

# REACTIVATION

“And if ye keep my commandments and *endure* to the end, ye shall have eternal life; which gift is the greatest of all the gifts of God.”

D&C 14:7

There are hundreds of thousands members of the Church who have come into the waters of baptism but for one reason or another have fallen away from the Church. We have an obligation to these individuals. The Savior said, “Let every man esteem his brother as himself” (D&C 38:24). The challenge is clear.

When we discuss our inactive members, we need to talk as if that person were in the next room—because that is precisely where he is. Who among us does not painfully wish that someone would touch the heart and life of a loved one who has withdrawn from Church activity?

One of the first things to help members back into activity is to know the reason behind the inactivity. People become less active for one of three reasons: They have been offended by someone; something has happened in their lives that they don't really know how to repent of, and they don't feel worthy to be in the Church; or they weren't fully converted.

“Reactivation is one of the major keys to the success of all other endeavors of the Church and Home Teaching is the vehicle that activates people.” Elder A. Theodore Tuttle

The following steps offer suggestions on how to become an effective Home/Visiting Teacher:

1. **IDENTIFY:** It is one thing to classify people as inactive, but to activate them we need to identify those who are most receptive and work with them first.
2. **INDIVIDUALIZE TEACHING:** To find and rescue requires fitting a message to the individual.
3. **USE DIRECT APPROACH WITH SOME:** Our missionary approach is direct. Many inactive members need the same approach.
4. **BUILD A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP (indirect approach):** To build a personal relationship, establish communication.
5. **USE ALL THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CHURCH:** Ward organization can be a great help to Home Teachers. Work through your Ward Correlation Council.
6. **PRAY:** Prayer is essential in order to activate our brethren and sisters.
7. **CALL TO AN ASSIGNMENT:** Everyone wants to be somebody and do something.
8. **MAINTAIN A UNITED, SUSTAINED EFFORT:** All of us share the responsibility to lovingly, sincerely lead our inactive friends and families back into full activity.