

## CREATING A HOUSE OF ORDER

Those of you who watch football notice that on the field there are some referees. There are usually several on the field. He uses his whistle and his flag. Those are his signs of power if you will. He controls people with the whistle and the flag. Those referees have been trained. They are taught to look for infractions of the rules. They are pretty quick. As they watch the game they are trained and focused on looking for infractions.

On the other side there is a coach. What does the coach look for? Ways to improve. They are looking for positives. When they see weaknesses they are looking for practices to help them improve.

Are you a coach or a referee parent?

We think the way I keep you being good is to correct everything you do wrong. I am going to go through your day looking for the things you did wrong. You focus on what is wrong because you want to correct it. They will be good and never make that mistake again. Let's say you find something they did wrong. You blow the whistle and correct it. 2 days later they do it again. Your feeling is more intense. If you suffer more you will remember and not do it again.

Class member: You take it as they are personally offending you.

When we hit parenting with this mindset, do you see where we have some problems? It doesn't matter what I do I can't do it right. That's what the child hears not what you are feeling. What are they hearing. That is really important.

When children only have your rules to act to they never quite know if it's right or good enough because you might be in a good mood one day and a bad one the next. What is right one day and wrong the next. If we are red parents we erupt quickly they walk on eggshells and don't feel safe.

We need to teach our children to feel safe.

Story: Basketball Team—They are going for the state championship. They go up for the tip off. They dribble down and pass it off. They are ready for the shot. There is the glass, but no hoop. The other team gets it and run to the other end. They shoot, but there is no basketball hoop. They do this back and forth. No one is ahead. There is no way to evaluate if they succeeded or failed in the goals. Sometimes we do that to our children. They have no way of knowing if it is right.

What do we do to create order outside ourselves that children and yourself can evaluate against to see if you are moving forward. It's a process. No family is perfect.

Spencer W. Kimball.

"We must strive at times to focus on the basic purposes of the work so the mere busyness creates the illusion of being busy when we are not."

Class member: It reminds me of my kids just got home from school, done a project, lessons, etc. They haven't had any time to reflect and unwind. It's very different in how they grow up.

Class member: It's interesting. This is the way I parent. I need to start looking and pay attention to my little people.

Class member: The bishop was talking about 'ministering' instead of 'administering'. Ministering is heart to heart and focusing on the Holy Ghost.

I would say you are 100% of children during the day. When we go to Relief Society or Sacrament Meeting and we hear something else we need to do we feel overwhelmed with busyness that we are missing we are missing the "ministering". We buy into what society says that they have to be in sports, music, and everything before they hit school.

Busyness...some of you who are not that busy feel like I must not be doing it right. If something gets taken off your plate you feel like you are forgetting something. We have a hard time evaluating what our priority is.

HOMEWORK: Go to [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org) go find the video (Mormon Message) about the Mom. It's 8 minutes. Watch it. "You'll Never Know". It's great!

Class member: Sister Reeves "There are only 3 things that need to be done, Family Prayer, Scripture Study, FHE".

In the beginning when Heavenly Father created the earth. He called a great council. The plan of happiness was presented. It was laid out for us. We had an opportunity to vote. Then Heavenly Father started to create the earth. The plan was laid out spiritually before he created the animals, flowers, us, before there was ever a temporal creation. Flowers were created before they were put on earth.

In the creation temporally, there was order. 1<sup>st</sup> day=matter organized. Each day something was added upon. There was purpose in the order of creation. He put Adam

and Eve on the earth. He walked and talked with them. He trained them and helped them learn the gospel. After they reached a certain point of development then chose to proceed. They partook of the fruit and they were cast out. Heavenly Father continued to teach them through angels. They started making mistakes. They did things good. They did things not understanding everything. They had a foundation that was taught.

We are creating the foundation for our little people. Heavenly Father had a vision of what it would be like. We need a vision of what our family would be like.

When you were dating you had this vision of having 4 children. They would be perfect, go on missions. Then you had kids. They don't sit in Sacrament Meeting and some won't go on missions. Sometimes we lose the vision. If we don't know what it is. How can we ask our children to live the vision if we don't present it to them?

What your family needs to come together is to create vision. We are missing the big picture when we are focusing on the parts.

#### [D&C 88:119](#)

“Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing; and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God;”

Verbs: Organize, prepare, establish

The scriptures are in order. They build on each other.

