Case Study

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**Class**: REL 200, Section C

# Instructions

The purpose of this assignment is to **apply your knowledge and deepen your learning** from *responding to real life examples that you or others may face in defending the Proclamation and the eternal family****.* You must answer the questions** in the case study (cut and paste them below for reference). *Be sure to connect the references to your thoughts and discuss why/how the reference helps to answer or strengthen your response****.* Responses must show thought, reflection, pondering and depth with college-level writing skills. You must provide at least four citations**from the talks discussed in this unit. Each citation must be from a different talk. **You must also use the Proclamation and at least one scripture**. The passages must be cited properly based on the following criteria:

Case Study C

One of your female friends feels that a woman’s voice is not heard or represented in the Church. She knows the Church has elevated women’s voices at the general level, but your friend does not feel her opinion and voice are heard in the Church.

*Question or requirement 1: What gospel principles or doctrines are involved in the case study, and how do they help to clarify and give direction in addressing the situation?*

I feel the greatest blessing we have as members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is knowing that we are children of a loving Heavenly Father. All of us are “beloved spirit son or daughter of heavenly parents, and, as such, each has a divine nature and destiny.” When you know that your Father in Heaven truly loves you and wants what is best for you it is easier to trust in Him. Also, it is wonderful to have a purpose and recognizing that purpose takes time and effort from us. President Nelson taught that, “Satan and his minions will constantly contrive roadblocks to prevent you from understanding the spiritual gifts with which you have been and can be blessed. Unfortunately, some roadblocks may be the result of another’s misbehavior.” This can be comforting in remembering that we have spiritual gifts given to each and every one of us and that we need to find those gifts and develop them, but also remember we are human and our short comings can lead others to misread their gifts. He also shared,” because the Melchizedek Priesthood has been restored, both covenant-keeping women and men have access to all the spiritual blessings of the church or, we might say, to all the spiritual treasures the Lord has for His children.”

*Question or requirement 2: Drawing inspiration from the proclamation, scripture block, and talks, discuss what resources you would use to address the dilemma and how those resources would be helpful.*

I think it would be beneficial to go through the scriptures to see examples of many women who were essential in bringing forth the plan. My favorite is Esther because she was humble, kind and courageous. She did not live in a time of freedom for women like we do but she used her situation to help others and showed God she was all in. Esther 4:16 “and if I perish, I perish” were the words Esther used when facing the king. She put all her faith in the Lord and she trusted that if she was to perish it was better than to go against God. How does this relate to my friend? Often other people’s agency causes us issue and this was the case with Esther but rather than run away she chose to do what she was inspired to do by the spirit. First and foremost, we need to be listening to the guidance of the Lord. Sister Sheri Dew shared that, “Our Father knew exactly what He was doing when He created us.” So, we need to remember that the world is going to try and distort that truth and bring us down to misery. She continues, “He made us enough alike to love each other, but enough different that we would need to unite our strengths and stewardships to create a whole. Neither man nor woman is perfect or complete without the other.”

*Question or requirement 3: Are there specific things you would suggest that could be done to help resolve the issue?*

With this specific issue I would suggest to my friend that it would help if she were able to recognize the many things she does and other women do that are the glue for so much of the church. Take notes on the things that you feel were moments of understanding and growth rather than focus on not getting one specific outcome. Remember what President Nelson said in his talk “A Plea to My Sisters”. “We, your brethren, need your strength, your conversion, your conviction, your ability to lead, your wisdom, and your voices. The kingdom of God is not and cannot be complete without women who make sacred covenants and then keep them, women who can speak with the power and authority of God!” I would suggest to her that it is necessary to converse with Heavenly Father through prayer and fasting so that she can see her part and recognize what is needed from her.

Elder Packer shared “There is nothing in the revelations which suggests that to be a man rather than to be a woman is preferred in the sight of God, or that He places a higher value on sons than on daughters.” This is a beautiful reminder for all. Just because we have differences does not make one better or worse. If we strive to stay in communication with our Father in Heaven and ask for guidance on understanding our part, we will receive that direction. We all have a purpose but satan is going to try and redirect us off that path that will bring us happiness and purpose so we must stay close to the Spirit.

## References Used (All 6 required):

1. Scripture: Esther 4:16
2. Proclamation: Second Paragraph of Proclamation on the Family
3. Talk: President Russell M. Nelson, General Conference Oct. 2015, “A Plea to My Sisters”
4. Talk: President Russell M. Nelson, General Conference October 2019, “Spiritual Treasures”
5. Talk: Sheri L. Dew Ensign, November 2001, “It is Not Good for Man or Woman to be Alone”
6. Talk: Elder Boyd K. Packer, General Conference October 1993, “For Time and All Eternity”