

The Gospel News

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Going Beyond the Building



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"The Harvest Truly Is Plenteous, but the Labourers Are Few"

By Brother George A. Kovacic

While meditating one morning, a thought came to me concerning the importance of our laboring in the vineyard. And with that thought came this song into my mind:

*See the laborers in the vineyard,
Count their number, note the few.
Heed the word, the invitation,
One last call, a call for you.
Cast your lot and choose your people,
Stand today and be a man.
Time is fleeing, night's approaching,
Work the vineyard while you can.*

The Songs of Zion, No. 32, "One Last Pruning"

In the scriptures, the illustration of a vineyard is used as a recurring theme. It is a call to diligence and persistent work in service to the Lord. The vineyard represents not just the world in which we live, but the individuals with whom we interact and have a chance to uplift, plus a means of sharing the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A laborer in the vineyard is one who willingly answers the divine call, dedicating heart and strength to cultivating spiritual fruit—whether by teaching, preaching, comforting, serving, or simply loving those around us. Laboring is not a passive acceptance, rather it is being in an active partnership with the Lord in His redemptive work. The vineyard, in turn, cannot remain unattended. It requires constant attention. That attention requires much prayer, faith, and in certain situations, even fasting.

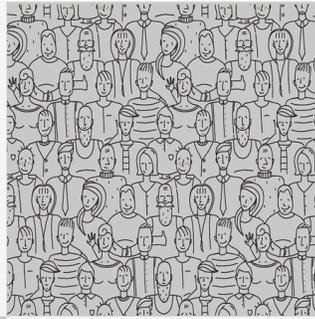
We read and know of many who heeded such a call with extraordinary zeal, laboring with unwavering faith. Their stories remind us that the number of true laborers may be few, but the impact of their devotion is immeasurable.

(Continued on page 4)



FAMOUS MEETINGS
(and a couple infamous)

Mosiah 27.
A meeting between a heavenly being and a man who would be a great leader.



October 8 – 12, 2025.
A bunch of meetings of brothers, sisters, children, and friends. All to glorify God.

Alma 17 brings us the story of 5 men meeting to recount their missionary stories.



Genesis 4:8 speaks of brothers and their sacrifices, who, unfortunately, weren't 'able' to get along.



Exodus 3:1-10.
A pretty heated encounter. Yet, also somewhat consuming. Or not.



John 4:1-26.
A chance meeting that changed a woman's life with a different kind of water.

Ether 3 gives us the story of a man with no name meeting the one we're named for and their stoney relationship.



Matthew 26:14-16.
A clandestine meeting that cost a group some silver and a man great sorrow.



BFTP Blast From The Past

By Alex Giovannone

Manila, the modern-day capital of the Philippines, was liberated by Allied Forces in February of 1945. In the months following, a member of the Church was stationed at the military base in the city. One evening in October, he asked the Lord about the future progress of the Church, desiring to know when and where the Gospel would spread.

That night, he dreamed that he was standing outside a large building back in the United States. A brother of the priesthood was sending brothers out of the building two by two. When all had left, the organizer remained alone.

The dreamer approached and asked what was going on. The organizer responded: "Those brothers have just left for various towns and cities in the United States to make connections. We are going to establish a base in the United States with a main switchboard."

(Continued on page 5)





Purpose Statement

- To fulfill the plan of God by bringing salvation through Christ to all people.

Mission Statement

- The Church of Jesus Christ will teach the Gospel to all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things commanded by Jesus Christ, while working to draw Israel to Christ through efforts focused on the indigenous peoples of North, Central, and South America

Vision Statement

- Living and worshipping in unity and righteousness will result in the fullness of God's Spirit and power among the Saints, culminating in continuous growth of the Church and fulfillment of Christ's promises concerning His Kingdom on Earth.



"Opening Night" By Brother Doug Obradovich

"Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4:17)

The "Handwriting on the Wall" included a word, TEKEL, which meant, "Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting." The king was being told he had been evaluated and had failed. It's unnecessary to have this inscription scrawled across our specific living room walls, as Romans 3:23 speaks to our general condition, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Paul's words, when coupled with Christ's warning, point out we have clearly been "found wanting" and need to remedy our situation.

