

***Working Together With
Ward Sunday School
Presidencies***

***Kent Washington Stake
2023***

...WHO is responsible for training the New Teachers in any organization ??

13.2.2.2

Responsibilities

The Sunday School president has the following responsibilities. If he has counselors, they assist him.

- Serve on the ward council. He serves as (1) a member of the council who helps address needs in the ward and find solutions and (2) a representative of the Sunday School (see [29.2.5](#)).
- Oversee efforts to improve gospel learning and teaching at home and at church.
- Organize Sunday School classes, with the bishopric's approval (see [13.3](#)). Recommend to the bishopric adult members to serve as Sunday School teachers.
- Support, encourage, and instruct Sunday School teachers. Help them become more effective gospel teachers by following the principles in the scriptures and [Teaching in the Savior's Way](#). Encourage them to study [Teaching in the Savior's Way](#).
- Lead teacher council meetings as guided by the bishop (see *Teaching in the Savior's Way*, 3).
- Encourage teachers to reach out to members who do not attend classes.

13.4 Improving Learning and Teaching in the Ward

Improving **Learning** and **Teaching** in the Ward

Ward leaders are responsible for improving learning and teaching in their organizations. This includes orienting newly called teachers (see *Teaching in the Savior's Way*, [38](#)). They can ask the ward Sunday School president for help if needed.



Sunday School Presidencies should work with Ward Council and Leaders to understand roles and responsibilities

13.4 Improving Learning and Teaching in the Ward

Overall Teaching :

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- Sunday School Classes
- Young Men and Young Women Classes
- Priesthood & Relief Society Classes
- Primary Classes

Teacher Councils: (Need to Provide Quarterly Schedule to Stake)

Teacher council meetings are held quarterly during the 50-minute class time on Sunday (see 17.4). Their purpose is to help improve learning and teaching. Teaching in the Savior's Way is the main resource for these meetings. (Separate teacher council meetings could be held for Primary teachers during Sharing time, after or before Church meetings, or another day of the week)

For more information, see Teaching in the Savior's Way, OR

[Teaching in the Savior's Way \(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](http://churchofjesuschrist.org)

Who should attend Teacher Council Meetings?

Everyone who teaches a quorum or class in the ward should attend, along with at least one of the priesthood or auxiliary leaders responsible for those teachers. If necessary, participants may be divided into groups according to the needs of those they teach. For example, teachers of youth or children may benefit from meeting separately on occasion to discuss issues specifically related to teaching youth or children.

