

Self-Reliance Newsletter

By: Michael J. Goodwin

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Principle #6 – Solve Problems

From: [My Foundation: Principles, Skills, Habits.](#)

Note: In this and future documents, the pdf files will contain live hypertext links to enable easier access to the resources listed. Previous documents have been updated too.

I have archived previous principles and will save future principles at this URL:

www.selfrelianceclub.com/srp.html

In case you missed it, last month, I have had the opportunity to teach the 3rd hour combined lesson in the YSA Branch and the R1 HP group lesson on the topic of self-reliance. I have linked the lesson presentation and all of the handout attachments for your convenience

<http://selfrelianceclub.com/Self-Reliance%20Presentation.pdf>

I have been inspired to include more information on self-reliance including year's supply, water storage, 72 hour kits, medical supplies storage, etc. and including them in my monthly newsletter. See References, below.

Then, just last Sunday, I was given a ward assignment to help with the Ward Emergency Planning Guide. I believe this request is going out to all units in the stake. If anyone needs help in creating your own Family and/or Ward Emergency Planning Guide, please let me know.

Also, The Ezra Taft Benson Institute has produced booklets including Getting Along with Your Garden, Having your Food Storage and Eating it, too, Eating Right and Enjoying Life More, and the Small-Scale Agriculture Model. If you are interested and are having trouble finding these, let me know.

The church focuses on 12 principles of employment self-reliance, as found in the newly developed booklet, [My Foundation: Principles, Skills, Habits.](#)

I wish to help you focus on the elements of Employment as it is fundamental to achieving most of the other elements. As a service, periodically, I will send information to stake and unit leaders about one of the twelve principles. Someone is available to teach in your unit for Sunday lessons on self-reliance, employment, etc.

6 SOLVE PROBLEMS

SOLVE PROBLEMS

- Ponder:** Why do you feel Heavenly Father allows us to face problems and challenges?
- Watch:** "Solve Problems and Make Decisions" (No video? Read the next page.)
- Discuss:** What did Sheep do to help Pig solve his problem? (Think about how she helped him identify the real problem, look at his options, and then decide and act.)
- Read:** Ether 2 and 3 (read only the excerpts on the right)
- Discuss:** What did the brother of Jared do to solve his problem?
- Practice:** Below are three steps you can take to solve problems of all kinds with prayer and faith. Read and discuss them with a group member. Each of you should identify a specific problem you face and go through the steps.



- Practice:** Pick a problem you are facing as a family and write it here:
-

During the week, work on this problem with your family. Remember, don't give up! It takes time to solve problems and make changes.

- Commit:** Commit to doing the following actions during the week. Check the boxes when you complete each task:
- Practice the steps for solving the problem you wrote above.
 - Teach this principle to your family.
 - Continue to practice the previous foundation principles.



"The brother of Jared cried unto the Lord, saying ... I have made the barges ... [and] in them there is no light ... And the Lord said ... What will ye that I should do ...? [And the brother of Jared] did molten out of a rock sixteen small stones ... and cried again unto the Lord, saying ... I know, O Lord, that thou hast all power. ... Therefore touch these stones ... that they may shine forth in darkness."

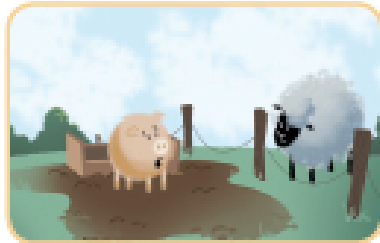
ETHER 2:18-19, 23; 3:1, 4

Facilitator Tip

Add energy to discussions. Get everyone involved.

SOLVE PROBLEMS AND MAKE DECISIONS

If you are unable to watch the video, choose roles and read this script.



PIG: I'm starving! Farmer's gone. His boy is lazy and I get no food! What am I going to do?

SHEEP: Pig? Pig! What's the problem?

PIG: Problem? Problem? It's obvious, isn't it? I'm starving!

SHEEP: Hummm. That's not your problem.

PIG: Huh? What do you mean? I'm hungry! And that lazy kid isn't doing his job.

SHEEP: Right, but that's his problem. Your problem is, Where can you go to find some food?

PIG: Me? Find food?

SHEEP: Exactly. What are your options?

PIG: Well, I could stay here and wait!

SHEEP: That's one option. How's that working?

PIG: Yeah. ... Humph. ... If I could get out of here, I could maybe find food in the garbage pile.

SHEEP: That's another option. I noticed that the boy left your gate unlocked.

PIG: Yeah, but I've never just walked out of here. And there might not be any food there anyway.

SHEEP: Well, it's probably time to decide and do something—stay or get moving.

PIG: Okay. It's my problem, right?

SHEEP: Yup.

PIG: And the garbage pile's my best option.

SHEEP: If you think so.

PIG: So I need to decide and act.

SHEEP: Seems like it.

PIG: All right. ... Okay. ... Well, ... here goes. [Starts eating.] Hey, Sheep, this is great stuff.

SHEEP: Well done, Pig!

"Creative approaches are sometimes needed in order to adapt to local conditions. We have general guidelines and principles, but the Lord expects us to help solve our own problems. ... We are thinking, reasoning human beings. We have the ability to identify our needs, to plan, to set goals, and to solve our problems. ... Too often people hold on to ideas, inventions, and approaches to life that will not work. The creative approach is a disciplined approach to meet life's needs."

ROBERT D. HALES, "Every Good Gift," *New Era*, Aug. 1983, 8–9

What problems do you need to solve?

Where would your food come from if a disaster closed all stores or made them inaccessible?

(ice storms, trucker strikes, civil unrest, tornados, ...)

Where would your water come from if there was a water main break or your well pump dies in the middle of winter?

Where would you get medical supplies after a disaster occurs?

Don't forget the 7 steps to accomplishing any goal formula in the self-reliance presentation link in this newsletter, below, and always remember HERSHEY.

References:

[Self-Reliance Services](#)

Links to files used in Self Reliance Presentation

[Self-Reliance Presentation](#)

[The Blessing of Work](#)

[Work and Self Reliance – Pr. Heber J. Grant](#)

[New member discussions on self-reliance and preparedness](#)

[PH and RS manual lessons on self-reliance](#)

[Skills and Talents Survey Forms](#)

[The Celestial Nature of Self-Reliance](#)

[Self-Reliance Assessment Form](#)

[Personal and Family Preparedness Standards and Goals](#)

[Personal and Family Preparedness Goal Sheet](#)

Archive of Newsletters:

[Self-Reliance Newsletter #1 – Oct 2015 – Faith in Jesus Christ](#)

[Self-Reliance Newsletter #2 – Nov 2015 – Use Time Wisely](#)

[Self-Reliance Newsletter #3 – Dec 2015 – Be Obedient](#)

[Self-Reliance Newsletter #4 – Jan 2016 – Manage Money](#)

[Self-Reliance Newsletter #5 – Feb 2016 – Work and Responsibility](#)

Additional information on 72 hr kits and water purification and storage can be found at:

<http://selfrelianceclub.com/Links.html>.

Here you will also find a Dates to Start Seed Calculator and the 7 P's of Gardening Workshop Handout.

Other Employment Self-Reliance Booklets available:

[Leader Guide](#)

[My Path](#)

[Starting and Growing My Business](#)

[My Job Search](#)

[Education for Better Work](#)

Sincerely,
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