We most likely digest the phrase, "the kingdom of heaven is at hand" in relation to our own wellbeing. This seems Jesus' intended first purpose. Repenting is simply feeling and showing one is sorry, to rectify a wrong committed. Christ doesn't hold forgiveness over our heads in a power move, as we might. When we sincerely apologize, He sincerely forgives—immediately! But is "Repent!" a message reserved only for the first-time sinner? Can it also be a dispatch to the penitent Saint regarding the maintenance of

one's soul? While it applies to both, this message cannot end solely in self-serving applications.

Consider the individual looking for spiritual guidance at work or school, within your family or community or even someone you happen upon in a coffee shop. "The kingdom of heaven is at hand" is for all these individuals, and you may be their only avenue to their Savior. Have you cleansed yourself in preparation for such an opportunity? Have you "weighed" yourself "in the balance" to assure you are ready to represent? Have you "studied" for this chance to "show thyself approved?"

If not, simply, "Repent!" Then know "the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and it just may be by your hand that "the kingdom of heaven" will be introduced. Even if you've been serving God for years, for that person in your community, that co-worker, or even that person standing in line waiting for their mocha frappuccino, it's their "Opening Night" to the "Kingdom of heaven," and the spotlight is shining directly on you!

Our trainer was addressing the importance of giving one's best in every instance. He told us about asking his father, a Broadway actor, how he remained passionate six months into one of his plays. He answered, "Every day I tell myself, 'You may have done this play 200 times, but for the people in the seats, it's Opening Night!'"

In this month's verse, Jesus was warning us to consider our current status. Daniel 5:27 captured a similar message written (possibly by the finger of God) on the walls of King Belshazzar's palace.

I sat and pondered upon these things and considered the Great Work of the Lord, not just in our time but in times past. I love to read of the evangelism of many great men such Paul, with Barnabas and then with Silas and Timothy. I also have an admiration for the Sons of Mosiah and their evangelistic zeal amongst the Lamanites.

However, there are two men that for years have been my favorite laborers: Nephi and Lehi, the sons of Helaman, Jr. It is their missionary efforts I wish to delve into for the remainder of this article.

Their missionary journey begins to take shape in Helaman Chapter 5. It is noted that this is thirty years before the sign of Christ’s birth. Nephi had been the Chief Judge, but he turned those duties over to another so he could focus on preaching the word of God along with his brother Lehi. They both were discouraged that the Nephites, who were stiffnecked, stubborn, and obstinate, were becoming more numerous.

IMPORTANCE OF GODLY, FATHERLY INSTRUCTION

They reflected upon the words which their father Helaman spoke unto them:

“Behold, my sons, I desire that ye should remember to keep the commandments of God; and I would that ye should declare unto the people these words. Behold, I have given unto you the names of our first parents who came out of the land of Jerusalem; and this I have done that when you remember your names ye may remember them; and when ye remember them ye may remember their works; and when ye remember their works ye may know how that it is said, and also written, that they were good.”—Helaman 5:6

Giving them further Godly and fatherly advice he continued –

“And now my sons, behold I have somewhat more to desire of you, which desire is, that ye may not do these things that ye may boast, but that ye may do these things to lay up for yourselves a treasure in heaven, yea, which is eternal, and which fadeth not away; yea, that ye may have that precious gift of eternal life, which we have reason to suppose hath been given to our fathers.”—Helaman 5:8

Let us look at a summary of what these two dedicated men did once they set their eyes on bringing souls back into the fold of God.

THE LAND BOUNTIFUL, RECLAIMING THE LOST

They started out in the Land Bountiful among their own, the people of Nephi. Working to reclaim them in the cities of Bountiful, Gid, and Mulek. From there it says that they traveled southward to the land of Zarahemla, which at that time was under control of the Lamanites.

It states that they preached with such great power that those Nephites who were dissenters confessed their sins, were baptized, and returned to the Nephites and did their best to repair the wrongs they had committed. It is marvelous how the Spirit of God can work on sinners!