Video of New Teacher orientation

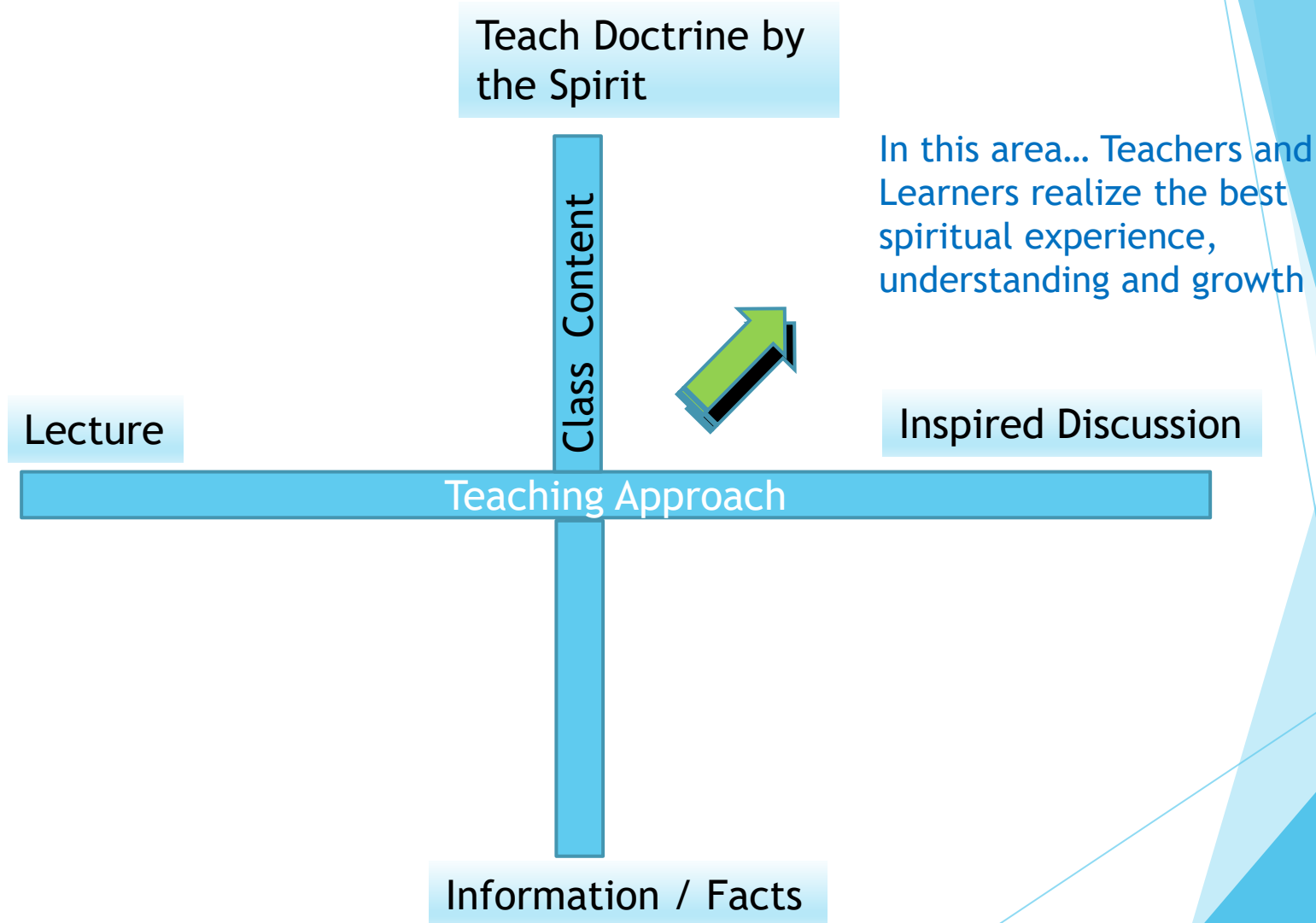
[Orienting Newly-Called Teachers](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org)
[\(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org)

Pres Nelson emphasized two things to Pres. Pace (Sunday School President of the Church)

(1) help members get the scriptures into their hearts and souls and (2) help improve the teaching in homes and our Churches.

