

ACHIEVING A GREAT SCHOLAR PHASE AS AN ADULT

by Liz Quist

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President John Taylor, the third President of the Church, said: *We ought to foster education and intelligence of every kind; cultivate literary tastes, and men of literary and scientific talent should improve that talent; and all should magnify the gifts which God has given unto them. ... If there is anything good and praiseworthy in morals, religion, science, or anything calculated to exalt and ennoble man, we are after it. But with all our getting, we want to get understanding, and that understanding which flows from God (**The Gospel Kingdom**, sel. G. Homer Durham [1943], 277).*

Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve said: *Because of our sacred regard for each human intellect, we consider the obtaining of an education to be a religious responsibility. ... Our Creator expects His children everywhere to educate themselves (in Conference Report, Oct. 1992, 5; or **Ensign**, Nov. 1992, 6).*

Douglas F. Tobler, coordinator of BYU's European Studies Program: *This condition is a golden opportunity for the scholar-intellectuals of the Church. If, in this time of groping, we are able to express our faith in God skillfully and forcefully and to explain our views on the central issues of the day, we will have a great influence on creating the intellectual climate in which people will respond more readily to the ideas and doctrines presented by our missionaries. ...*

Discussion for today:

- Basic review of the Phases of Education
- Simple but vital principles tied to achieving a great Scholar Phase education
- Practical ideas you can easily implement
- Troubleshooting session for class members facing the real issues of achieving a Scholar Phase education.

Five Keys to Great Education

1. God or a Higher Power
2. Simulation
3. Mentors
4. Classics
5. Field Experience

Setting aside hours to work on your Scholar Phase is absolutely vital. It is not possible to achieve a great Scholar Phase without putting in the hours. Others will take your hours as seriously as you do – but not more seriously. You must be the one to set the boundaries. You are not alone in your endeavors. Your efforts will do much to increase your ability to serve God at the highest level possible.

If you are having this problem:

- Establish your hours.
- Let others know – set the expectation as needed.
- Turn off your phone and email during this time.
- Go somewhere like the library if your circumstances make you vulnerable to interruption.

Recommended reading: Invitation to the Pain of Learning, How to Live 24 Hours a Day, A Thomas Jefferson Education, Leadership Education: The Phases of Learning, Gospel Vision of the Arts and a whole lot of classics!

Have a great Scholar Phase!

Liz graduated from George Wythe University with a Masters in Leadership Education, under the mentorship of Dr. Oliver Demille. She has also enjoyed mentoring dozens of GWU students through their Scholar Phase.