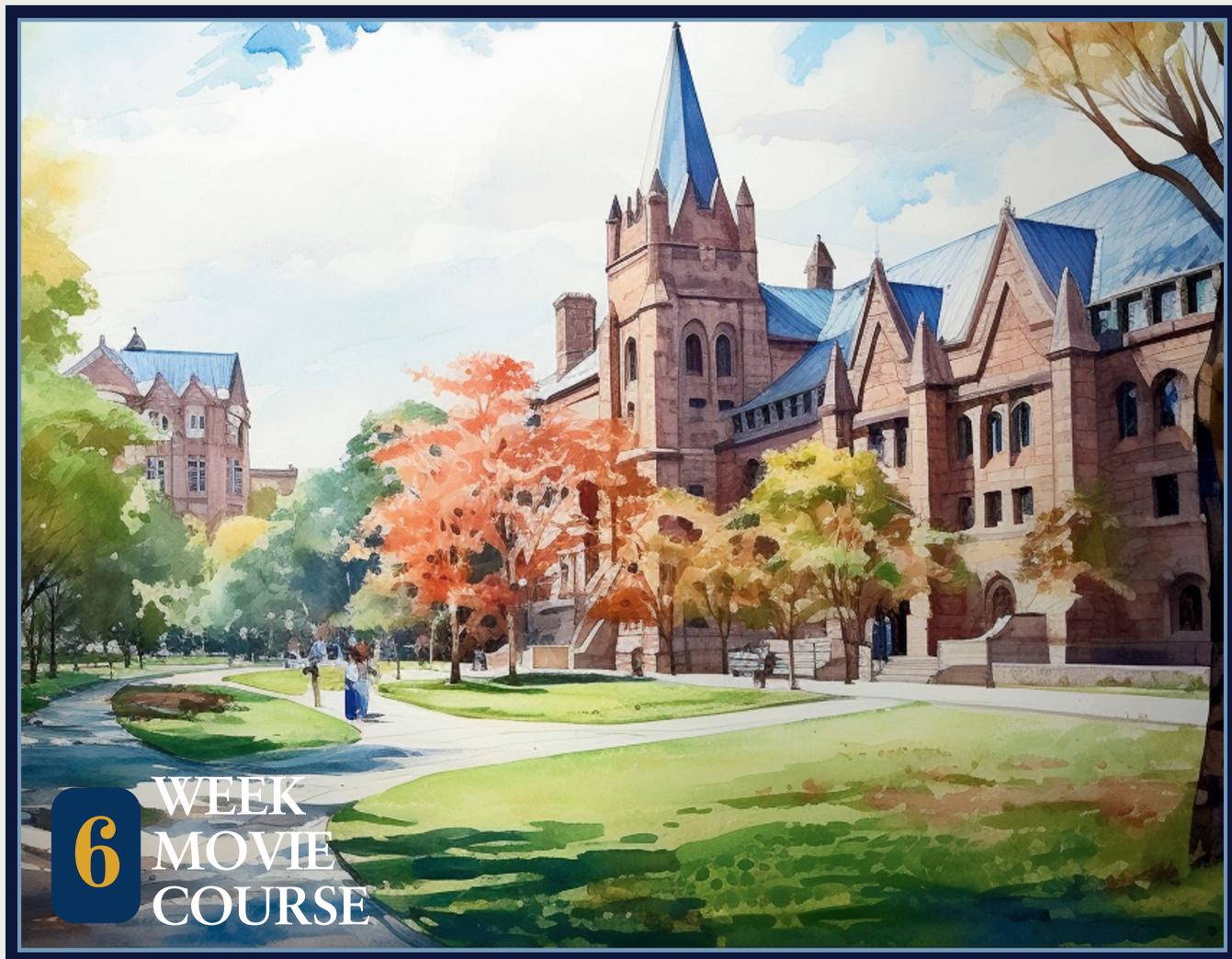


MOVIE WORKBOOK

RESTORING A ZION EDUCATION

Bringing Latter-day Prophetic Teachings to Life Through Film

Compiled and Written by Julie A. Smith and Her Family



PASSING DOWN THE
FAITH
A MULTI-GENERATIONAL VISION

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The principles taught in this course were laid out by James F. Stoddard III and his daughter L. Hannah Stoddard from the Joseph Smith Foundation. Some of these principles can be heard in the webinar 'Educating Zion: Joseph Smith's Restored Principles,' available at: The principles taught in this course were laid out by James F. Stoddard III, and his daughter L. Hannah Stoddard from the Joseph Smith Foundation and a few can be heard in the webinar: Educating Zion: Joseph Smith's Restored Principles: https://youtu.be/XfWjoq5RUwY?si=qEobidVlon_rfqJw.



