Volume 1, Issue 3

Utah Ogden Mission

May 1998

President's Message Act Upon His Word

Dear Elders and Sisters,

General Conference, as always, provides us an opportunity to feast upon the words of Christ. Twice in the 4th chapter of Mark, the Lord cautions us to not only hear but more importantly listen ... and then act upon His words. "If any man have ears to hear, then let him hear."

There seems to be a specific message not only to each of us, but to address each concern. Therefore, let us HEAR and let us ACT.

It is interesting that as we experience major success in our mission, four straight months of 150 or more converts, souls coming to Christ, the adversary has likewise increased his efforts. Read D&C 10: 20 - 27, "And he became Satan, yea, even the devil, the father of all lies, to deceive and to build men, and to lead them captive to his will, even as many as would not hearken unto my voice." (Moses 4: 4)

Let me tell you how I see the adversary attacking our work and the tools he is using. He uses discouragement, depression, illness, distractions and problems at home. Satan's most used approach is discouragement. "You can't do it", he whispers. "It's too late, you've been disobedient in the past, so why change now?" "You're no good." "What's the use?"

These are some of the comments I hear: "No one can teach here!" "Our Stake Mission is the worst! They don't know what they are doing," "My new companion is a DORK. I'll never be able to get along with him or her." "The President is only interested in numbers." Or we might hear Satan suggest to our minds, "You've worked hard, you deserve a play day."

"Thus Satan thinketh to overpower your testimony in this generation, that the work may not come forth in this generation." (D&C 10: 33) HE WANTS YOU TO QUIT TRYING.

Well, guess what? You do have power over the devil, but YOU must choose to exercise it.

The Prophet Joseph Smith taught us, "All beings who have bodies have power over those who do not. The devil has no power over us, only as we permit him."

Elder Wirthlin in his conference address gave us an important quote to live by: "Our path on earth is decided by decisions we make each day." He developed this thought by suggesting our life is like a tapestry we are weaving, as yet unfinished. "We must choose correct threads as we weave the tapestry of our life."

Richard C. Edgley, 1st counselor in the Presiding Bishopric gave us great advice to follow. He asked, "Are we Christians?" Also, "How does the Savior view me?" He said we should be more concerned about our relationship with Christ. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:" (John 10:27)

We can all quote D&C 4. Will you please open your scriptures to read, ponder, study and pray about this section? It tells us "Valiant service" qualifies us for the work. We have been CHOSEN BY GOD AND HIS PROPHET TO DO HIS WORK. It tells us the Godly attributes that qualify us for the work. We all continue to improve our Christlike attributes daily as we serve the Lord. We know, we can see, the ... "FIELD IS WHITE, already to harvest." I testify to you this is just the beginning of your success and the beginning of your coming closer to Christ. It will never cease as long as you desire and seek a closer relationship with your Savior. How do we accomplish this desire? verse 7, "Ask, and ye shall receive; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

President Hinckley constantly reminds us ... "You are a Royal Generation." You cannot back down from doing the Lord's work and with his backing you will be successful. Love the Lord. Love one another. Love the members, Love the prospective members. We are all children of God!!"

We love you, President and Sister Jones

Dear Elders and Sisters,

One of the most important aspects of our labors is faith and hard work. Through our faith and hard work we have seen the fruit of our labors by having over 150 baptisms for four months straight. Way to go!!! That

deserves an attaboy and attagir!!! Much of the success is directly related to "Proselyting for the Elect." For the first couple of months we witnessed a dramatic increase in baptisms, but the enthusiasm has reached a plateau. It's time to rekindle the excitement and confidence in the Lord's program. In order for us to reach the "Miracle" goal of 200 baptisms, we must show our faith and hard work in the Lord's program, PROSELYTING FOR THE ELECT. You are the best of the best. Have fun, be creative, and work hard because it's through hard work that we stay motivated. Remember, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." (James 2: 17)

As you set measurable and attainable goals, plan efficiently everyday, and pray for baptisms the Lord will provide a way and the means possible to accomplish this great and loyal task of bringing souls to Christ. We love you and know that we can do it. Remember that we are on the Lord's side and we will not fail if we are faithful and motivated to baptize. GET UP TO BAPTIZE!!!

