



# *The Spirit at Work*



**Elder Armstrong writes** – “While contacting names in our Area Book one evening we came across a man named Enrique. We went to his house and knocked on the door and a woman answered. We asked for Enrique and she went and got him. He came to the door holding The Book of Mormon in one hand and reading glasses in the other. Upon talking to him we discovered that he had talked to Elders about four years earlier. They had invited him to church and he attended, but that was the end of their contact. Just a few weeks prior to us finding him he had found the copy of The Book of Mormon. He had been reading and praying for contact from someone from the church. We invited him to church the following day and set up an appointment to start teaching the discussions. He came to church and we were talking to him after the services. He said he felt something special at church, just as he did when he read the scriptures. He then asked us if he could be baptized. We taught him all six discussions in the next month and he continued coming to church. He was baptized on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, and is the newest Priesthood holder in the Spanish Branch. He was a person who had been prepared for this message. I am grateful that I could be there to help him.”

**Sister Williams writes** – “This week we worked out of the *How to Use My Time Wisely* booklet. We had a very effective planning meeting where we scheduled appointments and we set goals according to the key indicators. I felt so much more organized. We have been sorting through our area book and updated it. It felt really great.”

**Elder Southwick writes** – “I still think the most important time of the day is the morning from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. I just love studying the gospel. Sometimes I am in the scriptures as soon as we get home at 9:30. Everyday I have a new question that I want to know the answer to. I love finding new things that I can know and also use in my tracting. There is nothing better than helping someone gain an understanding and the only way that you can help them do that is to have an understanding of it yourself, then the Spirit will take it from there.”

**President Gordon B. Hinckley writes:** I believe in our people's sense of service. I have been in the missions of the Church where we have some 49,000 missionaries. They are there at their own expense and at the expense of their families. They give to the Lord one and a half to two years of their lives. Their days are long, their weeks crowded and arduous. They speak with a persuasive conviction. They bear testimony of the living Christ and of the virtues of His marvelous work.

May I read from a letter received from one of them: <sup>3</sup>The most effective technique we have found in our work is fasting and prayer. We saw how this worked a few weeks ago with an investigator of the Church. He had a number of questions and problems to overcome, and we just didn't seem to get anywhere when we met with him to discuss them. So we would go home to our apartment and ask the Lord to bless him and help him understand what we had explained to him. We felt it was very important that he be baptized, so we asked the Lord to bless him with a desire for baptism. Even up through the sixth lesson he was wavering, so we fasted the day before his baptism, and he has been a faithful member ever since.<sup>2</sup>

One thinks of the words of the Lord to His disciples who complained they could not perform miracles. Said He: <sup>3</sup>This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting<sup>2</sup> (Matt. 17:21).

**Elder Mason writes:** “In Conners Hill, we've had the opportunity over the last couple of months to teach Bill Kwiatek the gospel. It's been such an amazing and testifying experience. Bill has no religious background whatsoever, but he has an amazing amount of faith. Every principle of the gospel he ignites, and wants to learn about. Before his baptism, he and his friendshipper went to Generations, and they picked out some books on Baptism, and he read the book in 2 days. He's studying the scriptures probably about as much as we are too. Anyways, he was baptized on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August, and confirmed the same day. He tried to invite everyone he could to come to his baptism. In all there ended up being around 8 nonmembers there; The very end of the program ended with Bill bearing his testimony, and sharing some experiences about him learning about the gospel. Two of the nonmembers that came were crying by the time that he was done. Then, on Sunday, he met with the Bishop without us even knowing, and asked us if we would come in after church and be a part of him receiving the priesthood. I have no doubt that Bill will be an active, faithful member of the church throughout his lifetime. I know that all of us who taught Bill are better missionaries for having met him.”