

**OBJECTIVE** Each young woman will strive to feel close to the Lord in her daily life.

- PREPARATION**
1. Picture 3, the Savior (62572), located at the end of the manual.
  2. Optional: Prepare a poster of Doctrine and Covenants 19:23.
  3. Optional: Prepare wordstrips or a poster containing the words *Love, Prayer, Service, Obedience, Study, Work*.
  4. Optional: Prepare a bookmark or similar item for each young woman containing the words, "The sure way to peace and happiness in this life and life hereafter is to serve the Lord *today* and every day."
  5. Assign six young women each one of the following topics: Tell about an experience in which (1) love, (2) prayer, (3) service, (4) obedience, (5) study of the scriptures, or (6) work has helped you feel closer to the Lord. If you do not have six young women in your class, assign fewer topics.
  6. Assign a young woman to sing or read "Come, Follow Me" (*Hymns*, no. 116), "I Need Thee Every Hour" (*Hymns*, no. 98), or another hymn with a similar message.
  7. Assign young women to present any stories, scriptures, or quotations you wish.

**SUGGESTED  
LESSON  
DEVELOPMENT**

Picture, poster,  
and discussion

**Introduction**

Display the picture of the Savior and the poster of Doctrine and Covenants 19:23. Discuss the scripture, emphasizing the importance of learning about Christ and living as he lived so that we can enjoy the blessing of peace in our lives. Have the young women mark the verse in their scriptures, and tell them to keep these thoughts in mind as the lesson proceeds.

**We Can Feel Close to the Lord in Our Daily Lives**

Chalkboard  
discussion

Explain that if we are to feel the peace of Christ in our lives, we must make efforts to draw close to Christ each day.

- What can we do to feel close to the Lord in our daily lives?

Write the young women's responses on the chalkboard. Their answers will likely include such ideas as showing increased love, reading the scriptures, praying more sincerely, and giving more service.

After the young women have expressed their thoughts, ask several of them to read the following quotations by Church leaders. Point out that these quotations identify things we can do to feel closer to the Lord each day. After each quotation is read, ask the assigned young woman to tell how this principle has helped her feel closer to the Lord.

Wordstrips

As the young women read the quotations, display the appropriate wordstrips or poster, or write the words on the chalkboard.

*Love.* "God's children need to be loved, and to have someone to love. . . . We have two great challenges, you and I, and the challenge never ends as long as breath lasts: to choose him and to love each other. Then we may be sure we will know him in this world and at last in that kingdom which is not of this world" (Marion D. Hanks, in Conference Report, Apr. 1980, pp. 42–44; or *Ensign*, May 1980, pp. 30–31).

*Prayer.* "Sincere prayer is the heart of a happy and productive life. Prayer strengthens faith. Prayer is the preparation for miracles. Prayer opens the door to eternal happiness" (H. Burke Peterson, in Conference Report, Oct. 1973, p. 13; or *Ensign*, Jan. 1974, p. 19).

*Service.* "To serve others willingly and unselfishly should be one of our greatest virtues. It is not even a matter of choice. It is an obligation, a sacred command. . . .

"Therefore, let us serve one another with brotherly love, never tiring of the demands upon us, being patient and persevering and generous" (Ezra Taft Benson, "Your Charge," *New Era*, Sept. 1979, p. 44).

*Obedience.* "One goal that most of us share in this life is the desire to achieve true joy and lasting happiness. There is only one way to do this, and that is by being obedient to all the commandments of God. . . . 'When the Lord commands, do it,' was a rule in the life of the first prophet of this dispensation. May that be the motto and practice of each of us" (Delbert L. Stapley, in Conference Report, Oct. 1977, pp. 26, 30; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1977, pp. 19, 21).

*Study.* "When we follow the counsel of our leaders to read and study the scriptures, benefits and blessings of many kinds come to us. . . . Where could there be more profitable use of time than reading from the scriptural library the literature that teaches us to know God and understand our relationship to him?" (Howard W. Hunter, in Conference Report, Oct. 1979, p. 91; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1979, p. 64).

