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Finding

During the last several weeks our emphasis has been – and will continue to be -- on goal setting, planning, and accountability. Increasing our abilities in these three areas will give us greater focus and make daily, weekly, and six week proselyting planning more effective. In addition to goal setting, planning, and accountability, we need to continue improve our “finding” activities.

Missionaries are to build up the Church by finding “them that will receive you” (D&C 42:8). Those we have generally been “kept from the truth because they know not where to find it” (D&C 123:12). Often we do not know who these people are and often they will not, initially at least, recognize that missionaries are the Lord’s servants.

Here are several finding ideas that come from materials we recently received during the 2004 Mission Presidents Seminar.

- Teach members the message of the Restoration and ask for referrals – be kind and complementary, never overbearing.
- Work with the ward council to identify those who have a new baby, are recently moved in, or have had a death in the family.
- Look for opportunities to serve.
- Invite people to attend church.
- Hold member firesides to which they can bring friends that are not of our faith.
- Offer to teach people how to hold a family home evening.
- Prepare a four generation pedigree for a family you find tracting, street contacting, etc. Work closely with your ward or branch. Some stakes are using this type of finding. Become an active part of the activity.
- Invite people to visit www.mormon.org or www.familysearch.org.
- Organize a scripture study class.
- Teach English as a second language.
- Go tracting or street contacting.
- Use Church materials like pass-along cards, DVDs, and brochures.
- Ask investigators and new converts for referrals.
- Work with the public affairs representative for opportunities to get articles published in the local newspaper.
- Ask everyone you meet for referrals -- be kind and complementary, never overbearing.
- Put your name on lists at hospitals or funeral homes as clergy who will talk to people in crisis.

Please review the list and make use of those you feel will most help your area. Be creative and always remember that we can use any honorable means to find people to teach. Work closely with your ward/branch members in focusing your finding efforts.

Remember, the Lord has “suffered you to come unto this place; for thus it was expedient in me for the salvation of souls.” There are many people in this place known as the Canada Edmonton Mission who need the gospel. As we lift up our voices, the promise found in the section 100 of the Doctrine and Covenants – “you shall not be confounded before men” and “it shall be given you...in the very moment, what ye shall say?” (D&C 100:405) – will be fulfilled. Each of us must have the faith to know what to teach and what to do to find those who will receive us.

-President Randall