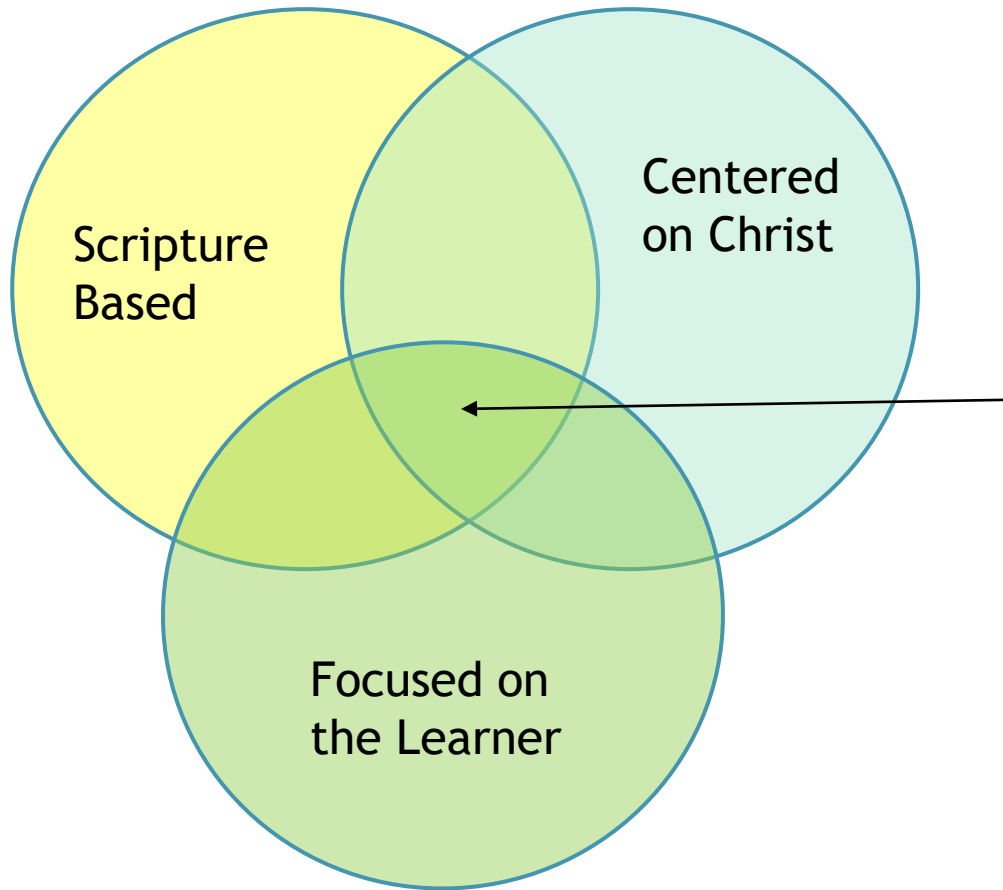
- Love those you teach
- Teach by the Spirit
- Teach the Doctrine
- Invite diligent learning

Where should we focused on as we “Teach in the Saviors’ way” to have the BEST learning and growth ?



Information from Elder Mark Pace,
Church General Sunday School President

Learning Approaches



Primary Outcome:

- Learning by the Spirit
- Hear Him (increase capacity)
- Conversion (that we change)

Encourage the following for Sunday School Presidencies to do:

.. Attend classes to see how it is going

....consider one or one training and/or training through teacher council meeting or special meeting if needed

...use the ward council to assess how things are going in classes and also in helping resolve issues

....invite-remind RS/EQ/auxiliaries members to visit classes to provide feedback to support teacher training

Encourage to do the following..2023

1. Schedule Teacher council meetings (ask teachers focus items)
2. Talk with Ward council about “Who is to train new teachers”
3. Special Stake-Ward Teacher council meeting on “ improved teaching in the class” and “Teaching in the Saviors way

Additional information

Pres Mark Pace Church Sunday School President (Leadership Meeting 2021)

Goal: Improving teaching in Church and Home.

- Teach Doctrine by the Spirit
- Goal is a commitment to become a better teacher
- Use “Teaching in the Savior’s Way”; take “personal evaluation” in back
- Study the scriptures with Come Follow Me
- The books “Revelations in Context” and Saints can be great helps in understanding the scriptures.
- Prepare those you teach “for that which will come” Ether 2:25

--How can we get our children more involved with the scriptures

- 1 Testimonies are not “inherited”
- 2 The kitchen table is surrounded by investigators
- 3 Read the Book of Mormon together.
- 4 Our children should see their parents reading the Book of Mormon.

--Other IDEAS

Start Class with Question.....What has the Holy Ghost taught me this week while studying “Come Follow Me”

--Ward Sunday School Presidency Meetings.....Read a chapter each presidency meeting in “Teaching in the Saviors Way”

--Reach out to class members during the week (FYI.. --Approx. 50% of members are “alone”)

--Support youth outside activities where possible—sports, etc.

