BUILDING ZION
Through Student Living
“There is an urgency and an energy coming from Heaven about this effort on the campus.”

“Student Living provides a blueprint for us to build little Zions in our apartments so we can build Zion in our homes.”

—Student Living Guidebook

“If you are true to your covenants, if you will act in faith to help your roommates and your friends, you will learn how to build Zion together. The spirit of Zion and the patterns of Zion will get into your hearts, and you will build Zion wherever you go.”

—Kim B. Clark
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The three guiding principles of Student Living are:

**LOVE**
Love for God engenders a genuine love and concern for roommates.

**SHARED RESPONSIBILITY**
Roommates are their brother’s keeper and share responsibility for creating an atmosphere of righteous living in the apartment.

**MUTUAL RESPECT**
Roommates live the Golden Rule (see Matthew 7:12) and value one another as sons and daughters of God.

VIDEOS

STUDENT LIVING: A PATTERN FOR BECOMING LIKE THE SAVIOR
IT'S NOT WHERE YOU LIVE, BUT HOW

Student Living Lessons:

**LESSON ONE >**
How Can I Build Zion in My Own Apartment?

**LESSON TWO >**
What Impact Can My Love for God Have on My Relationships with My Roommates?

**LESSON THREE >**
How Can I Show Love for My Roommates in Practical Ways?

**LESSON FOUR >**
What Does It Mean to Be My Brother’s Keeper?

**LESSON FIVE >**
In What Practical Ways Can I Exemplify Mutual Respect in My Apartment?

**LESSON SIX >**
How Can I Be a Better Roommate?

RESOURCES

ROOMMATE COUNCIL

THE STUDENT LIVING ROOMMATE GUIDE
“The apartment represents the most natural and effective place for students to learn and apply these principles. By so doing, students will develop qualities, form habits, acquire skills, and establish patterns that will strengthen relationships with roommates and engender a spirit of unity, integrity, responsibility, forgiveness, and love in the apartment—all of which will serve to bless future homes and families and prepare students for service in the Church, community, and workplace.”

—Student Living Guidebook

“What is the practical work required of you in your apartments and homes that will create and cultivate a culture of Zion? Student Living provides an answer. Allow me to clarify one very important point: Student Living at BYU-Idaho is not a program. It does not require registration or sign-ups. Student Living is a model that governs the way we live through the application of basic principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ. As BYU-Idaho students, you are all inherently and automatically enlisted in Student Living.”

—Troy Dougherty
BECOMING THROUGH STUDENT LIVING

THE CHALLENGE TO BECOME
“In contrast to the institutions of the world, which teach us to know something, the gospel of Jesus Christ challenges us to become something.”
—Dallin H. Oaks

GOOD NEIGHBORS
“We . . . want an environment on this campus where appropriately and genuinely concerned ‘neighbors’, in the true scriptural sense of the word neighbor, would remind, help, and encourage [one another] to consistently think, speak, and act in a way that invites the Spirit of the Holy Ghost among us.”
—David A. Bednar

MEN AND WOMEN OF GREATER INTEGRITY
“Student Living encourages students to hold themselves and others accountable for acting and living in accordance with the promises and covenants they have made.”
—Student Living Guidebook

NATURAL LEADERS
“For BYU-Idaho students, apartment leadership is natural and often unassuming; it is leadership with a small ‘l’. Small ‘l’ leadership occurs without status or station; it is authentic and selfless. It is equally proactive in nature—strengthening and building others by precept and example.”
—Student Living Guidebook

VIDEOS
A STUDENT LIVING APARTMENT
“Our mission is to help students become disciples of the Savior and leaders in their families, in the Church, and in the world around them. Student Living, a new model for single-student housing, has recently been introduced on campus and is at the heart of achieving the university’s mission. This concept has been approved by the Board of Trustees and is being implemented in all approved housing.

“Because our students have great capacity, faith, and ability, we decided to give them more responsibility. Within the Student Living process, students play a central role in governing what goes on in their apartments—to watch out for each other, to take care of each other, and to help each other live the gospel.

“As BYU-Idaho implements Student Living, our foremost desire is to create an integration—a true unity of principle—among everyone involved. This includes apartment managers, students who live in approved housing, wards and stakes on campus, and the university. Student Living is specifically designed to bring these entities together in a way that will significantly bless the lives of students with happiness and righteousness.

“Now, Student Living as I mentioned, was presented to the board a couple of weeks ago. We had discussed it with them extensively, but we went formally to the Board, presented the whole idea of an educational program—responsibility on the students—grounded in principles and doctrines of the gospel relying on the Holy Ghost to help guide us. And they approved it with great enthusiasm. In fact, after the vote was taken—it was unanimously approved—President Eyring said something that I would like to comment on. He said, ‘We have just approved Zion.’ What he meant was that this Student Living concept embodies in it the principles of Zion.

“And so, in that meeting in which there sat the First Presidency—President Monson was at the head—his two counselors were on either side of him, and Elder Nelson, Elder Ballard, Elder Bednar, Elder Snow from the Presidency of the Seventy, Sister Beck, and Sister Dalton were the Board and they were arrayed there and they were all in support. Now, what President Eyring meant was that we have just lifted our hands to affirm and vote for the principles of Zion. And that is in fact what Student Living is and what we are trying to do with it.

“We are trying to help students create little Zions in their apartment and Zion on the campus so that this will be a place where we will be of one mind and one heart where we will live in righteousness together and there will be no poor among us—no poor in spirit, no poor in love or support or of the resources they need to accomplish the Lord's purposes. It's not just for what happens on this campus. We want our students to live in a place where they learn what Zion is and what it takes to build it, so they can go out and all their lives build Zion, preparing the earth for the coming of the Lord.

“And there is an urgency and energy that is coming from Heaven about this effort on the campus. Student Living is part of it, and there are many other things that are going on. But, I can testify to you that there is an energy about this and a sense of urgency that is coming from the Lord about moving this work forward in an accelerated way.”
Student Living Sub-Principles

LOVE

• Love thy neighbor as thyself
• Love is the beginning, the middle, and the end of the pathway of discipleship
• Love strengthens obedience
• Serving others is a reflection of love
• Love requires action

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

• Am I my brother’s keeper?
• Roommates get involved
• Roommates refer for help when needed
• Roommates are responsible for one another
• Roommates strengthen on another

MUTUAL RESPECT

• An expression of Christ-like living
• Roommates value and respect one another
• Respect for others shows reverence for God and His creations
• Roommates live the Golden Rule
• Respect leads to a happier apartment