Virtual Lead Student Lesson Plan
L04: Lifelong Learning

Objectives
By the end of the gathering, students will be able to:

- Identify how to apply principles of faith as they strive to be a lifelong learner.
- Identify why learning and education are eternally significant.
- Analyze use of media based upon principles of the gospel.

Student Preparation
Students were asked to prepare for gathering by completing specific activities and/or pondering certain questions. Please refer to the gathering instructions in this week’s unit or lesson in the course.

Lesson Outline
During the gathering, feel free to adjust the estimated times listed for each activity. If you feel your group is confident in the material being discussed, you may not need to use all of the time and may move on to the next activity.

You may choose to use this [Lesson 04 Screen Share PowerPoint Document](#) to help facilitate the activities in this lesson.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPENING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Announcements, Hymn, and Prayer</strong></td>
<td><strong>Announcements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(10 minutes)</td>
<td>Opening Hymn: Chosen by the missionaries</td>
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<td>Opening Prayer: By Invitation</td>
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<td><strong>Fear, learning, and faith</strong></td>
<td><strong>Entire Group:</strong></td>
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<td>(10 minutes)</td>
<td>Ask the students if they have ever been afraid of a certain aspect of their education - tests, new technologies, a fear that they could not learn, or maybe a fear of a particular subject matter. Read students the quote (from then Bishop, now President Eyring) used in the Doctrinal Introduction of this lesson:</td>
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<td>“Most people stop learning out of fear. They are afraid they cannot learn. You need never have that fear if you are faithful. Your formal schooling may be interrupted for some reason, but I want you to know with absolute certainty that you can learn whatever God would have you learn. Great</td>
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learners believe that. They have the attitude that they can learn.”
*(October 1989 New Era)*

Lead a discussion about President Eyring’s quote. You may want to call on one group member to discuss the first question below. Then ask a different group member to discuss the next question. Continue this until all of the questions have been discussed. Although you may be asking certain participants to share their thoughts, please give others an opportunity to speak if they have something to share with the group.

Questions for discussion:

- How will having the attitude “I can learn” help you as you pursue your formal education?
- How have you used the Lord’s help to learn something that you didn’t think you could?
- How will the Lord help you learn?
- How is faith involved with the belief that the Lord will help you learn ‘whatever [He] would have you learn’?

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<tr>
<th>Learning from the Gospel Perspective</th>
<th>Before the Gathering: Be prepared to use the lesson screen share document that includes the quotes and scriptures for this activity.</th>
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<td><em>(10 minutes)</em></td>
<td>Entire Group:</td>
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| 1. Read the following quote from President Spencer W. Kimball: “The Church is the greatest institution of learning in the world. The Church is designed to enlarge and develop the powers of our spirits, to educate us for eternity and to help us live intelligently and joyfully in mortality. The gospel and its teachings lead us to Christlike living, which in turn leads us not only toward exaltation but toward knowledge. As a people, we Latter-day Saints have been encouraged by the Lord to progress in the learning of God as well as in the sound learning of the earth.” | 2. Use the lesson screen share document to show the following quotes. Ask one group member to read the first quote. Then ask a different group member to read the following. Continue to do this until all of the quotes have been read, or you run out of time for this activity.  
  a. President John Taylor said in a sermon in September 1857: “You mark my words, and write them down and see if they do not come to pass. You will see the day that Zion will be far ahead of the outside world in everything pertaining to learning of every kind.”  
  b. Elder Dallin Oaks “As Latter-day Saints we believe in education, and we have a philosophy about how and why we should pursue it. Our religious faith teaches us that we
should seek learning by the Spirit and that we have a stewardship to use our knowledge for the benefit of mankind.”

c. President Henry B. Eyring “The thirst for education can be a blessing or a curse, depending on our motives. If we continue to seek learning to serve God and His children better, it is a blessing of great worth. If we seek learning to exalt ourselves alone, it leads to selfishness and pride.”

d. President Henry B. Eyring “That is one of the reasons we should always put spiritual learning first. And that is why the Church has placed institutes of religion across the earth wherever young members are gathered in sufficient numbers. Their spiritual education in the institute will shape the purpose and speed the process of their secular learning.”

e. President Henry B. Eyring “Our first priority should go to spiritual learning. For us, reading the scriptures would come before reading history books. Prayer would come before memorizing those Spanish verbs. A temple recommend would be worth more than standing first in our graduating class. But it is also clear that spiritual learning would not replace our drive for secular learning. On the contrary, it gives our secular learning purpose and motivates us to work harder at it.”

**Scripture Matching Activity**

(20 minutes)

Scripture Activity: Tell the students they are going to see what the scriptures say about learning.