THE LAND ZARHEMLA, RECLAIMING THOSE THAT ARE BLIND

Next, they turned their sights on the Lamanites in the land of Zarahemla and preached with great power and authority. Their preaching had such a great effect on the Lamanites that eight thousand of them were converted to the Lord and baptized unto repentance! Can you imagine how long it must have taken to have baptized that many repentant souls? It might have taken several weeks. Those must have been some outstanding meetings, because they were also convinced of the errors of their fathers’ traditions—that being the hatred they had toward the Nephites and feeling that their birthrights were stolen from them. When the Lord does His work, He does it perfectly.

THE LORD BARES HIS ARM AND DISPLAYS HIS POWER

From that blessed conversion site Nephi and Lehi journeyed to the land of Nephi, where they were captured by the Lamanite army and ended up in prison. This is where some of God’s greatest power will be displayed.

After being imprisoned for several days with no food or water, it is in the mind of those in the Lamanite army to kill Nephi and Lehi. However, the Lord has other plans. As the army enters the prison, our two courageous missionaries are encircled by fire. They are not burned, but it stops the Lamanites in their tracks from harming them. As this fire encircled Nephi and Lehi they spoke:

“Fear not, for behold, it is God that has shown unto you this marvelous thing, in the which is shown unto you that ye cannot lay your hands on us to slay us.”—Helaman 5:26

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Holidays and Holy Days *By Brother Mark Kovacic*

You may ask what's the difference between holidays and holy days. Let's start with holidays. They are in honor or in remembrance of a person or event, and are often secular and may involve traditions like gatherings or celebrations. In the United States, there are nine federal holidays, each of which is one day and generally attached to a person (e.g., Columbus) honoring his achievement, or a group of persons (e.g., Presidents Day) reminding us of the leaders God has provided. The holiday that comes closest to a non-secular celebration is Thanksgiving, in which everybody can be thankful regardless of who you are or where you come from.

Now Holy days, in a religious sense, are "set apart" by God for His people. They frequently have associated practices and traditions, including attending services at places of worship such as churches, synagogues, or mosques, as well as reading spiritual texts or performing particular rituals. Most holy days last for several days.

The Lord gave the children of Israel holy days called "feasts," to remember the great things He did for them, as well as the trials they endured in the wilderness. Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, kept the Passover with his apostles, and some references are made in the New Testament as directed by God to Moses. (See John 19:31)

So where does this lead us? We are not bound to the Law of Moses (see Acts 15). But we acknowledge that some people have been used by God to perform certain tasks; should we set aside September 21 (Moroni visits Joseph Smith); the Priesthood Restored (May 15, 1829); or the Lord's calling of William Bickerton to continue the Church, etc.?

Holy Days serve some purpose and use, and some people feel compelled to celebrate personal days. Apostle Paul wrote to the Saints in Rome, "One man esteems one day above another; another every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (Romans 14:5). As a Church, we have been a forward-looking people (e.g., Gathering of Israel, New Jerusalem, Choice Seer). If you were to ask me my opinion (and this is an editorial page), I prefer being a forward-looking person with an occasional peek at the past to glean life-learning accounts.

(Blast From The Past - continued from page 2)

So, the dreamer asked about the Philippines. The organizer continued: "After the main switchboard is completed...we will then make connections elsewhere. I have in my hands a roll of plans which have a bearing on the future. These plans are secret for the present and I cannot reveal them." He then began to unroll the papers and while doing so he said, "But I can say this much; the time is going to come when connections will be made not only in the United States, but..." He pointed to the plans, which read: "TO EVERY KINDRED, TONGUE, AND NATION." He then added, "That's all for now; the complete details will be revealed in the future."

At the time of writing, the Church has over 400 members in the Philippines! Still, we have a lot of work before us. We may not know the full extent of His plans, but even so, the Lord has placed us and revealed to us the details we need to continue building His kingdom today.

Detroit Inner City Mission Youth in Action

By Sister Angelica Risola

Our theme for the Inner City Mission Youth in Action was “serve.” A simple, yet very powerful word. The scripture referenced for the theme was Mosiah 2:17, which states, “when ye are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of your God.” Throughout the week, we reflected this verse by selflessly serving the community and branches around us with love and humility. In doing so, our group was knit closely together in unity and experienced a great feeling of joy.