Love, Elders Hall and Chilton

A PROMISE FULFILLED

One and one-half years ago Christine Stevens came out of the waters of baptism. After fifteen missionaries had approached her, she finally decided to take the discussions. In the confirmation prayer the Lord made it known that her daughters would follow her into the gospel. Her daughters, Katie and Carrie were there and stated "Mother this is good for you, but there is no way we're going to follow, you've gone off the deep end."

Six months later Elder Jasso was involved in the conversion of Elaine Reynolds, a professional cello player. She was a key instrument in this conversion story. Shortly after joining the Church she became a stake missionary.

A year later we received a phone call from Sister Reynolds telling us that a sweet lady named Carrie Stevens wanted to hear the discussions. We taught Carrie a first discussion. She was extremely well versed in the Bible, and we had a great spiritual experience. As we were

The Vision

Publisher: President Jones
Editor in Chief: Elder Clayton
Editor: Elder Craig

The Vision is published monthly
and distributed at Zone

and distributed at Zone Conferences. Submissions are both welcome and encouraged. If you have suggestions, questions, or comments, please write or call Elder Craig. Please have all submissions in by the first of the month. Send all submissions to:

Attn: The Vision Utah Ogden Mission 2133 Washington Blvd. Ogden, UT 84401 teaching other discussions and praying with her she was reluctant to set a baptism date. She told us she knew that she needed to take the step to baptism, but somehow we knew she had a hidden concern. We



prayed that we would be able to discover and discuss her concern. Finally we found out she was a Sunday School teacher in her church.

Carrie asked her pastor to release her, and now he became worried that he was going to lose her. She wanted to tell him she had found the true church of Jesus Christ. Each week for three weeks, Carrie told her pastor the next week was going to be the last one she would be teaching. The following Sunday, she prayed before going to church intending to confront her pastor with her final resignation. Surprisingly, she found that her pastor was in Denver with his car broken down. Now she would have to wait until the following week.

As usual, she taught her class. as a class in which no one ever asked questions or shared feelings. This particular day however, one of the girls asked Carrie questions about the Mormon Church. She asked, "Why do Mormons have more meaningful marriages?" Carrie told them it was because of the strong covenants a man and woman make between each other and to God to remain faithful. She told them that these covenants were made in the sacred temples of God. These questions were honest and sincere, so for the next two weeks, Carrie taught Mormon doctrine. Their souls were feasting on the truths that they did not know they longed for. Carrie hoped the parents of the girls didn't get too upset.

Her pastor ignored her, but finally he came to her home to try to talk her out of getting baptized. After an unsuccessful attempt he stormed out of the house. Carrie held to what she knew was true even though it was hard for her. She was baptized and thus fulfilled part of the promise given to her from the Lord.

Carrie fulfilled all the reading assignments in the Book of Mormon. She would not have joined the church without the strength that comes from reading the Book of Mormon. Her baptism was powerful and peaceful at the same time. The Book of Mormon is true and "a man (will) get nearer to God by abiding by its precepts, than by any other book."

Elders Tippetts and Heyworth

Action Of The Month We are Family!! We Help One Another!!

Study Schedule

Week 17 April 19 - Obedience

Week 18 April 26 - Humility

Week 19 May 3 - Own Choice

Week 20 May 10 - Source of Truth



Memorization Scripture

"And, as it is written - Whatsoever ye shall ask in faith, being united in prayer according to my command, ye shall receive.

And ye are called to bring to pass the gathering of mine elect; for mine elect hear my voice and harden not their hearts."

- D&C 29: 6-7

"100 Hour Proselyting Week"

Before we explain the marvelous blessings our area received, we should first explain what a "100 Hour" proselyting week is, and why we had been lacking the very basic things of why missionaries are there, that being elect spirits to teach. Therefore we decided to sacrifice everything for this righteous cause.