First thing to do is “Organize”...your thoughts, feelings, & vision. You need a personal plan of salvation for your family. Then in creating this we need to call our children in and present the vision. They need to see. They need to have voice and say in what happens.

What does it mean to be a member of this family? Most of them would say what kind of question is that? That isn't what we want them to feel.

What does it mean to be a son or daughter of God? It means I believe in Christ, that he loves me, that he will help me get back... It goes on and on.

Do your kids know what it means to be a member of your family?

In organizing this vision you need to sit down and create a vision. They need to be part of setting that vision.

Second—Prepare: What needs to happen to make this vision a reality? Heavenly Father gave us FHE, scriptures, guidance & counsel.

Third—Establish: Do it! Come back and re-evaluate over and over.

How to do this....

Create a Family Mission Statement:

It should be what your family decides your family wants to stand for. This is where you get input from your children. They are saying what they want your family to be.

Class member: “Choose each day to be happy and be good” (Motto)

It’s what you want your family to be. Then what do we do to make this happen.

If they have no vision of what they want to do it’s hard for them to get there. Simplify this so they know what it looks like. Their vision of what you do in your family is a vision, not just rules. They are more likely to know where to go to find it.

Primary kids...My Gospel Standards—leading into For Strength of Youth.

Syllabus...pg 11...What we want to be....Then list what we want to do...

Do you have the Proclamation on the Family on your wall? Do you teach from it regularly.

Organize...Create it. This has to be the roadmap for your family. You need to memorize it. Repeat it. It’s in the children’s room on the wall. If you look at this list you have FHE lessons on the list. You are having those lessons, but know you refer the lessons back to the Family Mission Statement. Your responsibility is to keep connecting back the to-do’s to what you decided your family is going to be like. They can internalize that this is us.

We need to interact and make it an active guideline in our lives. It has to be our compass. We have to use it.

Family Motto:

“We can do hard things.”

“Our family lives after the manner of happiness.”

Family Cheer:

You have a cheer you do after family prayer.

Class member: We put our hand on each other. We say “Go Millingtons”. Scroll hands together and say “Family”

Family Flag:

It needs to depict the things you have in your Family Mission Statement. Your kids can draw things in those.

Class member: It gives you the opportunity to use each of the children’s strengths.

The purpose: It is to give your family a vision.

As you try to teach them principles of the gospel it is easier to teach principles based on what they said they wanted to be.

Class member: “A House United”...imagine the traditions or relationships you will have 20 years from now. What do we need to do now to get to that 20 years down the road. We are working toward a relationship in the future.

If you will do it you create a tool to use in all your discipline. You have to use it. That’s what your family stands for.

A box that knocks and shakes and says...“Excuse me. Excuse me. Can you let me out of here?” You feel like this. So do your kids. They are feeling the tension, anxiety, and chaos. We want to create a place where our children can come in out of the world and feel peaceful and safe.

Peaceful & safe doesn’t mean quiet. The scriptures are our guidelines.

[D&C 88: 124](#)

Cease to be idle; cease to be unclean; cease to find fault one with another; cease to sleep longer than is needful; retire to thy bed early, that ye may not be weary; arise early, that your bodies and your minds may be invigorated.

Cease to be idle:

Most of you think you are not idle. We are moving, but we still may be moving in idleness. “Good, Better, Best” Dallin Oaks. What are we anxiously engaged in? You should have time to relax. How much time to you spend texting? What are we doing at night after our kids go to bed? Romance novels? Fantasy books? Pinterest? Facebook? It’s not that any of those things are wrong. They are not bad if governed with wisdom. It’s not what it is, it’s how are we using it....as well as our children. Are our children engrossed in electronics to have them away from you? Being idle is to be doing things that don’t have any worth. Recreation has worth in moderation.

Cease to be unclean:

Keep your house physically in order. If you have little kids they will pull out the toys every single day. There is a level of cleanliness that should be in your home. Clothes are clean, folded, and put away. Some of you are fanatics. I don’t mean that. Some of you won’t let them live in your house. Sometimes you are riding your children too hard. If you go to the temple and it was all in disarray would you feel the same spirit. The Spirit is invited into cleanliness. Live in your home.

Class member: I would feel the anger when the toilet paper roll wasn’t back on. I say, “I love my family enough to serve them in this way.”

Class member: Our house is divided...bedrooms on one side, the kitchen is on the other.

