

# Strengthening Young Men through Duty to God

Hypothesis: The effectiveness of Duty to God in the lives of young men is strongly influenced by the effective exercise of priesthood keys in the ward.

Experiment: The following doctrines and actions will strengthen the use of Aaronic Priesthood Keys and thus Young Men use of Duty to God.

## Do It Yourself

"Behold, thou art my son;... and I have a work for thee".  
Moses 1:4, 6

As leaders, follow the pattern:

- *Learn* duties in scriptures, manuals, and training
- *Act*, beginning with *plan*
- *Share* results in council and with priesthood leaders

"Old things are done away, and all things have become new." (3 Nephi 12:36)

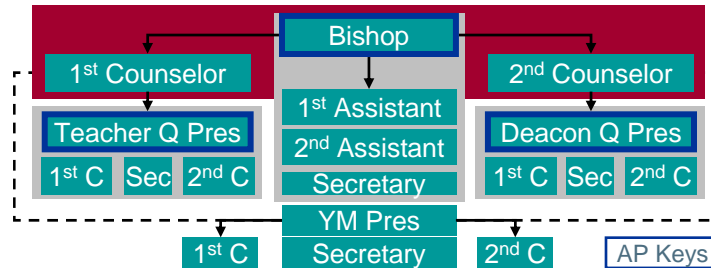
- Create or update your DTG outline on "The Priesthood and Priesthood Keys," in particular:
- Consider "Work" in Moses 1:4, 6, "Duty" in D&C 107:99, and 85-89, "Keys" in D&C 13:1; 35:25; 65:2; 97:14; 107:13-15, 68-70; 124:142-143; Handbook 2 especially 2.1; 8.1; 8.3

- "Make the regular study and application of chapters 1-5, and particularly 8 and 9 of the handbook part of [your] personal DTG program."



## Frequent, Effective Quorum Pres. Meetings

"The bishopric is the presidency of [the Aaronic] priesthood, and holds the keys or authority of the same." D&C 107:15



"Each quorum presidency holds a presidency meeting regularly...Deacons...and teachers quorum president[s] ...preside unless a member of the bishopric attends."

### Agenda Items

Handbook 2:8.9.3

### Result

1. Plan ways to <i>strengthen quorum members</i> , including new and less-active members [and]...young men of other faiths	Young men names and actions
2. Read and discuss scripture passages and <i>instructions from Church leaders</i> that relate to the responsibilities of priesthood leaders	Prompted action items
3. Plan to <i>visit quorum members</i> as needed	Name & date
4. Discuss ways to help each young man have success in the <i>Duty to God</i> program	Action items
5. <i>Plan quorum meetings and activities</i>	Agendas
6. Consider items to discuss in <i>bishopric youth committee</i> meeting	Agenda items
7. Receive <i>leadership training</i> from bishopric members or quorum advisers	Learn, Plan/ Act, Share

## Inspire through Effective Interviews

"...leaders help young men accomplish these [Aaronic Priesthood] objectives in ...interviews and by encouraging them to participate in the Duty to God program" Handbook 2:8.1.3

"As a young man becomes older and home influence begins to diminish, the *association between the young man and his priesthood [leaders]* becomes the *best predictor* of both *private religious behavior* and *religious experience*; and these two... factors [are] ... the best indicators of whether he will *go on a mission*." (Church YM Study, Ensign Dec. 1984 p. 66-70)

1. The *bishop interviews each young man at least annually*. If possible, he interviews each 16- and 17-year-old twice annually.
2. [Young men ages 12 - 15] Six months [after] annual interview with the bishop [have] an interview with the *counselor in the bishopric* who oversees his quorum...
3. The bishop interviews young men who are *preparing to be ordained* ...priest[s]. The bishop or an assigned counselor interviews young men who are preparing to be ordained...deacon[s] and teacher[s]....
4. The bishop or an assigned counselor interviews the deacons *quorum president*, the teachers quorum president, and the priests *quorum assistants* regularly. In these interviews, [they]...discuss the progress of individual quorum members and the progress of the quorum as a whole. (Handbook 2:8.3.1)



"And again verily I say unto you, the duty of a president ...is to preside over [quorum members]...., to sit in council with them, and to teach them their duty, edifying one another, as it is given according to the covenants." (D&C 107:85)