We decided that we were going to bind the Lord (D&C 82: 10), and do everything in our power to reach our original goal of teaching 20 discussions and baptizing 8 souls. We had been praying and working diligently all month, but it came down to this last week in February. The "100 Hour" proselyting week schedule is as follows:

5:30 - Arise

6:40 - Begin Proselyting

12:00 - Lunch

12:24 - Proselyting

5:00 - Dinner

5:30 - Proselyting

10:15 - End Proselyting

10:30 - Retire

(Allow 3 hours preparation on P-day)

We followed this schedule precisely for one week. The blessings that followed were amazing. In the previous weeks we were struggling to teach 1-3 discussions, during this week we were able to teach 6 prospective discussions. We realized that our goal of teaching 20 discussions wasn't accomplished. Yet we came away with a strong testimony that perfect obedience and pure diligence in the Lord's name does produce blessings that are unimaginable. Our original goal was to baptize 8 people. Again, we were not able to accomplish it. With the Lord's help, though, we saw a beautiful family of 3 enter into the Church. All who were in attendance at this wonderful event felt the spirit of the Lord as a Father. Mother and Daughter entered into a covenant with God to take Christ's name upon them. We look back on this week with fond memories. It was a great opportunity to grow closer together as a companionship and grow closer to Heavenly Father. This is Christ's Church, we are his representatives. Let us show the Lord how much we love him as we serve "With an eye single to the glory of God." Love.

Elders Kingrey and Barnum

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

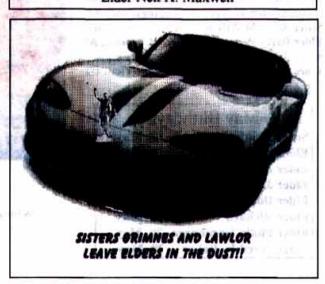
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|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| ZONES | | |
| Highest Baptizing: | Willard Bay | 24 |
| Highest Teaching: | Willard Bay | 174 |
| Most BOM's Placed: | Ogden | 298 |
| Most Adds: | Bountiful, Layton | 45 |
| Companionships | 14.7 | |
| Highest Baptizing: | Elders Stradling, Beste | 8 |
| Highest Teaching: | Elders Anderson, Chantry | 40 |
| Most BOM's Placed: | Elders Hinton, Enfield | 74 |
| Most Adds: | Elders Buckner, Camp | 12 |
| Companionships b | aptizing 4 or more in Marc | |
| Elders Nitchman, Scru | | " 6 |
| Elders Bradley, White | | 5 |
| Elders Elton, Sisco, Worthington | | 5 |
| Elders Anderson, Chantry | | 5 |
| Elders Baker, Rice, B. Roberts | | 5 |
| Elders Heyworth, Tippetts, Davis | | 5 |
| Elders Elton, Johnston, Pacific | | 5 |
| Sister Watton, Banister | | 4 |
| Elders Fultz, Bullock | | Ā |
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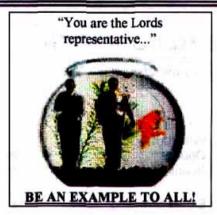
Memorization Hymn: "Choose The Right" Hymn # 239

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The Lord doesn't ask about our inability's or abilities. He only asked about our availability. If we show our dependability, he will help us in our capabilities."

- Elder Neil A. Maxwell





ARRIVALS APRIL 1998



Elder Owen Ala Soldotna, Ak Elder James Earl Lethbridge, AB **Elder LaMar Ethington** Gulfport, MS Elder Braden Huber Glenwood, MD Sister Troy Wilde Bourbonnais, IL Sister Rosalie Clarke Taylor, UT **Elder Don Clarke** Taylor, UT

> TRANIERS APRIL 1998 Elder Jason Anderson **Elder Robert Fultz** Elder Jeremy Rausch Elder Bradley Roberts Elder Lawarnce Snowden