We started off the week in a spirit of humility by practicing the beautiful ordinance of feet washing. Afterwards, a brother received the gift of tongues, followed by the word of the Lord: “Thus saith the Lord, your prayers have entered My throne room and they smell sweet. Thus saith the Lord, I’ve heard them and My hand has been moved.” During the preaching service, a brother was given a vision where he saw 12-foot-tall angels around the building. He started to fly through the neighborhood in his vision, and saw the same type of angels walking the streets, and their feet were on fire. The Lord then spoke, saying, “I have dispatched a legion of My angels to go before thee and to make the way. If My children go with the courage of David, they will see My hand move.”

The first half of the week, we had the ability to visit various branches throughout the Great Lakes region and have a singspiration, game night, and ice cream social. This included a wonderful time of fellowship and testimony. We ended the week with bilingual (English-Spanish) tent meetings where some of our young people were able to serve as interpreters. The young people also rotated in groups, helping with activities

for kids during the meeting. In preparation for the tent meetings, we canvassed the neighborhood, nearby park, and local businesses every chance we had, and were blessed by the receptivity of the people we encountered. One woman we talked to possessed a troubled spirit. As she attended the first tent meeting, she was prayed over by each elder. There was no immediate healing, but the Lord told us to let Him do His perfect work, which also meant in His timing. The next day, she returned with a noticeably more peaceful spirit, and has since returned to the Inner City Mission twice and has fully recovered. Praise God!

Aside from canvassing, we serviced the community by making and passing out helping bags, singing the Songs of Zion in the park, and volunteering at Gleaner’s Food Bank, where we packaged 19,000 meals! Our Youth in Action group had a strong desire to work for the Lord and they were used in a myriad of ways, from testimony and song to cleaning the branch and teaching chapel lessons. They were willing to help with anything at any time. It was beautiful to see everyone use their talents to glorify our God and spread His gospel.

A special thanks is due to all the brothers and sisters who made this week possible, from meal prep and housing to providing prayer, encouragement, and presence throughout the week. Those who were there can attest to the love of God felt and the amazing things witnessed during this week. Let us continue to go out and serve our branches, families, and communities with charity, knowing that when we do so, we serve our Heavenly Father.



Tse Bonito Mission Youth In Action

By Brother Connor Griffith and Brother Robert Palensar

The theme of this year's tent meetings in Tse Bonito was "Built Upon the Rock," based on Matthew 7:24-25, which talks about likening yourself unto the wise man who built his house on the rock.

We started the week with a five-and-a-half-hour Church service on Sunday, filled with many experiences. There was such a beautiful spirit there; almost every single person in the congregation got prayed for. That Sunday, Sister Laverne Olvera experienced the Lord speaking to her that we all need to sanctify ourselves and pour out all our hearts.

Monday evening, we had a beautiful feet washing service. On Tuesday, the Tse Bonito mission put on a 5k and a Cornhole tournament, which had a great turnout from the Church as well as the community. Canvassing for the tent meetings and Vacation Bible School took place throughout the week at businesses and neighborhoods in the areas surrounding Tse Bonito.

On Wednesday, the Youth in Action were allowed to go on a hike up to the Standing Rock while Brother Larry Watson discussed the various experiences he and others had in that area. We hiked to the top of the mountain to pray for the land, and as the group started praying, Brother Justin Benyola looked up and saw an eagle in the sky circling us. After this eagle had left, two more came flying by us, and the whole YIA group on that mountain was able to witness them.



The tent meetings themselves were wonderful, and during that time, the YIA participants helped run the Vacation Bible School, which also had a great turnout, with about 20-30 kids. The choir sang during the tent meetings on Friday and Saturday, after only 3 or 4 days of practicing, which was also a huge blessing.

After the tent meetings, many visitors asked for prayer, and on Sunday afternoon, two baptisms of new members of the Pinetop Branch. During the extended tour, participants contacted as many people who had visited the tent meetings as they could, and had some great interactions over the phone.

Besides the Youth in Action group, we thank God for the many who traveled to Tse Bonito from throughout the domestic Church, east and west, to lend their support in so many ways. It was a time of fellowship and hard work, and everyone who made the effort to attend was truly blessed.



