekiah and the cleansing of the temple
- Great Passover (the themes of both of these stories is setting right past mistakes, worshipping properly, being united)
- Preparedness (2 Chronicles 32; we have archaeological evidence of this; look up “Hezekiah’s Tunnel) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hezekiah's_Tunnel
- Josiah!! Josiah is a huge deal, the hero of this section of the Bible (Deuteronomistic History) Hezekiah is a hero, Manasseh is the arch-villain, and then Josiah is the biggest hero. Josiah was Manasseh’s grandson and initiated significant religious reforms in Judah based on a “book of the Law” his scribes found in the temple.

Discussion Points:

- What is proper worship? What does God really care about when it comes to religious practice?
- How can we renew rituals in our own lives, take opportunities to engage more fully in practices that increase our well-being and spirituality? (useful to take inventory as to how we are doing physically, emotionally, socially, spiritually, intellectually)
- What do we learn from Josiah’s response to the book of the law? How do we respond when new information illuminates the ways we can improve? (Important discussion point)
- How scriptures and other sources can inspire us to improve (a theme of this lesson is noting shortcomings and fixing them)
- The examples of Hezekiah, Manasseh and Josiah could lead to a discussion about learning from good examples in our family history and overcoming the bad, doing better than previous

generations have (a sociologist friend summed that up as our task in life... to do just a bit better than those who have gone before).

Resources:

<http://www.mormonsundayschool.org/045-the-temple-doctrine-covenants-and-church-history-18/>
<http://www.mormonsundayschool.org/59-redeeming-the-dead-dc-and-church-history-lesson-30-2/>
<http://www.mormonsundayschool.org/068-redeeming-the-living-and-the-dead-dc-and-church-history-39/>

Josiah and the book of the Law: <https://www.lds.org/media-library/video/2011-03-40-josiah-and-the-book-of-the-law?lang=eng>

<https://www.lds.org/general-conference/2012/10/of-regrets-and-resolutions?lang=eng>

<https://www.lds.org/ensign/1994/12/resolutions?lang=eng>