*Work.* "Energetic, purposeful work leads to vigorous health, praiseworthy achievement, a clear conscience, and refreshing sleep. Work has always been a boon to man. May you have a wholesome respect for labor whether with head, heart, or hand" (Ezra Taft Benson, "Your Charge," p. 44).

Discussion

After the quotations have been read and the young women have made their presentations, ask the following question:

- Why is it sometimes difficult to stay close to the Lord each day? Encourage the young women to give specific answers.

Remind the young women that if they are to draw close to the Lord, they must make these principles part of their lives all the time. It is not enough to live righteously only on Sundays or only occasionally.

Quotation

Have the following quotation read: "The sure way to peace and happiness in this life and life hereafter is to serve the Lord *today* and every day" (Marion G. Romney, "Serve the Lord Today," *Ensign*, June 1979, p. 3).

Bookmark

Give each young woman the bookmark or similar item you have prepared. Suggest that she keep it where she can be reminded daily of its message.

---

### **When We Live the Gospel, the Lord Helps Us Meet Daily Challenges**

Discussion

- Will living close to the Lord eliminate all of our problems?

Explain that challenges will always be part of our lives, even when we live the gospel. But the gospel does give direction to help us solve our problems, and the comfort and peace we receive from living close to the Lord can help us face these problems without panic or fear.

- What are some of the challenges and problems that you face each day? Write the young women's answers on the chalkboard.

Explain that our challenges are of varying degrees of difficulty. Some of them are simple and relatively insignificant. But if they are not handled correctly, they can cause misunderstanding, frustration, and anger. There are also larger, more serious problems that can continue for a long time, causing daily worry.

Ask the young women to choose two or three of the problems that have been written on the board. Erase the chalkboard and write these problems across the top. Ask the young women to suggest ways in which the six principles they have discussed—love, prayer, service, obedience, study, and work—could be used to help them meet these challenges. Write their suggestions under the appropriate problem.

## Case studies

Tell the young women that you will give them some situations that describe some of the more difficult challenges they or their friends might face. Ask them to suggest ways they could use gospel principles to help solve the problems.

1. Before now, your friend has not said anything to you about some family problems that are of great concern to her. Her sister has begun smoking and spending most of her time with friends who are a bad influence. Her parents have been arguing more and more and are now speaking openly of divorce. She wonders how these problems can exist in her family and in her life. She has even come to question the truth of the gospel. She tells you about these problems and asks for your advice. What can you tell her that will help her handle these challenges?
2. You have created a problem of your own through haste and a wrong decision. At the end of the school term, when you felt burdened by the final requirements in every class, you copied a report for your history class. You received an "A" for the report, but now you feel guilty and ashamed. You are sorry that you have cheated, but you are also worried that if you admit your mistake, others will be surprised and disappointed in you. What should you do?
3. You are attracted to a young man who is not a member of the Church and who seems interested in you. He is a good student, he is well-groomed, and his moral standards seem acceptable. However, you know that he smokes and drinks beer occasionally. What should you do if he asks you to go out with him?

## Scripture discussion

Ask a young woman to read Doctrine and Covenants 58:2–4.

Remind the young women that the Lord has not promised us freedom from problems, but he has promised to support us in our trials. If we are faithful, we will have a great reward in the kingdom of heaven.

### Conclusion

Have a young woman sing or read "Come, Follow Me," "I Need Thee Every Hour," or a hymn with a similar message.

### Lesson Applications

1. Suggest that as the young women make their plans for each day in the coming week, they plan one simple activity that will help them feel closer to the Lord that day. They may want to use the six principles discussed in the lesson to help them choose this activity.
2. Suggest to the young women that as they encounter daily problems in the coming week, they try to handle them using the principles discussed in the lesson.



# *Fulfilling Women's Divine Roles*