--Don’t turn your class over to others, youth, members etc.

--Bring Teacher Council meetings “out of moth balls”

-- Consider Teacher Council Meetings for parents (Ward needs)

IMPROVING AS A CHRISTLIKE TEACHER

A PERSONAL EVALUATION

The following activity can help you apply principles of Christlike teaching. Read each statement below, and consider how well it describes you as a teacher. Choose the most appropriate response for each:

1=rarely 2=sometimes 3=often 4=almost always

Then, as guided by the Spirit, prayerfully select a few things you would like to improve. Set some goals, and return to this activity periodically to evaluate your progress.

Love Those You Teach

- I pray for those I teach (page 6).
- I express my love to the people I teach (page 6).
- I understand the needs and experiences of those I teach (page 7).
- When I prepare to teach, I focus more on the people I am teaching than on making a presentation (page 7).
- As prompted by the Spirit, I alter my plans in order to address learners' questions and needs rather than trying to cover everything I have prepared (pages 7, 10).
- I reach out to those who are not attending class (pages 8–9).

Teach by the Spirit

- I pray for the guidance of the Spirit in my life and in my efforts as a teacher (page 10).
- I strive to live worthy of the companionship of the Holy Ghost (pages 10, 13).
- I listen for spiritual promptings—as I prepare and as I teach—and adjust my plans accordingly (page 10).
- I bear my testimony to those I teach (page 10).

Teach the Doctrine

- My teaching is centered on the scriptures and the words of latter-day prophets (page 18).
- As appropriate, I use stories, music, artwork, and other appropriate resources to help those I teach understand doctrine (page 20).
- When difficult questions arise, I respond in ways that build faith (page 21).

Invite Diligent Learning

- I help those I teach become responsible for their own learning (pages 24–25).
- I ask questions that encourage pondering (page 26).
- I invite learners to share their insights and testimonies and to strengthen one another (pages 26–27).
- I ask follow-up questions to encourage learners to think more deeply about the principles (page 30).
- I help learners find answers to their questions, rather than answering all their questions for them (page 28).
- I provide opportunities for all learners to participate in discussions (page 28).
- I invite learners to act on what they learn, as guided by the Spirit (page 30).
- I follow up on invitations to act, and I ask learners to share their experiences (page 30).
- I encourage learners to study the scriptures on their own and with their families (page 31).



“And if men come unto me I will show unto them their weakness. I give unto men weakness that they may be humble; and my grace is sufficient for all men that humble themselves before me; for if they humble themselves before me, and have faith in me, then will I make weak things become strong unto them” (Ether 12:27).

Measures of Success

Thomas S. Monson:

“Where performance is measured, performance improves. Where performance is measured and reported, the rate of improvement accelerates.”

Measuring how you are meeting the Sunday School Purposes:

During your Ward Sunday School Ward Presidencies meetings, should consider the following questions and discuss.

Sunday School Questions for discussion for presidency meetings, maybe keep notes to review for future presidency meetings

Assessments are provided using a scale of 1 to 5 (1 low and 5 high) for these areas:

1. Are we accomplishing Sunday School objectives in the Ward?
2. How well are the “Come Follow Me” curriculum /methods taught in youth classes?
3. How effective are the Adult classes?
4. How effective are the Teacher Councils?
5. How does the Ward Council feel the “Come Follow Me” curriculum is being implemented in the Relief Society and Melchizedek Priesthood classes and MOST important...in the Home?
6. Is Sunday School Presidency contributing/ sharing/ supporting the Ward Council meetings in a meaningful way?

Sunday School Purpose 13.1

The Sunday School helps accomplish the work of salvation and exaltation. It does this by helping God's children learn and live the gospel of Jesus Christ. Sunday School leaders, teachers, and classes:

*Strengthen faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ by teaching “the doctrine of the kingdom” (D&C88:77)

***Support Home-Centered and Church-supported gospel learning and teaching.**

*Help members teach in the Savior's way.

