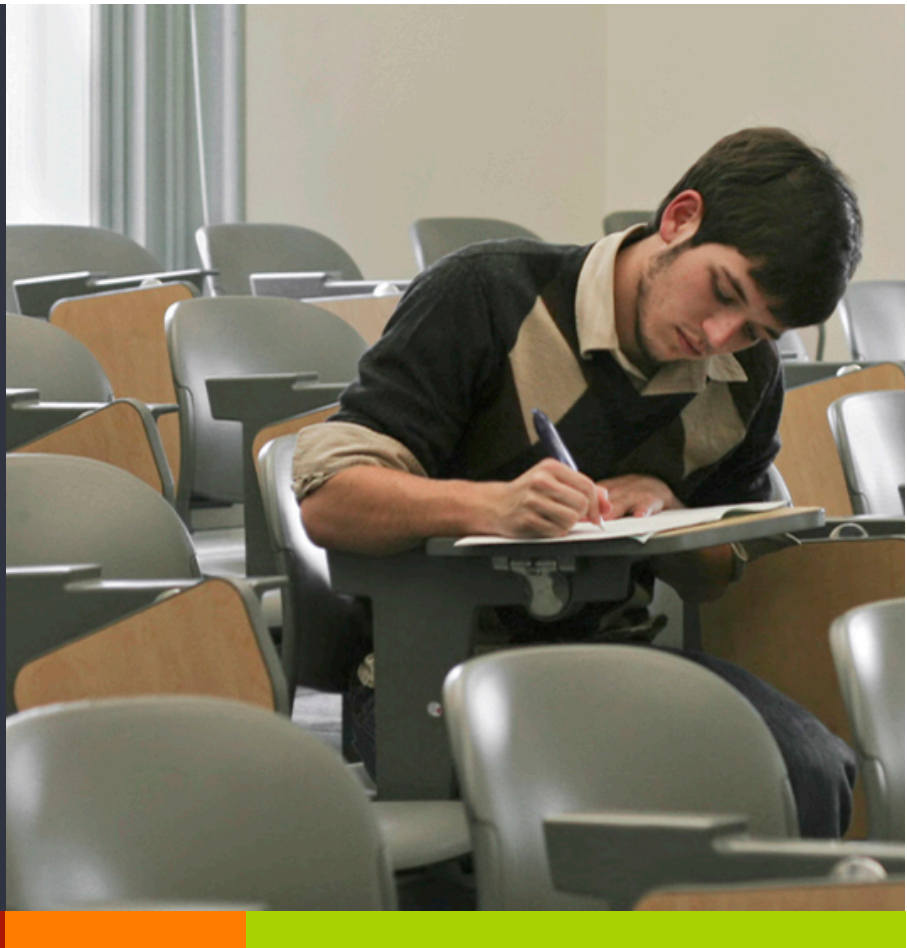


# Student Support Program

THE CHURCH OF  
Jesus  
Christ

## Class Is in Session

You don't need a No. 2 pencil or a graphing calculator to learn these spiritual lessons



By Sister Elizabeth Kall

I was recently sorting through my belongings, and I stumbled across an old class schedule, which brought back a ton of memories. I certainly learned a lot during my K-12 years and even more as I made my way through university life. Come to think of it, I've never really stopped learning.

Naturally and spiritually speaking, I've been privileged to learn lessons from the greatest teacher, Jesus Christ. He teaches me and tests me daily. Every victory I owe to Him, and every time I fall short, He provides the increase.

With God, class is always in session!

While taking a closer look at my old schedule, a few spiritual lessons came to mind.

### Language Arts

English can be a nightmare for some students. The idea of standing in front of friends giving a speech on how to brush your teeth or defending your stance on global warming can be a bit overwhelming.

In my 12<sup>th</sup> grade English class, I was given an assignment to memorize a soliloquy (that's a really long, one-person speech) from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. I painfully remember getting to a point midway through and forgetting what I'd rehearsed. I stumbled awkwardly through the remainder of Lady Macbeth's lines as my friends and teacher watched.

Not my best moment.

In retrospect, Lady Macbeth's words weren't personal to me. Let's leave the classroom scene for just a moment. I have a story that *is* personal to me; it's my testimony. We

have all been given solid evidence that God loves us; that's why we choose to serve Him. Let's not keep our stories to ourselves!

**The homework:** Take an opportunity to talk about yourself to the people around you and be prepared to give your testimony! Be bold when God gives you an opening to share how He is alive and working in your life. Don't lessen the opportunity based on location — you may find the best opportunities are on the bus, in the car, or at lunch.

### Math

To be honest, I've never been the best with numbers, and my dad will verify that story problems often left me in tears. If a train leaves Baltimore at 9 a.m. traveling at a rate of 75 mph...I have no idea when it will reach Chicago. (And I'm OK with that!)

I do know this: there have been moments in life, aside from the occasional story problem, that have left me close to tears, moments when I've felt alone, without purpose, left searching for something to bring my spirit peace. In these moments, there have been some very specific numbers that I've relied on.

- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Philippians 2:13-15
- 1 Nephi 3:7
- Matthew 21:21

**The homework:** Know your numbers! If you find yourself in a situation that seems too tough to handle on your own, spend time reading the word of God. The Bible and Book of Mormon are the two best textbooks you'll ever own. They contain the solutions to the tough stuff we face in school, at work, and with our peers.

### Social Studies

As a history teacher by profession, it's important that I first set the record straight: history is not just a bunch of dates and dead people! Yes, Julius Caesar had his "Et tu, Brute?" moment a really long time ago, but think about it — yesterday is history, too!

Your life may never make it to the pages of a history textbook, but rest assured that what you say, how you react, and the things you do *will* be remembered by someone. What does your yesterday say about you? As a follower of Christ, we were given two very specific commandments on how to live: Love God and love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:36-40).

**The homework:** If someone (and I don't mean your biggest fan) were given the task to write your history, what would they say? Does your story show your love for God and His people? Decide what you'd like your

story to say about you and then live like you mean it! Don't pass on the chance to make history every moment of every day.

### Science

If you could see my schedule, you'd notice there is no science class listed. That's because once I fulfilled the requirement, I was happy to put something else in its place. Mixing chemicals and balancing equations wasn't for me (see Math), and I sometimes felt stumped as I filled in my lab sheets. Science teaches us to hypothesize (predict) what will happen in a given scenario. To do this, we use if/then statements.

**If** a pencil rolls off a desk, **then** gravity will cause it to fall to the ground. Simple, right?

What happens if we can't immediately figure out the answer?

**If** you mix NaCl with H<sub>2</sub>O, **then**... My guesses usually ended up with

a cleanup at lab table 8.

In life, there are a lot of unknowns. I could spend days wasting time trying to predict all of the ways one single aspect of my life could turn out. I find myself asking "What if?" more often than I'd like. God knew this about me (and you!) and gave if/then statements in scripture. He teaches us that there's no need to predict outcomes in life if we allow Him to be in control.

**If it shall so be that they shall believe these things, then shall the greater things be made manifest unto them** (3 Nephi 26:9).

**The homework:** Leave the hypothesizing to science. *Ask and it shall be given you; Seek, and ye shall find; Knock, and it shall be opened unto you* (Matthew 7:7). Know the covenant you've made with God and stand firm in the knowledge that **if** you keep your end of the bargain, **then** so will God!

## Extra Credit

**Language Arts:** Share your testimony with someone this week.

**Math:** Memorize a specific scripture to encourage yourself when you're down.

**Social Studies:** Do something loving to "make history" for someone this week.

**Science:** Pray specifically about one thing that is worrying you and then leave it in God's hands.

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