Course Introduction

Restoring a Zion Education

“Everyone shall consider the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ, which is eternal life.”

In the days of Adam and Eve, education was family-centered where the father served as the primary teacher, passing down spiritual, moral, and practical knowledge. The family was the core institution of learning, with fathers instructing their children in the ways of God, the laws of nature, and righteous living. This type of education focused on personal virtue, the cultivation of righteousness, and the transmission of wisdom from one generation to the next—preparing individuals for both earthly life and eternity.

Many families are struggling, often unaware that the type of education they use could be part of the problem. There are lots of educational models we can choose from or create. However, many of us are trying to get our families back to Joseph Smith; the messenger, and Revealer of Christ. To teach as Joseph taught we need to see what “education” is to God, not what man defined it as. This course will attempt to show the principles of a *celestial* education—focusing on the restored teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith—for the family and for Zion.



01 Module

FATHERS PRESIDE &
FAMILY CENTERED

Fathers have a divine role to preside in their homes as leaders, guiding their families with proper priesthood authority. In ancient Israel, the class system was established with the intention of fathers protecting their families and preserving noble bloodlines, ensuring that future generations would be safeguarded and guided by strong values. However, over time, the original purpose of a family centered class was corrupted. As God was removed from the foundation, the system shifted from one of charity and selflessness to one driven by pride, and fathers no longer leading their home and children and looking to future generations. Without righteous fathers guiding and steering his family, the very concept of family and community loses its true purpose, failing to protect and strengthen them as it was intended to.

Additional Resources

Fathers Preside & Family Centered

Movie(s):

- *The Inheritance* (1997).
- *Hidden Bloodlines* (2017): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qg-6DME8iQE>

Book(s):

- The works of Jane Austen. (which show the class system, and teaches nobility, refinement, and correct emotions for families).
- *A Christ-Centered Home: Healing for Every Family in Every Situation* by L. Hannah Stoddard, Leah M. Stoddard, and Isaiah M. McConkie.

Article(s):

- Joseph Smith Foundation. *What Is the Patriarchal Order and Does It Pertain to Families Today? (Compiled Quotes)*.
- Stoddard, L. Hannah. *Do We Still Believe in the Patriarchal Order?* Joseph Smith Foundation.

Scriptures/Music:

- Doctrine and Covenants 121:41–44, Ephesians 6:4, The Family Proclamation.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/the-family-a-proclamation-to-the-world/the-family-a-proclamation-to-the-world?lang=eng>
- *The Last Dance* · Samuel Sim: <https://youtu.be/q6-mV57JCw8?si=JTlbWZTXKVPnfSZi>

Activities:

- Organize a workshop where fathers and mentors discuss the challenges and rewards of fatherhood. They can watch clips from *Courageous* to spark conversation and explore how the characters' actions can be applied in real life. Fathers will work in small groups to brainstorm practical ways they can lead their children spiritually, emotionally, and morally, and share their experiences of overcoming obstacles in their parenting journey.
- Plan a family service project where the father leads the family in performing an act of service for someone in need, such as volunteering at a shelter, cleaning up a neighborhood park, or preparing meals for a family in need.
- Plan a night where fathers teach their children a valuable skill, whether it's fixing things around the house, learning how to budget, cooking a meal, or basic carpentry.
- Have the father lead a family dinner conversation, where he initiates discussions on values, important life lessons, and how the family can support one another.
- Have the children interview their father about his life, values, and experiences. The father can share lessons learned, his views on leadership, and how he presides in his home. The interview can be recorded as a keepsake for future generations.
- Host a ceremony where fathers publicly commit to leading their families with the principles of love, service, and integrity. During the ceremony, fathers can take the "Courageous Father" pledge, which mirrors the values from the movie, such as being present, taking responsibility, and leading with moral conviction. Afterward, families can sign a family covenant that includes these values.