YIA participants' quotes expressing what it was like to attend both the Inner City Detroit, MI, YIA and Tse Bonito, NM, YIA

"I was very blessed to be able to attend the YIAs in the Inner City branch and Tse Benito. There was a very strong spirit of unity among all the young people, and we all had very strong desires to labor diligently for the Lord. We were able to witness many different experiences and miracles that took place. These tours were a life-changing experience and very impactful towards my spiritual life and walk with God." - Brother Benjamin Bicelis, Charlotte Area, NC Branch

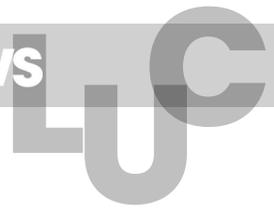
"When we, members of The Church of Jesus Christ, declare our desire to surrender obedience to our Lord, we are asked two important questions that I'm sure many of us are familiar with. Even after baptism, when we fall short of the beautiful covenant we have with Him, Jesus looks down on us from on high, patiently waiting for us to seek His forgiveness because of His unfailing love for us. To me, being a member of this church means putting this covenant into action; serving and worshipping God in spirit and in truth, not only when it is convenient, but all the days of our lives to the best of our capability. I praise God for answering my prayers by giving me new opportunities to labor for Him, from stepping into my new role working with the Gospel News, to attending my second and third Youth In Action tours this past summer. However, as I reflect on the summer, I've realized that being a missionary is not limited to attending Youth In Actions or outreach efforts throughout the Church, but that we are all missionaries each time we allow the light of Jesus Christ to radiate in and through us. It's allowing our actions to speak volumes so that others see something different in us. Being able to attend both Youth In Action tours this summer has helped me realize that each of us are living witnesses and missionaries wherever we go, and that each of our interactions are opportunities for us to show the love of God, plant a seed, and spread the great news of Jesus Christ." - Brother David Tenorio, Edison, NJ, Branch

"I am glad that I was able to attend and be part of both Youth in Actions and that most of our work, both in Inner City and in Tse Bonito, was working directly among the House of Joseph. There was a great spirit of Unity amidst the opposition in both works, and I'm glad that we are gradually progressing in bringing forth Zion upon this land through the restoration of Joseph to the fullness of the Gospel!" - Brother Josiah Bicelis, Charlotte Area, NC, Branch



"This year, I had the opportunity to be a part of three YIA tours. The first-ever young sister extended tour, the Inner City Mission tour, and the Tse Bonito Branch tour. Each of these tours taught me something very different, and I will be forever grateful for that blessing. The extended tour taught me what it means to be a true missionary. The love, the patience, the strength to endure hardships, and the blessings because of it. I truly fell in love with working with the House of Joseph on this tour. The Inner City YIA taught me unity. That we can't do this alone, we have to work together. "And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4:12). The Tse Bonito tour taught me sanctification. We all must be right before the Lord before we can serve His people. This is my first year of YIA, and it has blessed me beyond measure. Each YIA tour has deepened my love of working with the House of Joseph and strengthened my desire to bring God's people in." - Sister Tessa Parry, Creekside, MI, Branch





Am I All IN? *By Sister Jacqui King*

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God;...let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ...” 1 Peter 4:11.

I read the above verse and was reminded of an experience I had recently heard in which the Lord directed a group that they must be “All In!” When I heard it, I pondered, what does it mean or take to be “all in”? I inquired of the Lord and asked Him to help me see how to do that.

One Sunday, our adult Sunday School lesson was on the parable of the five Wise and five Foolish Maidens. Having heard the account many times, what struck me this time was the realization that they all started out with oil (the Spirit of God) in their lamps, but only half were inspired to take extra oil. I wondered, “Lord, do I forget to check with You when I’m about to do something? Am I so focused on tasks at hand that I don’t purposefully listen for Your instruction

on how to proceed? When You prompt me to share the gospel with someone, do my fears stop me?”

And then, two days later, the Lord inspired me to pick up a small devotional book for a friend. (This is how amazing God is!) I decided to look in the book, but turned to the very last page and the scripture reading was 1 Peter 4:1-11 and the question posed was, “Have you ever gone “all in” for God’s kingdom work?” Why or why not?

