


Student Support Program
THE CHURCH OF Jesus Christ

Sharpening Your Spiritual Sight

When you put on godly glasses, your world goes from blurry to brilliant



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I found out that I needed glasses when I was about 12 years old. I was at a large event, and someone pointed out one of the signs in the crowd to me. I tried, but I couldn't read it. I couldn't even make out the letters on it. They were completely blurry.

The thought came up, "Hey, maybe you need glasses?" I kind of doubted that, but I tried on my mom's glasses, and the sign was clear. All the signs were clear! I had been missing out on so much because I simply thought that I was seeing as well as anyone else and nothing better was really possible. After I experienced the power of

corrective lenses, a new world opened up to me.

I'm pretty certain that many others have had a similar experience in their lives. They have gone about their daily routine for many years without knowing that the signs in life don't have to be so blurry. Possibly through an experience like mine, or more likely, through a vision screening test, they learn that they need to get glasses to correct their vision.

Spiritual Sight

At this point, you may see where I'm going with this.

I think that our service to the Lord

often runs parallel to this. For those who have excellent sight and don't need glasses, well, the comparison may not hold up too well. But, the experiences of many who need to wear glasses or contacts in order to see the world clearly serve as a similarity to the walk that each of us has with the Lord.

So, some questions still remain.

Has your heart been touched to prompt you to check your "vision"? Have you experienced God's spirit and you want to see more? Have you committed your life to Christ, and are you striving daily to keep your focus on him? Or, have you

come to the point where the daily focus on Christ is just too hard and you choose to give your glasses a rest for a while, let your eyes focus on some other things for now?

Keeping Things in Focus

Shortly after I realized that I needed glasses, I went to the optometrist and got myself a pair. I liked having them initially, as kind of a novelty, but after a little while they were a pain, and I didn't wear them that much. In eighth grade science, my seat was in the back of the room, so, because I chose not to wear my glasses, I had to copy all of the notes in class off of the girl who sat next to me.

A couple of years later, I started driving, and there was no one to copy from. I had to start wearing them. Given how bad my sight is without them, I have no choice now but to wear them all the time.

Don't allow yourself to be deceived that you need to go through life without seeing clearly.

I do know people who wear their glasses only sometimes. I kind of wonder about this. Why would someone give up the chance to always see clearly? When they put their glasses on

for the first time in a while, I've heard these people say, "Wow, I can't believe how bad my eyes are! I really need to wear these more often."

I think that these people are really missing out on everything that is happening while they aren't wearing their glasses. Imagine how much they miss because only a little bit of what their eyes see is in focus.

Catch the Vision

Keeping Christ in focus daily is so important and often difficult. We only spend a few hours each week in fellowship with the Saints, where the focus comes much more easily. The rest of our week is spent at school or at work or somewhere else where the focus is on anything but Christ.

We need to make the most of the times when we are together with the Saints and use them to strengthen our focus and maintain us through the more difficult times.

One great opportunity for focus that we have available to us every year is GMBA Campout. The time away from our daily tasks — at home, school, or work — and away from the influences of the world, combined with the common goal for all in attendance of receiving God's blessings, provides an environment where focus on Christ becomes much easier.

With many stumbling blocks of the world removed and a clear path available, some find

themselves requesting baptism, wanting to focus their lives on Christ. Others, who once had but lost that focus, find themselves wanting to get it back again — much like the person who hasn't worn their glasses for a long time and then puts them on and realizes how much better it is to see clearly.

Don't allow yourself to be deceived that you need to go through life without seeing clearly. And don't let yourself forfeit clear sight just because you decide that it's too difficult. Christ gave His life for all of our salvation. Get your glasses, and always keep them on.

REFLECT

If a doctor evaluated your spiritual focus right now, what would he say?

What things cause your spiritual vision to become blurry?

What is a "prescription" for better spiritual eyesight?

Are there other young people in your branch who are losing their spiritual focus? How can you help them?

How do events like GMBA Camps and retreats help refocus you?