

We're going

'THE EXTRA MILE'



IN THE AUSTRALIA NORTHEAST MISSION

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Dear Fellow Missionaries:

It has been my pleasure this past week to view the realization of our Heavenly Father's blessings bestowed on us, his servants in the Australia Northeast Mission. During the month of August, 31 of His children accepted the blessings of membership into His kingdom. Comprising those chosen converts were five choice Families, that is, five choice Families enabled themselves to experience the peace and joy that comes from accepting and implementing the gospel of Jesus Christ into every righteous phase of their lives. What greater success could we as missionaries attain than to bring the blessings that come from the Message of the Restoration to Families, when, as a result of the influence of the Holy Ghost, they accept those divine truths and dedicate themselves to follow the Master Jesus Christ through his appointed servants in these latter-days.

In a recent visit from Elder Leslie O. Stone, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve, he gave us important qualities and steps to follow to enable us to reach this, our success, to bring Families to a knowledge of the true Church of Jesus Christ being restored to the earth. Let me review with you these steps.

Before we can be successful in anything we must have a predetermined object or something we want to achieve-this is called a goal. Many of you this past week have felt the personal satisfaction and joy that comes with setting and attaining goals. On the other hand, many of you have felt the discouragement and depression that comes from setting goals and failing to accomplish your righteous desires. The attainment of success in anything, only comes to those who are willing to set goals and have the determination to work with sincere enthusiasm to accomplish those goals. Many of us have dreams but few of us have goals. For those who have set goals have planned out in their minds the action they will take and have chartered themselves a course to reach that specific goal.

May I reiterate what the Lord said to the Prophet Joseph Smith concerning Elders who were having difficulty reaching their goals.

"Behold, I say unto you that it is my will that you should go forth and not tarry, neither be idle but labor with your might-

"Lifting up your voices as with the sound of a trumpet, proclaiming the truth according to the revelations and commandments which I have given you." (Doctrine & Covenants 75:3-4)

No success was ever reached without work. No possession that we have gained or ever will gain can be significant to us unless we have worked to achieve it. Remember we have two years to work and an eternity to think about it.

The importance of this concept was stressed by our late prophet, David O. McKay, when he said, "The good things of life are available to the strenuous struggler."

Not only do our enthusiasm and determination to work help us reach our goals, but our every actions and deeds continue to determine our success. The way we look and act determine whether we will reach our goals or fail. Your personality and attitude of success can open untold doors and you will reach a success "unexpected in common hours".

Another important factor in attaining our desired success is the quality of honesty. We must be honest with the Lord in every respect. How can we as missionaries expect the Lord to bless us

with the realization of our goals when we are not honest with Him. This important concept of honesty was best brought out when He said, "I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise".

Our Heavenly Father guides and directs each of us here, both personally and through a living prophet. His direction covers every aspect in our life, and only by being honest with ourselves and those around us can we ever expect the Lord to help us in our quest for success.

Elder Stone also designated one last very important quality as an ingredient for our success, that is being able to stick to the job. Many of us loose sight of our goals when success is on our door step simply because we are confronted by challenges or we have to do something out of the ordinary. This was best explained when Charles F. Kettering said, "You never stub your toe standing still. The faster you move the more apt your are to stub your toe. But the more apt you are to get somewhere".

May we realize that as missionaries in the Australia Northeast Mission we may sense the importance of setting and attaining our goals. May we take this key of success and put it into every phase of our lives. Only by sanctifying ourselves with renewed dedication will we reach our goals. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

The Lord will direct each of you to succeed if you will put trust in his words and seek constant guidance from him.

May we now set goals with the desire and determination to reach them, no matter what obstacles may stand in our way. That we may always have with us the constant flow of enthusiasm from which ebbs the very spirit of life itself. Only through learning and using these qualities of success can we ever hope to come to a realization of any worthy goal that we aspire to have in our respective callings.

Remember only you, yourself, can incorporate those attitudes into your mission and have them become an active,vibrant part of your spirit. May the Lord bless you as you set your goals to reach them, is my humble prayer.

Faithfully your companion,
J. Martell Bird, President

<u>PERSON</u> <u>BAPTIZED</u>	<u>MEMBERS OF</u>	<u>ELDERS WHO</u> <u>MOTIVATED THEM</u>	<u>HOW</u> <u>CONTACTED</u>
Fox Family (4)	Townsville Branch	Baird & Shaw	Tracting
Solano Family (2)	Nambour Branch	Davis & Morgan	P.C.F.P.
John Mills (1)	Brisbane 3rd Ward	Woolf & Bullen	P.C.F.P.
Jeanette Graham	Brisbane Ward	Bernston & Goldsmith	P.C.F.P.

Monthly Goal	31
Baptisms this week	8
Total this month	31