

Using Priesthood Committees

Resources:

- "Putting the Priesthood to Work" Video – 13 minute segment on Priesthood Committees
- Church Handbook of Instructions Book 2 – Melchizedek Priesthood Pages 165-166
- Counseling with Our Councils – Elder M. Russell Ballard, May 1994 Ensign (April 1994 General Conference)

Outline:

1. Purpose of Committees

- a. Allow each individual elder and perspective elder to magnify their Priesthood
 - i. Help them have successes
 - ii. Teach and assist each member
 - iii. Brotherhood and fellowship
- b. Organization
 - i. Plan effective home teaching
 - ii. Improve quorum instruction
 - iii. Focus efforts
- c. Share and delegate responsibility
 - i. President/HP Group leader cannot do it alone
 - ii. Allows councilors to magnify their calling

2. How Committees work

- a. Can work in all sized units - large ward to small branches
 - i. Small branches will not have large committees but they can have delegated assignments to each councilor or to committee chairs
 - ii. Even in wards one set of committees can be organized between the High Priests and the Elders Quorum
- b. Three fold Mission of the Church
 - i. Each councilor and the president is assigned a responsibility
 1. Proclaim the Gospel
 2. Redeem the Dead
 3. Perfect the Saints
 - ii. A Committee Chair can be called and set apart to work with the Councilor
 - iii. Members of the Quorum or Group can be called to serve on a committee
 1. Allows Presidency to use full resources of the Quorum/Group
- c. Return and Report
 - i. Each committee can be given specific assignments and should be held accountable for the execution of those assignments
 - ii. Regular Committee meetings should be held
 - iii. More importantly, regular Presidency meetings should be held to allow for reporting and follow-up

3. Idea for each Committee – Organizing the Effort

- a. Proclaim the Gospel – Missionary Work
 - i. Finding
 1. Missionary Splits/Team-ups
 2. Feeding the Missionaries with Non-members in home

3. Pass Along Cards
4. Knocking Doors (Pres. Morgan)
- ii. Fellowshiping
 1. Teaching missionary lessons with Missionaries
 2. Teaching New Member Discussions
 3. Home Teaching Assignments for New Members
- iii. Prospective Elder preparation and support
 1. Financial as well as Spiritual
- iv. Community Service
 1. Opportunities within your community for exposure
- b. Redeem the Dead – Family History/Genealogy Work
 - i. Research
 1. Using member resources to train others
 - ii. Prepare Names for the Temple
 - iii. Prepare members to attend the Temple
 - iv. Promoting Temple attendance
 1. Organized car pools
 2. Babysitting
- c. Perfect the Saints – Temporal and Spiritual improvement
 - i. Teaching self-reliance
 - ii. Offer employment assistance
 - iii. Improve quorum instruction
 - iv. Promote Family Home Evening
 - v. Strengthen less active families
 - vi. Provide service for those in need

4. The Result of Committees

- a. Allow others to serve
- b. More work can get done
- c. Allows members of the quorum/group to feel apart of the whole and be contributing members of the quorum/group.
- d. Opportunities for growth - testimony
- e. Putting the Priesthood to work

5. The Challenge

- a. Watch the Video
- b. Decide what would work best for the unit
 - i. Either as a whole unit or in individual quorum and group
- c. Assign responsibilities to each Councilor
 - i. Proclaim the Gospel
 - ii. Redeem the dead
 - iii. Perfect the Saints
- d. Prayerfully discuss those best suited to be Chairman of each committee
 - i. Call Committee Chair
- e. Start Small
 - i. Assign each committee to come up with 1 or 2 goals for the quorum/group
- f. Follow-Up
 - i. Be prepared to shepherd the project until it works for quorum/group.