

WHOM THE LORD CALLS HE QUALIFIES

Most members of the Church will have many opportunities to receive a “calling”—an assignment to serve. “The Lord expects each of us to have a calling in His Church so that others may be blessed by our talents and influence,” said President Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994).¹

Church leaders, who themselves have been called to serve, rely on other members to accept and fulfill the callings they are offered. Each new calling is an opportunity to serve and grow and should be approached humbly and prayerfully. Calls to serve in the Church are given by priesthood leaders after they have sought inspiration from the Lord. “You are called of God,” explained President Henry B.

Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency. “The Lord knows you. He knows whom He would have serve in every position in His Church. He chose you.”²

In our callings we represent the Savior, and the work we do—no matter how small it may seem—has eternal consequences. The influence of a dedicated Primary teacher, for example, could inspire a child to serve a mission one day. Or an usher’s friendly greeting could help a struggling member feel welcome at church.

The Lord will help us in our callings, especially when we feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities. When we pray to Heavenly Father for guidance, He will direct us through

inspiration and will bless us to serve well. The Lord helps those who serve Him and will add His power to their efforts (see D&C 84:88). As President Thomas S. Monson promised, “When we are on the Lord’s errand, we are entitled to the Lord’s help. Remember that whom the Lord calls, the Lord qualifies.”³

As we follow the Lord’s example of service and obediently fulfill our callings and Church responsibilities, our lives will be blessed and we can become more like God (see Moroni 7:48; D&C 106:3). ■

For more information, see chapter 14 in *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Lorenzo Snow* (2012).

NOTES

1. Ezra Taft Benson, in Dieter F. Uchtdorf, “Lift Where You Stand,” *Liahona and Ensign*, Nov. 2008, 54.
2. Henry B. Eyring, “Rise to Your Call,” *Liahona and Ensign*, Nov. 2002, 76.
3. Thomas S. Monson, “Duty Calls,” *Liahona*, July 1996, 42; *Ensign*, May 1996, 44.

GIVE YOUR BEST EFFORT

“Your power will be multiplied many times by the Lord. All He asks is that you give your best effort and your whole heart. Do it cheerfully and with the prayer of faith. The Father and His Beloved Son will send the Holy Ghost as your companion to guide you. Your efforts will be magnified in the lives of the people you serve.”

President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “Rise to Your Call,” *Liahona and Ensign*, Nov. 2002, 76.

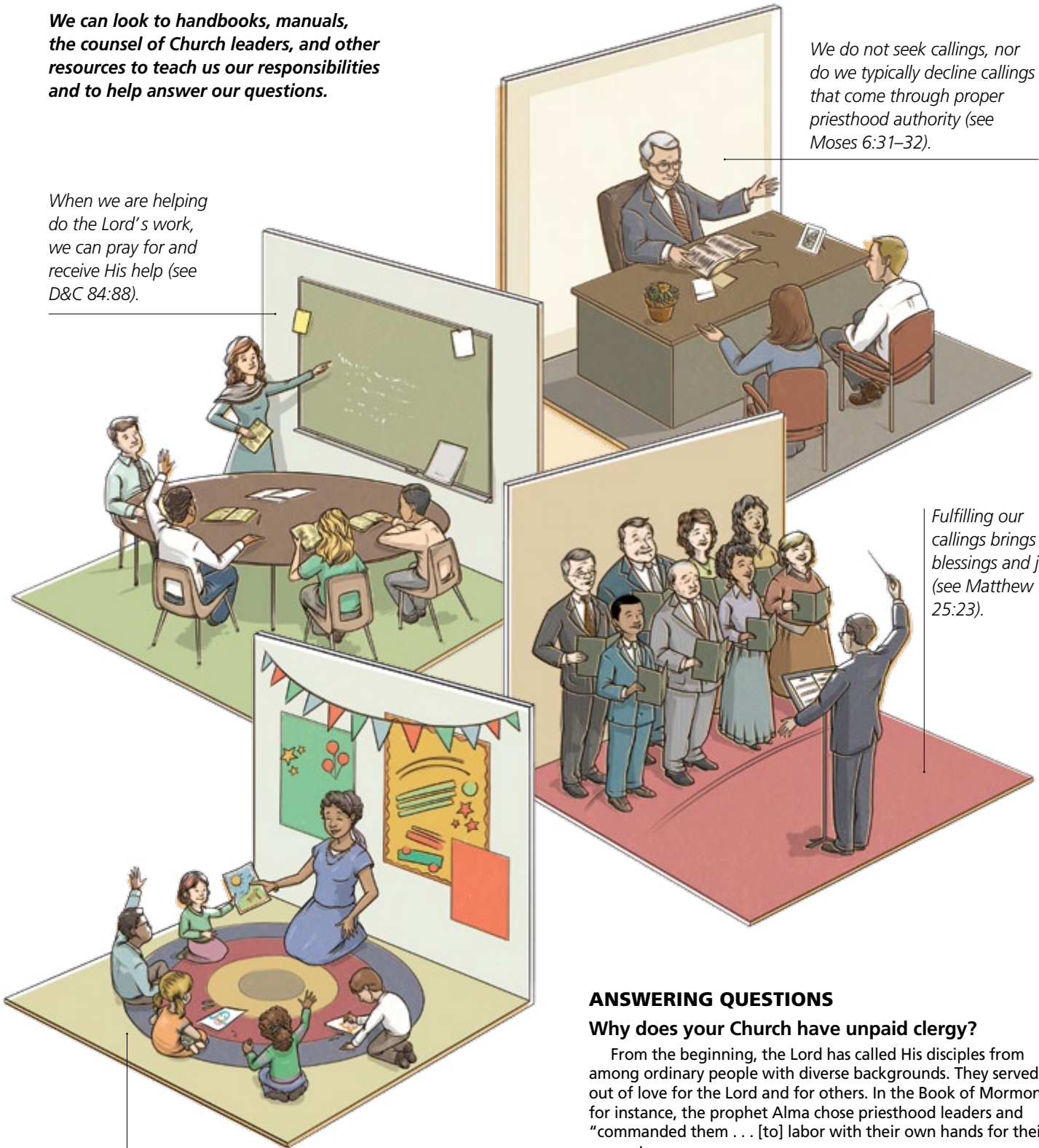
We can look to handbooks, manuals, the counsel of Church leaders, and other resources to teach us our responsibilities and to help answer our questions.

When we are helping do the Lord's work, we can pray for and receive His help (see D&C 84:88).

We do not seek callings, nor do we typically decline callings that come through proper priesthood authority (see Moses 6:31–32).

Fulfilling our callings brings blessings and joy (see Matthew 25:23).

All callings are equally important; the Church needs nursery leaders as much as Relief Society presidents (see 1 Corinthians 12:14–18). How we serve is more important than where we serve.



ANSWERING QUESTIONS

Why does your Church have unpaid clergy?

From the beginning, the Lord has called His disciples from among ordinary people with diverse backgrounds. They served out of love for the Lord and for others. In the Book of Mormon, for instance, the prophet Alma chose priesthood leaders and “commanded them . . . [to] labor with their own hands for their support. . . .

“And the priests were not to depend upon the people for their support; but for their labor they were to receive the grace of God” (Mosiah 18:24, 26; see also 2 Nephi 26:29–31; Articles of Faith 1:5).

Likewise in our day, a call to serve gives us the opportunity to help others and to develop and share our talents and spiritual gifts. We are amply repaid for our service by blessings from the Lord.