Isn’t our God amazing! I have to believe that the experience given to one group about “being all in” was actually a message for me and for all of us. As we strive to further our relationship with God and to draw others to this amazing Gospel, I believe He is inspiring us to work toward “giving our all”. Although it might seem daunting to do so, take courage and strength in knowing that He works with us to support us in our desire to be “All In.”

“The Harvest Truly Is Plenteous, but the Labourers Are Few” - continued from page 4)

After they spoke these marvelous words the earth shook and the walls of the prison did shake but did not collapse. Then a cloud of darkness overshadowed all of them. Then a voice spoke which did pierce them to their very soul as it were above the cloud saying:

“Repent ye, repent ye, and seek no more to destroy my servants whom I have sent unto you to declare good tidings.”
—Helaman 5:29

This episode happened again and again. Three times the voice spoke but the third time was different.

FAITH IN CHRIST CONVERTS AN ARMY

The words spoken the third time were not ones that could be uttered by man; they were then compassed about by darkness. But a man who was a Nephite by birth named Aminadab turned and through the darkness saw Nephi and Lehi speaking to someone. Their faces did shine, and Aminadab called to the others to look at them. They wondered what these things meant and if Nephi and Lehi were speaking to angels. Then they asked an important question: “What shall we do, that this cloud of darkness be removed from overshadowing us?”

In short, Aminadab replied, “You must repent, and cry unto the voice, even until you have faith in Christ....” This is exactly what these Lamanite men did till the darkness was displaced by a ring

of fire that surrounded them, with Nephi and Lehi in the center. Then the Spirit of God came down upon them and entered their hearts, and they spoke marvelous things.

Then a voice came saying, “Peace, peace be unto you, because of your faith in my Well Beloved, who was from the foundation of the world.” Then the heavens opened and angels descended and ministered unto them. This happened to three hundred of them! Because of this life-changing experience they went forth and testified of these marvelous events and a great part of the Lamanites were convinced and they laid down their weapons of war plus their hatred. Not only this, but they gave up lands that they had taken from the Nephites.

CAN THIS BE A TYPE AND SHADOW OF THINGS TO COME?

As we ponder upon this missionary journey of Nephi and Lehi we wonder, can this be done again in our time? We have to have faith and believe that it is entirely possible. With the power of God and His direction we can certainly attain results like these two of our ancient brothers. It is worth our effort to try as the Saints of God to labor earnestly, seeking out those who are “hungering and thirsting after righteousness.”

*“Heed the word, the invitation,
One last call, a call for you.”*



Joseph Found Favor

Dear Friends,

In our lives, some wonderful things happen. Some sad things and even really bad things can also happen. In the Bible, the story of Joseph gives us a really good example of how not to give up and be defeated. It shows us how God gives us favor after each terrible problem. We just need to trust and thank Him. Joseph came from a huge family with ten older brothers who had different mothers. They hated their younger brother, Joseph, because their dad, Jacob, liked him the best since Jacob loved Joseph's mother best and he was born when his dad was old.

Joseph had big dreams. He dreamed twice of things that showed him all of his family were bowing down to worship him. His older brothers were furious when he told them! And it just got worse when their dad only gave Joseph a beautiful coat with many colors. One day, Joseph came out in the field to bring food to his brothers and they ripped off his coat, tore it up to look like a big wild animal had attacked him, covered it with blood from a sheep, and lied to their dad that Joseph was dead! But they actually sold him to slave takers! Can you imagine Joseph's fear? Slaves could be hit, starved, even killed. In one day he went from favorite son to a captive going far away across the huge desert!

When they got to Egypt, an important leader of the country named Potiphar bought him. Joseph worked hard, and God blessed everything he worked on. Soon Potiphar put him in charge of his entire home and money. The only problem was that Potiphar's bad wife wanted hard-working, handsome Joseph to be with her. He refused. She pestered him and when no one was around, grabbed his coat off him. He ran away. She was furious so she started screaming a lie that he had attacked her! Potiphar threw Joseph into a dangerous prison!

God gave Joseph favor with the man who ran the prison (See Genesis 40:21-23). Soon

he was in charge of everything there and the Lord was with him that whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper (go very well). God can do that for us too when we pray, are good, love others, work hard, and thank God.