Responsibility of the Sunday School Presidency

Class Structuring:

Adult and Youth Classes –

Sunday School classes are held on the first and third Sundays of the month. They last 50 minutes.

- Gospel Doctrine – ensure teacher(s) are appropriate and class structure and teaching station will provide an environment for accomplishing the Church Handbook objectives
- At least two responsible adults should be present in each youth class. The adults could be two men, two women, or a married couple and have taken youth protection training found at (ProtectingChildren.ChurchofJesusChrist.org).

13.3.2

Sunday School Classes for Specific Groups

As needed, the Sunday School president may organize Sunday School classes for specific groups. The curriculum for these classes is [Come, Follow Me—For Sunday School](#).

Groups that could benefit from their own Sunday School class include:

- Young single adults.
- Members who do not speak the ward's primary language.
- New members, returning members, and those who are learning about the Church.
- Other groups, as directed by the bishop.

Ward Sunday School Leadership 13.2

WEBSITE [13. Sunday School \(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](http://13. Sunday School (churchofjesuschrist.org))

Bishopric 13.2.1

The bishopric oversees the Sunday School. Usually the bishop assigns one counselor to fulfill this responsibility under his direction.

Sunday School President Responsibilities 13.2.2.2

- *Serve on the ward council. Work with Ward Council to strengthen “Homes Centered Gospel Learning”
- *Oversee efforts to improve gospel learning and teaching at home and at church.
- *Organize and support Sunday School classes...
- *Support, encourage, and instruct teachers.
- *Lead teacher council meetings (minimum Quarterly)
- *Encourage teachers to reach out to ALL class members.
- *Oversees Library Resources / technology support (13.7)

Sunday School Teachers 13.2.3

- *Get to know class members including those who do not attend class...
- *Use scriptures and Come Follow Me...

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13.5 Improving Learning and Teaching in the Home

Parents are responsible for teaching the gospel to their children. They can ask the Sunday School president to help them improve as teachers.

The ward council may organize **teacher council meetings for parents** to help them improve gospel teaching in the home. Like other teacher council meetings, these are held during the 50-minute class time on Sunday. (may vary depending needs of Ward)

[Teaching in the Savior's Way](#) is the main resource for these meetings.

13.7 Resources

13.7

Additional Guidelines

13.7.1

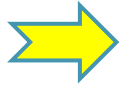
Members with Disabilities

Sunday School teachers give special care to class members who have disabilities. For information about teaching members who have disabilities, see disability.ChurchofJesusChrist.org.

13.7.2

Resource Center

- Some meetinghouses have a resource center (library) to help members learn and teach the gospel. The ward Sunday School president oversees the resource center. Wards that share a meetinghouse also share the resource center. Seminary and institute classes and family history centers share the resource center with the wards.
- In meetinghouses that have a resource center, the bishopric calls a resource center specialist. The Sunday School president may recommend someone to call. Or the bishopric could ask a member of the Sunday School presidency to be the specialist. This person:
 - Organizes and cares for the resources.
 - Helps leaders, teachers, and other members obtain and use these resources.
 - The Sunday School president consults with the resource center specialist to determine if an annual budget is needed for the resource center. He then makes a recommendation to the bishopric.
 - The resource center specialist should attend sacrament meeting each week and other Sunday meetings regularly. If necessary, the bishopric may call an assistant to the specialist.
 - For more information, see ChurchofJesusChrist.org.



[Come, Follow Me - Teaching in the Savior's Way
\(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org)

Teaching in the Savior's Way



Manual

Teaching in the Savior's Way



Media Resources

Teaching in the Savior's Way

Featured Training: Learning and Teaching in the Home and Church (churchofjesuschrist.org)

Featured Training: Learning and Teaching in the Home and Church

Grid View List View



Advancement in the Priesthood



Helping Prospective Elders Progress



Improving Teaching



Inviting Others to Come unto Christ



Learning and Teaching in the Home and the...



