

# Charlotte Mason Methodology in an LDS Home

by Kathryn Louis

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**Websites:** MilestonesAcademy.com,  
LearningHomeschool.com, LearningHomeschoolMentor.com

**Books Authored:** The Pantry Principle, The New Pantry Principle, Homeschool Blast Off: From the Basement to the Moon in 35 days, Lessons in the English Language for the LDS Child Levels A-D, Levi's Life, The Three Baers, Discovering the Third Day: Botany, Discovering the Fourth Day: Astronomy, Scholarship and the Productive Life, Wisdom, Stature, Favor: Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Body

## Stories:

## Quotes:

1. "Education is a discipline—that is, the discipline of the good habits in which the child is trained. Education is a life, nourished upon ideas; and education is an atmosphere—that is, the child breathes the atmosphere emanating from his parents; that of the ideas which rule their own lives." CM, V2, P247
2. "A parent's chief duty is to form in his child right habits of thinking and behaving. Next duty is to nourish the child daily with loving, right, and noble ideas." CM, V2, P228
3. "Three Foundation Principles.—Three principles which underlie the educational thought of [the Charlotte Mason Method] and the furtherance of which some of us have deeply at heart, are: a) The recognition of authority as a fundamental principle, as a universal and as inevitable in the moral world as is that of gravitation in the physical; b) the recognition of the physical basis of habits and of the important part which the formation of habits plays in education; c) the recognition of the vital character and inspiring power of ideas." CM, V3, P126
4. "It begins because the mother lacks a sense of duty--she thinks she is free to choose for herself what her child can and can't do, as if the child were hers alone to do with as she likes. The child never comes to realize that his mother is bound to a higher law than her own whims--he never learns that she can't let him break his sister's toys, or stuff himself with cake, or make everyone around him miserable, because it isn't right. The child needs to see that his parents are bound by the same codes of right and wrong that he is. Their 'no' isn't to please their own

*whims but because they cannot allow him to do wrong. When children understand that, they generally comply willingly. To have to reason with a child to win his compliance is usually a bad idea and compromises the parent's dignity. If a child understands from his mother's tone and facial expression that she cannot allow a thing as a matter of principle of right or wrong, he will sense that her mind can't be changed and he won't try to challenge or persuade her." CM, V1*

5. "...natural, easy, yielding, unobtrusive, simple as the ways of Nature herself; yet watchful, careful, all-pervading, all compelling...the parent who sees his way—that is, the exact force of method—to educate his child, will make use of every circumstance of the child's life almost without intention on his own part, so easy and spontaneous is a method of education based upon Natural Law." CM, V1, P8
6. "People are naturally divided into those who read and think and those who do not read or think; and the business of schools is to see that all their scholars shall belong to the former class; it is worthwhile to remember that thinking is inseparable from reading which is concerned with the content of a passage and not merely with the printed matter."

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Kathryn Louis (aka Ginger Conrad) and her husband, Joseph, homeschooled their children in one form or another since 1982 in the states of Washington, Hawaii, and Utah.