PC 103 University Skills
Gathering Agenda for Week 1
Children of Promise

Gathering Purposes

- Counsel about academic planning and your Introductory Certificate Courses
- Discuss your educational stewardship and your potential as a "Child of Promise"

Preparation

- For *face-to-face Gatherings*, arrive early to setup the room, prepare any visual aids, and greet students as they arrive.
- For *virtual Gatherings*, start the meeting early, share your screen with a message welcoming them to the gathering and letting them know you'll start soon.
    - When the Gathering Agenda asks that students meet in small groups, use Breakout Rooms.
    - When the Gathering Agenda asks you to display things on "the board," you can use the whiteboard.

Document Preparation:

- For *face-to-face Gatherings*, print the stewardships at the bottom of this document and cut them out so each of them is on one slip of paper.
- For *virtual Gatherings,* email the stewardships document to everyone prior to the gathering.

Min.	Activities		Teaching Tips
Welcome and Devotional			
10	Welcome	Welcome, announcements, and housekeeping	
	Hymn or Thought, Prayer	Please sing one or two verses of a hymn. If you meet with a virtual gathering, the lead student or another student should be invited to share a brief spiritual thought. A volunteer will then give an opening prayer.	
Next Steps Discussion			
15	Application to Online Certificates and Degrees	Many students in the class are likely applying for admission to the online Certificates and Degrees program offered by BYU-Idaho and Ensign College. Give students a chance to discuss their progress and help each other with issues around the following possible topics: ● Where to find the application ● How to fill out the application ● Ordering transcripts ● How to complete the ecclesiastical endorsement	
	Graduation Plan Check-in	Remind students to be looking at their degree map. See this week's module called "Next Steps" in the course.	
	Certificate Course	This semester, each student is likely enrolled in a Certificate course as well as this course. Students may be in different	**Teaching Tip**: Choose a couple of

	Discussion and Help	Certificate courses. Give students time to discuss their experiences, ask for help and advice, and generally support each other in these Certificate courses. You may use the following suggestions to guide this portion of the gathering. ● Find out what Certificate courses people have. ● Invite groups in the same Certificate course to form a support network. ● Discuss any concerns students have as they begin this first week of their Certificate Course.	students ahead of time (before class) to think about one or more of the following topics to discuss during class while the whole group listens and asks follow-up questions.
Student Skills Discussion			
20	Share	For one to two minutes, tell the class about one big thing you learned in this week's Student Skills. Invite a class member to read this quote From Dallin H. Oaks: "In terms of priorities for each major decision (such as education, occupation, place of residence, marriage, or childbearing), we should ask ourselves, what will be the eternal impact of this decision? Some decisions that seem desirable for mortality have unacceptable risks for eternity. In all such choices we need to have inspired priorities and apply them in ways that will bring eternal blessings to us and to our family members."	Come prepared to share your 1-2 minute introduction.
	Write and Discuss	Invite the class to write their answers to the writing prompt below. Write for 60-90 seconds. Then discuss the questions that follow. **Writing Prompt.** Write for one to two minutes. ● Think of your own academic path. What is the eternal impact of your choice to make education a priority in your life? **Discussion Prompts.** ● What did you write about? Why? ● What changes have you made or will you make to allow your education to be a priority in your life?	
Student Skills Application			
15 min	Share	Share with the class that you will be breaking into groups to learn more about the stewardships we learned about from Pres. Gilbert's talk, "Child of Promise." Remind them that although this is a talk given at BYU-Idaho, it applies to the mission of Ensign College as well.	Read or say in your own words.

	Small Group Activity	1. Break the class into 5 groups 2. Give each group a stewardship from the bottom of this outline 3. Instruct the groups to take 5-7 minutes to discuss the importance of that stewardship and what they can do now as an online student and in the future to apply it	Come prepared with the stewardships printed and cut apart to hand out to the groups.
	Share and Discuss	Bring the class back together. Allow each group to designate one group member to share their stewardship and what they discussed. Allow other class members to share any thoughts or questions they have after each group has a chance to share.	
	Testimony and Prayer	Bear a 30-90 second testimony of your role as a "child of promise." Invite class members to take time to ponder what they can do to apply what they have learned about their individual stewardships. End with a prayer by invitation.	

See Below for Group Stewardship Document

Stewardships Document

Group 1: Academic Stewardship

The first is an academic stewardship. President Uchtdorf has said that "for members of the Church, education is not merely a good idea-it's a commandment." At BYU-Idaho, that education begins with the introduction of the Learning Model, where we invite you to take responsibility for your learning and become the natural leaders that President Eyring has described. That stewardship extends to planning your academic future and developing your grad plan at BYU-Idaho. Use the resources in the Academic Discovery Center to help you make wise choices about what to study. That stewardship also includes your time to graduation. Did you know that your probability of being an engaged future employee nearly doubles when you graduate on time and with modest college debt? Work hard in your classes. Take your education seriously. Never steal from the Lord or yourself by cheating in a class. Be a profitable servant, and return with increase the talents He has given you in this remarkable faculty and rich academic environment.

Group 2: Spiritual Stewardship

The second stewardship you have at BYU-Idaho is a spiritual stewardship. As I described earlier, the mission of BYU-Idaho is to develop disciple-leaders. Don't come to BYU-Idaho and not allow the experience of this place to change who you are. Attend weekly devotional. Participate fully in your ward. Know and live the Honor Code…Let Student Honor be a pattern for the rest of your life, not something you leave behind when you graduate. Elder Bednar described BYU-Idaho as a Disciple Preparation Center (DPC). Live your best, and let this place change who you are spiritually.

Group 3: Career Stewardship

A third stewardship you have at BYU-Idaho is your career stewardship. This university has invested millions of dollars in resources that will help you discover and prepare for your career. Do you know where the Internships and Career Services Office is on campus? Can you find those resources online? Have you looked at careers that fit your interests and passion? Once you have selected a career path, are you preparing for it by building and strengthening your résumé? As you prepare for interviews, are you participating in practice interviews? Do you view your internship as an obligatory activity, or do you see it as a fundamental part of your education? Do you realize that students who have meaningful internships become better students and have more-fulfilling careers?

Group 4: Life-Skills Stewardship

A fourth stewardship you have as a BYU-Idaho student is your life skills stewardship. At BYU-Idaho, your education is clearly more than just academics. From family skills you will learn in the Eternal Family course and our Student Living program, to personal finance principles we teach in foundations and in the Financial Aid Office, to well-being principles taught in Student Wellness and the Counseling Center, we want you to learn to be a balanced, healthy, well-rounded individual who can manage your time and your life in ways that make you an effective future parent, citizen, and member of the Church.

Group 5: Leadership Stewardship

A fifth stewardship you have as a BYU-Idaho student is your leadership stewardship. We expect that students of BYU-Idaho will go forth from this university to be leaders in their homes, the Church, and their careers. Now, that doesn't mean you have to be in charge of everything you do. Elder Kim B. Clark described leadership at BYU-Idaho as "leadership with a small 'L,'" and President Henry B. Eyring called this "natural leadership" when he saw the future graduates of BYU-Idaho having lasting impact because of "their capacity to build the people around them and to add value wherever they serve." If you truly understand what we are trying to teach with the BYU-Idaho Learning Model, you will realize that this capacity starts in our classrooms when faculty give students the opportunity to teach and learn from each other. At BYU-Idaho, we also provide thousands of leadership opportunities every semester in student programs, student employment, and in our wards and stakes. Get involved both in your classroom and in other activities, and return your leadership stewardship with increase.