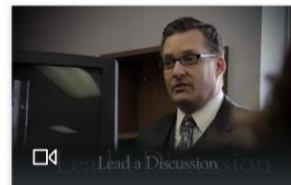
Learning and Teaching in the Home and the...



Preparing Families to Make Covenants



Supporting Those Who Are Called to Teach



Using Councils to Improve Learning and...



We Are All Learners and Teachers

Feedback

Overview of Christlike Teaching



Overview of Christlike Teaching

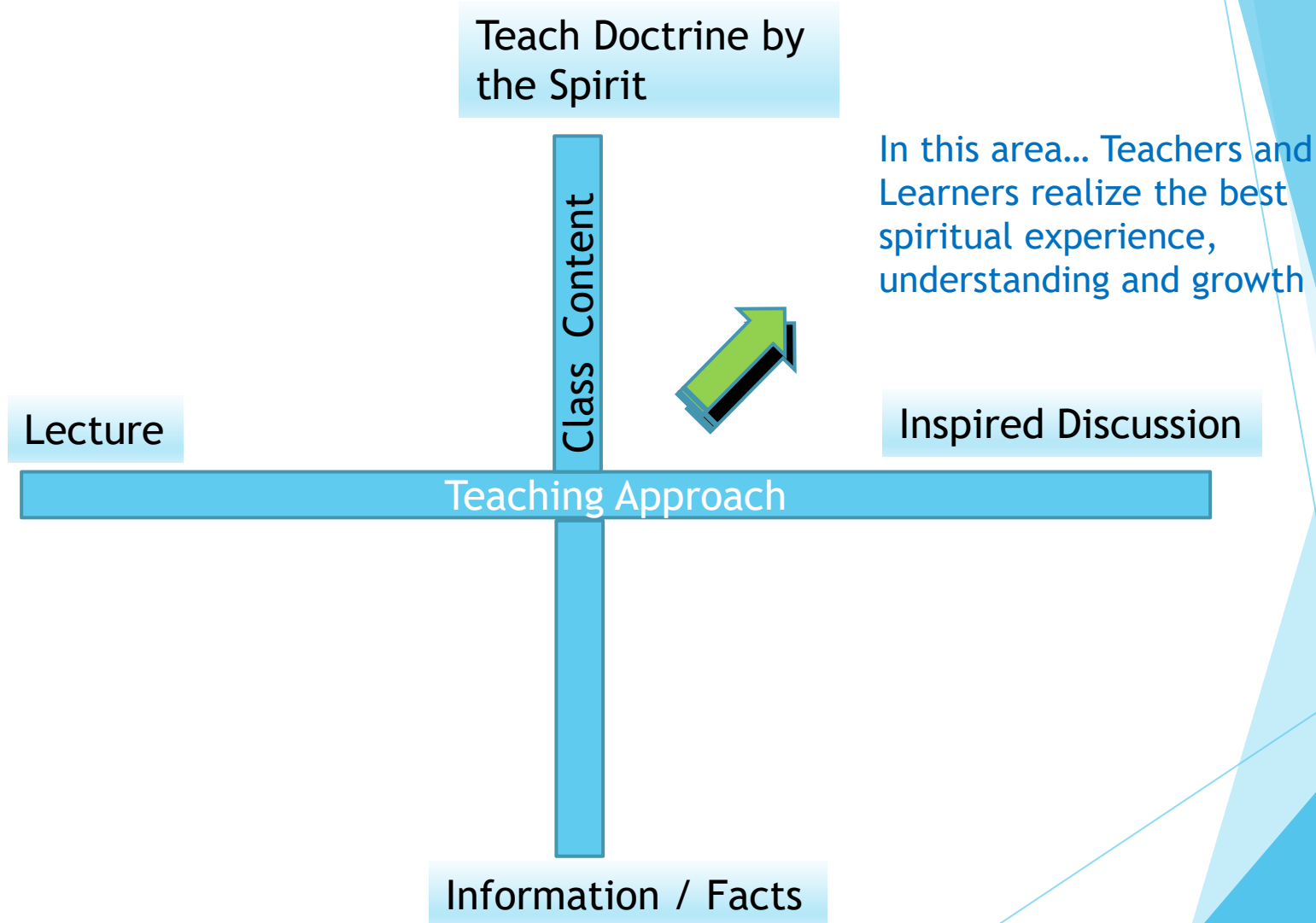
Focus on Jesus Christ

Teach about Jesus Christ No Matter What You Are Teaching	Help Learners Come unto Jesus Christ
Emphasize the example of Jesus Christ.	Help learners recognize the Lord's love, power, and mercy in their lives.
Teach about the titles, roles, and attributes of Jesus Christ.	Help learners strengthen their relationship with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.
Look for symbols that testify of Jesus Christ.	Help learners intentionally strive to be more like Jesus Christ.

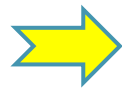
Principles of Christlike Teaching

Love Those You Teach	Teach by the Spirit	Teach the Doctrine	Invite Diligent Learning
See learners the way God sees them.	Prepare yourself spiritually.	Learn the doctrine of Jesus Christ for yourself.	Help learners take responsibility for their learning.
Seek to know them—understand their circumstances, needs, and strengths.	Always be ready to respond to spiritual promptings about the needs of learners.	Teach from the scriptures and the words of latter-day prophets.	Encourage learners to come to know the Savior by studying the gospel daily.
Pray for them by name.	Create settings and opportunities for learners to be taught by the Holy Ghost.	Help learners seek, recognize, and understand truths in the scriptures.	Invite learners to prepare to learn.
Create a safe environment where all are respected and know their contributions are valued.	Help learners seek, recognize, and act on personal revelation.	Focus on truths that lead to conversion and build faith in Jesus Christ.	Encourage learners to share the truths they are learning.