Time passed as Joseph worked and two men that the Pharaoh, or King, were angry with were sent to the prison. Each of them had a sad dream. God let Joseph understand dreams. Joseph listened and told them one would go back to work for the Pharaoh but the other man would be put to death. When it came to pass, he told the man going back to remember him in prison. The man forgot about him for a few years. Then the Pharaoh had a very scary, upsetting dream. He saw seven big cows followed by seven skinny cows who ate them up. Then he saw seven beautiful ears of corn followed by seven skinny ears which ate them up too. None of the Pharaoh's magicians or fake astrologers knew what the dreams meant.

The other prisoner remembered Joseph telling what his dream meant, and the Pharaoh called for him (See Genesis 41st Chapter). Joseph told the Pharaoh, It is not me that can do this. God will give the Pharaoh an answer of peace.

Joseph listened as Pharaoh told his dreams and then told the Pharaoh, "They are saying there will be seven years of good crops and food. Then there will be seven years of famine (no food). God gave you the dream two times because this thing will begin to

happen very soon. Choose a wise and serious man to start gathering food to store during these good years..."

And the Pharaoh was pleased. He said, "Can we find anyone like this who has the Spirit of God? Joseph, God has shown you this, I am choosing you to do this! You will be in charge of all the land of Egypt!" And he put his gold ring, necklace, and beautiful clothes of a ruling person on Joseph to show that he was now in charge of the whole country.

And Pharaoh's dream came true. Joseph was thirty years old. He travelled all over Egypt collecting one fifth of the corn and goods to be saved for the days of famine coming. God also gave him a wife and two wonderful sons! Joseph went from horrible fear as a slave to be a ruler of Egypt! He prayed to God, worked hard, and God blessed him with people who showed him favor. First was his father, then his slave owner named Potiphar, then the man who ran the prison, and finally the Pharaoh over all of Egypt! They all helped teach Joseph things.

God will bless each of us also. Pray, be fair, and do the work God sets in front of you. He will give you favor with teachers, and others too.

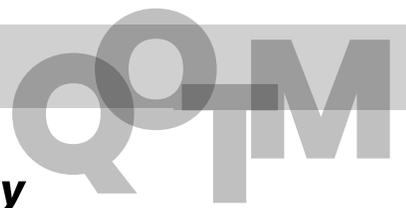
With love,

Your friend and Sister in Christ,

Sister Jan

B L E Z M H M N R C S W E I R
Q Q S D E H T T N E H W C H Y
H U U S M R Z R S W C Q A P N
P H L L G N A K C L A N D L W
Y M X L F S W H O S E K V E E
K F I I E M Z Y T E T Z V D X
A G F W W K G T H G X T J L A
C E A L E Y K M V N W H P F N
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T F P U P J E X L P N O O B Z
R O O D K S A D A E L V S V E

WHEN DO
WE AMAZING
LOVE THINGS
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WILL



How has your experience in outreach or missionary work impacted your view of what it means to be the Church?

"My experience in Missionary work has allowed me to see even more the blessing of the Book of Mormon and how precious it is to have this record of the people of Joseph. Seeing the scriptures come alive in the prophecies we have is truly eye-opening and a huge blessing." - Brother Marc Zaino, Mount Laurel, NJ, Branch

"My experience of being a missionary has changed my perspective on how I view the Church. I began my work in the Muncey Mission in 2024, and I've been coming back and loving every single moment of it. I come to help with the Vacation Bible School they have every year, and it helps me learn so much about Joseph and Israel and how much love and care we have to have for these people. That being said, it has impacted my view as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ because it helps me to understand that even though we can travel to do missionary work, we can always find missionary outreach from wherever we may be living, whether it's family, friends, or those who once attended and don't anymore. Being in Muncey has helped me understand that we have to be patient, no matter the situation in our lives. But as a member, it's helped me see the Church as a way to worship Him while working at the same time." - Brother Nathan Buffington II, Imperial, PA, Branch.

