

Helping Others Acquire Spiritual Knowledge

Recall Lauren’s statement: “I don’t need the Church to be a good person. And I don’t think God is going to reject people from being with Him just because they don’t go to Church and do all the things the Church tells us to do.”

- What concerns or misconceptions do you think Lauren may have about attending Church and following Church teachings?
- What questions could you ask Lauren to better understand her perspective?
- How might a correct understanding of ordinances and covenants help Lauren?
- What blessings will she miss out on if she breaks the covenants she has made and stops taking the sacrament?

Read the following statements from Elder D. Todd Christofferson and Elder David A. Bednar of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Look for anything in these statements that could provide additional perspective for Lauren to consider about why God asks His children to do certain things.

“If one believes that all roads lead to heaven or that there are no particular requirements for salvation, he or she will see no need for proclaiming the gospel or for ordinances and covenants in redeeming either the living or the dead. But we speak not just of immortality but also of eternal life, and for that the gospel path and gospel covenants are essential. And the Savior needs a church to make them available to all of God’s children—both the living and the dead” (D. Todd Christofferson, “Why the Church,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2015, 110).

“The ordinances of salvation and exaltation administered in the Lord’s restored Church are far more than rituals or symbolic performances. Rather, they constitute authorized channels through which the blessings and powers of heaven can flow into our individual lives. . . .

“Ordinances received and honored with integrity are essential to obtaining the power of godliness and all of the blessings made available through the Savior’s Atonement” (David A. Bednar, “Always Retain a Remission of Your Sins,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2016, 60).

- How could the teachings of these two Apostles help Lauren understand the importance of keeping her covenants and coming to Church?
- How might you use the doctrinal mastery passages in Doctrine and Covenants 84:20–22 and Doctrine and Covenants 82:10 to help Lauren understand why she should continue to participate in ordinances and keep her covenants?
- What invitation could you make to Lauren to encourage her to act in faith?