Find appropriate ways to express your love.	Bear testimony often, and invite learners to share their feelings, experiences, and testimonies.	Help learners find personal relevance in the doctrine of Jesus Christ.	Invite learners to live what they are learning.

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Church General Sunday School President



[Instruction for My Calling \(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](http://churchofjesuschrist.org)

Instruction for My Calling



**Ward Sunday School
Presidency and
Secretary**



**Ward Sunday School
Teacher**



**Stake Sunday School
Presidency and
Secretary**



**Ward Resource
Center Specialists**



**Talks and Videos on
Teaching**

Kent Washington Stake

Sunday School Presidency - Responsibility Alignment

**President
Brother
Willden**

**Primary
Responsibilities:**

- ❑ Stake Council Meetings
- ❑ Crestwood Ward
- ❑ Lake Sawyer Ward
- ❑ Sunday School Web Site

**1st Counselor
Brother
Hank Reed**

**Primary
Responsibilities:**

- ❑ Pine Tree Ward
- ❑ Lake Meridian Ward
- ❑ Single Adult Ward
- ❑ Library Technology Guidance (hearing aid/ TV)

**2nd Counselor
Brother
Larry Dickerson**

**Primary
Responsibilities:**

- ❑ Park Orchard Ward
- ❑ Spanish Branch

**Secretary
Brother
TBD**

**Primary
Responsibilities:**

- ❑ Sunday School Records Management
- ❑ Libraries - Resources

Stake Interfaces with Wards:

- Stake Sunday School Presidency members will interact with ward leaders per the above assignments – resource for support
- Training for Ward Sunday School presidencies will be held once a year, in addition to new Ward Sunday School presidencies callings.
- Assessments of how well we are accomplishing the objectives will be requested quarterly and utilized for Ward interfaces and improvement discussions