"Working closely with the House of Joseph has allowed me to grow spiritually and has strengthened my faith while providing me with a sense of purpose and a stronger commitment to service. I have been blessed with many precious memories and meaningful, long-lasting relationships. Watching the children we have taught in Vacation Bible Schools over the years grow into beautiful young men and women, raising their own families to love the Lord, who continue to include us in their lives, has been one of the biggest blessings." - Sister Angela Yoder, Imperial, PA, Branch

"The Church of the Lamb of God is of the heart. Only God can see it entirely, and he has shown me that everyone is on some kind of spiritual journey with Him, that as we draw closer, give more of our life to Him, and hand our heart over for renovation and renewal, He will pull us near, expand our capacity, and give us a new heart. One that has been blessed with His warmth and charity, to spread it to those around us. Free of judgment, full of love." - Sister Carlee Alldredge, Fort Worth, TX, Branch

"To go out and do what God's called us as the Church, to invite more future brothers and sisters in love to Him is a privilege and honor to serve Him to the fullest! Thinking of how to answer, and a few scripture references the Holy Spirit brought to me: First, in Luke 15, Jesus refers to leaving the 99 to go find the one lost sheep. The next two are in Mosiah 2:17 and Alma 29:9-10; being able to not only read these scriptures we freely get to read, but actually getting to see for myself by trying and proving them. Especially the outpouring of blessings from the love put out to those who need it and being focused as The Church of Jesus Christ is super special to be a part of!" - Sister Heather Escobar, Forest Hills, FL, Branch

"Being able to do outreach and missionary work with Youth in Action (YIA) this past summer has been life-changing. I've learned to be bold, patient, and to dust off my feet. I had an experience where my group and I were canvassing in the neighborhood surrounding the Detroit Inner City building. Our first interaction with a person was rather discouraging. We encountered a troubled woman, and none of us in the group had encountered anything like this before. But that discouragement was turned into a testimony when God slowly healed her. We got to see her transformation at our tent meetings. And I learned to trust that God has a bigger plan than we can ever imagine; it's in His time, not ours." - Sister Anna Maria Mott, Columbus, OH, Branch



Blessing Bits

BB Baptisms and Blessings in Hopelawn

On Sunday, July 27, 2025 there were two new names written down in Glory – our young brothers Angel and Giovanni Reyes. The Hopelawn Branch started our day at the river joined with brothers, sisters, and friends from all over. Both Angel and Gio were baptized by Brother Jim Calabro supported by our brother Apostles Joel Gehly, Peter Scolaro, and Paul A. Palmieri. After the baptisms we all gathered back at the branch with a full house for a season of singing and praise, followed by our meeting, which began with the bestowal of the Holy Ghost upon our new brothers. Brother Rick Calabro laid hands on Brother Angel and Brother Michael Zaino laid hands on Brother Gio for the reception of the Holy Ghost. We enjoyed a beautiful day, Praise God! - Brother Steve Curtin, Hopelawn, NJ Branch

BB Be Not Discouraged Nor Dismayed

For the past several weeks, I kept finding myself worrying about the future.

Whether it was something that was happening in the next few days or months in advance, I was anxious about everything. I kept praying for peace and just couldn't seem to find it. One day a brother shared a verse with me that brought me peace, and that verse kept popping up everywhere. The verse was Jeremiah 29:11. That same day at the grocery store, I found a notebook with that exact verse on it, and weeks later in a Bible reading plan, it was there as well. I praise God for His great plan and the time He takes to speak to me individually despite my faults. - Sister Anna Maria Mott, Columbus, OH Branch

BB A Beautiful Sunday Experience

In Simi Valley, we had a really blessed meeting recently. There were only ten of us in attendance, but tongues were spoken, and the interpretation was, "My children, My sons and daughters of Zion, I am with you always!" Praise God! - Sister Sharon Church, Simi Valley, CA Mission

Send us your Blessing Bits by contacting Sister Elizabeth McDonnell at eksanchor@gmail.com. [in approximately 150 words].
Answers to Question of the Month to gospelnews@thechurchofjesuschrist.org.



Question for this month:

In what area of your life have you seen God's provision this year, and how has it increased your gratitude?



Answer from last month:

How has your experience in outreach or missionary work impacted your view of what it means to be the Church?

Turn to page 11 for more answers.



Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest. — Isaiah 32:16