1. Show the first scripture using the screen share document. Ask the participants to figure out what the 2nd half of the scripture should be by reading the 3 choices that are listed below it.
2. When participants think they know what the 2nd half of the scripture should be, have them show you what number goes with the scripture, by holding up their fingers (1, 2, or 3).
3. After all participants have shown what they think the 2nd half of the scripture should be, show the next slide with the correct answer and the full scripture. Ask a group member to read the scripture out loud to the whole group.
4. Discuss what the scripture is telling us.
5. Repeat steps 1, 2, 3, and 4 for the rest of the scriptures, or until you run out of time for this activity.

**Education is Eternally Significant**

(10 minutes)

Ask the students to think about how gaining an education will benefit them in their lives as well as in the eternities. Read the following quote from Henry J. Eyring and ask what he means by the “right motives for learning.”
"Learning is a fundamental reason for our being on earth. Understanding that truth not only increases our desire to learn, it also gives us the right motives for learning—providing for our loved ones, serving our fellow men and women, and preparing for our divine destiny." (Major Decisions: Taking Charge of Your College Education, Henry J. Eyring)

Questions for discussion:

- Are there motives for learning that aren’t right?
- How can we seek His help in knowing what career choice and college is best for us as we ‘prepare for our divine destiny’?
- Have you had any experiences where you’ve seen His hand guide your education?

**Appropriate use of digital media (25 minutes)**

Electronic media and tools such as the Internet are available to help us in our quest to be lifelong learners. We need to make sure that our use of technology helps us to progress instead of hindering us. The following quote is from an article entitled, "Sharing the Gospel Using the Internet" by Elder Ballard. Tell the participants how he states that the use of the Internet, computer applications, social networks, television, movies, or a library can all be used for both good and bad, both with the things we view or do with the use of our time.

Read the following quote from the article to the students:

"Make sure that the choices you make in the use of new media are choices that expand your mind, increase your opportunities, and feed your soul."

Show and read the following quotes to the group.

Follow the steps below for each quote:

- Have one participant read the quote
- As a group, discuss thoughts about the quote
- discuss how we can apply this counsel in our lives

1. “Do not attend, view, or participate in anything that is vulgar, immoral, violent, or pornographic in any way. Do not participate in anything that presents immorality or violence as acceptable. Have the courage to walk out of a movie, change your music, or turn off a computer, television, or mobile device if what you see or hear drives away the Spirit,” (For the Strength of Youth,11).
2. “Take care that your use of media does not dull your sensitivity to the Spirit or interfere with your personal relationships with others. Spending long periods of time using the Internet or a mobile device, playing video games, or watching television or other media can keep you from valuable interactions with other people. Be careful that your
use of social media does not replace spending time with your family and friends” (For the Strength of Youth, 11–13).

3. “You live in a day of marvelous technologies that give you easy access to a wide variety of media, including the Internet, mobile devices, video games, television, movies, music, books, and magazines. The information and entertainment provided through these media can increase your ability to learn, communicate, and become a force for good in the world. However, some information and entertainment can lead you away from righteous living. Choose wisely when using media, because whatever you read, listen to, or look at has an effect on you. Select only media that uplifts you” (For the Strength of Youth, 11).

### CLOSING

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<tr>
<th>Conclusion</th>
<th>Lead Student to the Entire Group: Bear your personal testimony of at least one of the concepts discussed at tonight’s gathering.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prayer</td>
<td>Closing Prayer: By Invitation</td>
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### Note

Please download and print a copy of these instructions to use as a reference during Thursday’s Pathway Gathering.

If there are any questions or concerns, please call, text, or email your Pathway missionaries.

### Answers to the Scripture Activity (use the screen share during the gathering)

1. “The glory of God is intelligence, or, in other words, light and truth.” (D&C 93:36)
2. “And I give unto you a commandment that you shall teach one another the doctrine of the kingdom.” (D&C 88:77)
3. “Teach ye diligently and my grace shall attend you, that ye may be instructed more perfectly in theory, in principle, in doctrine, in the law of the gospel, in all things that pertain unto the kingdom of God, that are expedient for you to understand;” (D&C 88:78)
4. “Of things both in heaven and in the earth, and under the earth; things which have been, things which are, things which must shortly come to pass; things which are at home, things which are abroad; the wars and the perplexities of the nations, and the judgments which are on the land; and a knowledge also of countries and of kingdoms—“ (D&C 88:79)
5. “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: …and he will shew you things to come.” (John 16:13)
6. “And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things.” (Moro. 10:5)
7. “But to be learned is good if they hearken unto the counsels of God.” (2 Ne. 9:29)
8. “And as all have not faith, seek ye diligently and teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning, even by study and also by faith.” (D&C 88:118)

9. “To another is given the word of knowledge, that all may be taught to be wise and to have knowledge.” (D&C 46:18)

10. “And if a person gains more knowledge and intelligence in this life through his diligence and obedience than another, he will have so much the advantage in the world to come.” (D&C 130:19)