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**Class**: REL 200, Section C

# Instructions

The purpose of this assignment is to **deepen your learning from *teaching* or engaging in the material outside of class.** This write-up is *not* meant to be a regurgitation of the material to the teacher or solely a summary of your conversation about this course. **Responses must show thought, reflection, pondering and depth with college-level writing skills.**

1. Provide a simple statement answering who you shared with.

I had a lovely conversation with my Mom while waiting for my son’s play practice to end.

1. In a brief paragraph, identify the questions or insights from your personal study that informed your thinking as you prepared for your discussion.

As I was preparing for this discussion I did make sure to go back and look at the talk by Sister Julie B. Beck because so much of her talk really was inspiring to me. I also wanted to be sure I understood those concepts before our discussion so I didn’t share falsehoods. My biggest question while I was reading through the talks this week was, “How in this busy and distraction driven world can we provide the foundation our families need to return to Father in Heaven?”

1. In 1-2 paragraph(s), write about what you learned as a result of this conversation. What was this conversation about? What direct lines or quotes from our reading material or your research were you referencing or thinking about as you had this intentional conversation?

Since I had this discussion with my mother, we spent a large amount of our time discussion our own success in trying to teach and grow as family members. I shared with her this quote from Sister Beck’s talk “Satan knows that he will never have a body; he will never have a family. He will target those young women who create the bodies for the future generations and who should teach the families. They don’t even know what they’re being taught in the messages. It’s just seeping in, almost through their pores. Because Satan can’t have it, he’s luring away many women, and also men, and they’re losing confidence in their ability to form eternal families.” When I told her this, she brought up the conflict just this week with the Supreme Court overturning Roe vs Wade. We have many members in our own family that were upset by this and it baffled us that they were not seeing the good in this. It seems as though our young women in our family who are new college graduates have turned to the ideals of the world when it comes to starting a family. It is heart breaking.

Oddly enough our conversation gravitated to our ancestors and how they dealt with their changing world. My great-great grandparents were such incredible examples of building up a family in righteousness. It seemed as though they were intentionally making plans to bring the family together and provide love and support to them. Not all my family are strong members or even baptized members but we have such an incredible family bond. I remember meeting a cousin 5 years ago and I never met her before but once we started sharing our memories of her grandmother, who is my great aunt, I immediately wanted to be a part of her life. I was incredibly comfortable with her and we talked for hours. I have anxiety and so this was very out of character for me but my husband made the observation that I am always this way once we connect with people on a family level. I owe that to the example of my ancestors who were like Rebekah, they wanted their family to have the fullness. Now, if I can just learn to be this way with strangers because they are my brothers and sisters too.

1. In 1-2 paragraph(s), write about what you learned as a result of this conversation.

Answer the following questions:

* What deepened connections and insights did you feel because of this conversation?
* What did you agree/disagree with in your discussions? How did you handle this?
* Did anything discussed change your thinking? If so, what and how?
* How will you build on this knowledge to strengthen your family (now and/or in the future)?
* What do you feel inspired to do now that you have read the material *and* engaged in this conversation?

Since I had this conversation with my mother, I was able to learn a lot of things that I did not know about while growing up. Sacrifices that she made for us, that my father made for us and that her parents made for her. I learned how much of an influence being a member of a family has on each other. We just do things for one another without expecting much because we are “family”. This made it really clear to me that my Father in Heaven really wants me to have this type of love for everyone!

I really hope that I can put forth effort to treat everyone I come in contact with in the same way I would treat a blood relative. I give them chances and have faith in them without even really knowing them so why can’t I do that with everyone? This really opened my eyes to a better understanding of the meaning of love thy neighbor.

# Reference(s) used:

* Talk: Sister Julie B. Beck,” Teaching the Doctrine of the Family” Seminaries and Institutes of Religion Satellite Broadcast August 4, 2009