Class member: I’m one of those that gets overwhelmed. One of the things that would help me is to consider the chaos in terms of which things are affecting the spirit of our home the most in trying to decide what to focus on the most. There is a point at which the toys on the floor are affecting the spirit in our home.

Cease to find fault.

[President Uchtdorf](#) “Just stop it.” Look at how you talk to people.

Cease to sleep longer than is needful.

I don’t know any mother that says I sleep enough. From the time you start having children until you die you will not feel rested. Get used to it. With that being said you need to have enough rest to feel healthy and strong. Most mothers of young children choose to stay up late that is when you can get stuff done. You do your stuff in slow gear because you are tired, but you are getting stuff done. You go to bed about midnight and get up with the kids at 7am. You tend to want to keep the night hours.

Retire to your bed early that ye may not be weary.

Arise early that your mind be invigorated.

If you believe in the principle you can make it work with the stages of life. Some of you get up Some of you get with your children. You should be up before your children. You should read your scriptures, say your prayers, and get dressed. They should meet a smiling face when they get up. You are crabby if you sleep to the last minute. If you are up and have things organized and ready. They feel that. When you are late you are pushing them. They are crabby. They don't respond well. Think about the order of how you function.

Order of your day....

Get up

Eat breakfast

Family scriptures—morning or night doesn't matter (practice). Scriptures every day (principle)

Family prayer—morning AND night

Time for homework

Time for jobs

Bedtime & routine

Stop thinking about the reasons you can't. Ask Heavenly Father how you can make this happen. How can I make night time happen? If your desire is to keep the commandment you will find the way. If your desire is to be the exception you lose the blessings.

This creates safety and security. They know that is what you do.

Things to add to your daily routine:

Crossroads: How you say good-bye to them in the morning and greet them when they come home. 3pm in the after I stopped doing everything I had been doing all day.

3pm-8pm is mother time. I'm there at the door to greet them and touch them. You get up and move to greet them, have eye contact, and talk about their day.

Go to the door and greet your husband....no matter what. Make them feel important. Make them feel like you miss them. Teach your children to do this too.

Rites of Passage:

You decide what it will look like in your home. They are not the same in every home.

We have nothing that says you are growing up. Grandma's dress in the same attire that

3 years old do. There is nothing that distinguishes anyone age-wise anymore. In a lot of cases...elementary children are given the same privileges that the adults are given. Teenagers are the same way. Teenagers are expected to be given a car because you have to give it to me. Not that they are responsible. There is nothing that determines that you should act more responsibly now.

The Lord has set rites of passage...At 8 years old you can get baptized. You can do it later, but you cannot do it earlier. You get the priesthood when you are 12 years old. Teacher 14yrs. Priest 16 yrs. Cub scouts 8yrs old. Mission 18 boys, 19 girls. Lord says you should date at 16. The Lord is absolute.

I would recommend in your home that you set a couple (there shouldn't be very many). The ones you pick need to be absolute like the Lord.

Practices (Possibilities):

Ears pierced—15 yrs old. It loses the value if you change it. You stop argument, but also at this point you are responsible.

When you could stop taking naps and quiet time—

Children are more willing to comply because they just know that is how your home is. They feel like they are on a team and they are working toward a team goal.

President Henry B Eyring "[This Day](#)" April 2007 Conference

"For most of us the temptation to delay will come from one or both of two feelings. They are polar opposites: one is to be complacent about what we have already done, and the other is to feel overwhelmed by the need to do more.

That assurance from the Master can help those of us feeling overwhelmed by our circumstances. In the hardest trials, as long as you have the power to pray, you can ask a loving God: "Please let me serve, this day. It doesn't matter to me how few things I may be able to do. Just let me know what I *can* do. I will obey this day. I know that I can, with Thy help."

For those who are discouraged by their circumstances and are therefore tempted to feel they cannot serve the Lord this day, I make you two promises. Hard as things seem today, they will be better in the next day if you choose to serve the Lord this day with your whole heart. Your circumstances may not be improved in all the ways which you desire. But you will have been given new strength to carry your burdens and new confidence that when your burdens become too heavy, the Lord, whom you have served, will carry what you cannot. He knows how. He prepared long ago. He suffered your infirmities and your sorrows when He was in the flesh so that He would know how to succor you.



The other promise I make to you is that by choosing to serve Him this day, you will feel His love and grow to love Him more.”

These are the 2 things that Satan uses to discourage us.

You can do it because he loves you. You are fabulous mothers. That is why you are here. You just want to be a little bit better. He loves your children.