

Consider Your Ways, and from This Day Will the Lord Bless You

Elder **Ciro Schmeil**, *Seventy*

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION · SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026 · OCTOBER 2026 GENERAL CONFERENCE

THE BIG IDEA

When I consider my ways and put my covenants with Jesus Christ first, He makes my weak things strong and blesses me from that day on.

You'll need: A paper cup with a few pencil holes poked in the bottom, a pitcher of water, a bowl or sink, and tape.

1 HOOK

2 MIN

OBJECT RIDDLE Hold the cup over a bowl and pour in water. Ask: what's it like to work really hard and end up with almost nothing? The prophet Haggai described it as earning wages and putting them into a bag with holes (Haggai 1:6).

Then: The people of Israel were super busy, but the Lord said they had sown much and brought in little. Why? They had stopped rebuilding the temple. The Lord's counsel: "Consider your ways." (Haggai 1:5)

2 KEY TEACHINGS FROM ELDER SCHMEIL

8–10 MIN

1 Two divine helps: Jesus Christ and our covenants

"Our Savior, Jesus Christ, and our covenants are essential to guide us through the covenant path and help us overcome our challenges and weaknesses."

— Elder **Ciro Schmeil** · exact words

FOR AGES 8–11: MAKE IT CONCRETE

The Lord promises that if we're humble and have faith in Him, He will make weak things become strong (Ether 12:27). That's for spelling tests, tempers, and shyness too.

DEEP CUT · AGES 12–16

Elder Schmeil explained faith this way: "To be receptive to the will of God, we must have faith in Christ, which means that we trust Him even when we don't have all the answers." Do you have to have all the answers to trust Him?

2 Yoked with the Savior

"It is through covenants that we become yoked with the Savior Jesus Christ and our burdens become lighter."

— Elder **Ciro Schmeil** · exact words

FOR AGES 8–11: MAKE IT CONCRETE

A yoke is a wooden beam that links two oxen so they pull together. Jesus said His yoke is easy and His burden is light (Matthew 11:28–30). When you're yoked with Him, He pulls with you.

DEEP CUT · AGES 12–16

About the sacrament: "In the sacrament prayer we have a good reminder that we do not need to be perfect to partake of the sacrament." He shared Elder Renlund's warning that a day will come when you hesitate to go to church, and his promise that if you go anyway, blessings will keep you firm.

3 Consider your ways

“Although they were doing much, they were not accomplishing much because God’s holy house was not a priority in their lives.”

— Elder Ciro Schmeil · exact words

FOR AGES 8–11: MAKE IT CONCRETE

As soon as the Israelites started rebuilding the temple, the Lord said: “From this day will I bless you.” (Haggai 2:19)
Not someday. From that day.

DEEP CUT · AGES 12–16

“Heavenly Father is not asking us to physically build the temple, but He is asking us to build a strong relationship with Him and His Son, Jesus Christ, through our covenants.” Where might your family be doing much but not accomplishing much?

3 INTERACTIVE MOMENT

2–3 MIN

PATCH THE HOLES

Ask the kids: what are some holes that leak our family’s time and energy? (Too much screen time, rushing, skipping prayers, busy every night.) Then tape over one hole for each covenant-keeping habit they name: prayer, scriptures, the sacrament, the temple. Pour the water again.

Reveal: Less leaking. Elder Schmeil said God will magnify our efforts as we consider our ways and adjust. Haggai’s people didn’t have to do more; they had to put first things first.

4 TALK ABOUT IT

3 MIN

YOUNGER (8–11)

When could you use Jesus’s help pulling something heavy, like the oxen in the yoke?

OLDER (12–16)

If you honestly considered your ways, what’s one thing you do a lot of that isn’t accomplishing much?

5 RECAP: THE KIDS EXPLAIN IT

2 MIN

Ask the kids to explain: What did the bag with holes teach? What two divine helps did Elder Schmeil name? What did the Lord say the moment Israel started rebuilding?

Listen for: Jesus Christ and covenants. Yoked with Him, burdens are lighter. You don’t have to be perfect to take the sacrament. Put first things first. From this day will I bless you.

6 TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST

1 MIN

Elder Schmeil said: “God knows what is best for us and is eager to bless us.” A parent shares a time putting covenants first made life work better, and your witness that the Lord keeps His promises.

7 THIS WEEK, AS A FAMILY

1 MIN

ONE THING TO DO

This week, hold a five-minute family check-in: each person names one covenant habit to put first and one thing to cut back.

☐ Mon ☐ Tue ☐ Wed ☐ Thu ☐ Fri ☐ Sat ☐ Sun

Scripture: Haggai 1:5–7; Haggai 2:19; Ether 12:27; Matthew 11:28–30 · **Full talk:** [churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/48schmeil](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/48schmeil)

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