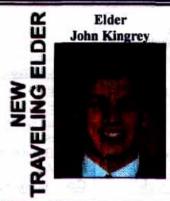


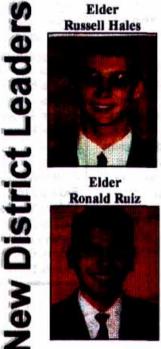
APRIL 1998

Sister Kerri Banister Springport, MI **Elder Jason Chantry** Lomita, CA Sister Alicia Cooper Bronx, NY Elder Scott DeVore Stewart, FL Elder Mark Hinton Calgary, AB Sister Maureen Miller Arlington Heights, IL **Elder Richard Roberts** Greenwood, MS Sister Kristen Walter Collingswood, NJ Sister Amanda Wilson Canton, MI Elder Darcy Wright Cardston, AB Sister June Forsyth Pleasant View, UT **Elder Bryce Forsyth** Pleasant View, UT

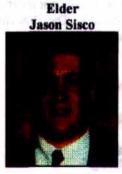
May Birthdays

Sister Heather A. Puett 3, May Elder Jeremy C. Rice 5, May Elder Aaron Frick 8, May Elder Jeff E. Jensen 8, May Elder Doug Wodffinden 12, May Elder Richard Woodruff 14, May Elder Philip Isernhagen 20, May Sister Jared K. Baker 29, May

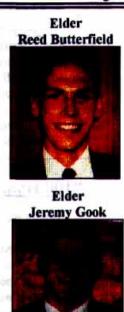


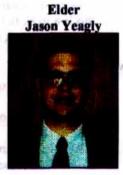






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"President Rules!"

Winning entry of the First Annual Ogden Zone Conference Jell-O Competition. Elders Thurber and Huffstetler used red Jell-O, tuna fish, and mustard to win this competition.

PRESIDENTS REMINDERS ONWARD & UPWARD

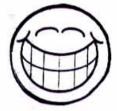


ACTION OF THE MONTH

WE ARE FAMILY::: WE HELP ONE ANOTHER:::

REMINDERS:

- DO NOT USE ST. JOHN'S WORT—BAD REACTION TO CERTAIN FOODS.
- IF YOU MUST BE LATE TO SACRAMENT MEETING, DON'T WALK UP AND SIT ON STAND, SIT IN BACK.
- MEMBERS WHO'S NAMES HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM RECORD MUST HAVE BAPTISMAL INTERVIEW BY BISHOP, THEY ARE NOT CONVERT BAPTISMS.
- ON P-DAY, PLAN AHEAD, STICK TO YOUR SCHEDULE—COMPLAINTS FROM MEMBERS SUPPLYING RIDES.
- WHEN TRANSFERRED INTO NEW AREA, BE SURE TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO WML. BISHOP AND STAKE PRESIDENT.
- DREAMS DON'T COME TRUE BY SLEEPING IN!!!
- . BE BOLD
- . SMILE
- . OBEDIENCE IS COOL



LET'S GET SPECIFIC:

. LOCK YOUR HEART :::::

- NEW WORLD ORDER IS NOT APPROVED READING—GET RID OF IT!!
- DO NOT DRIVE YOUR CARS ON P-DAY.
- NO SHAVED HEADS OR VERY SHORT HAIR CUTS. NO FACIAL HAIR AND REMEMBER THE CORRECT LENGTH OF YOUR SIDEBURNS.
- DON'T COME TO TRANSFERS UNLESS YOUR COMPANION OR YOURSELF IS BEING TRANSFERRED.

ATTABOYS - ATTAGIRLS

- GREAT comments by Stake Presidents about you..
- WOW... Record 49 baptisms in one week!!
- BIG month for baptisms. Not a record but fourth month in a row over 150 baptisms. It's a trend.
- SISTERS Smoke Elders High Teach Receive Car

STATS:

Mission baptisms for Mar 98 = 158 Mar 97 = 174 Last Mo. = 152

Mission baptisms since Dec 1997 = 621 YTD since Dec 1996 = 566

Discussions taught - Mar 98 = 1,182 Discussions taught last month 1,196

WHAT WILL **YOU** ADD THIS MONTH????

MEMORIZATION:

PURPOSE OF MISSIONARY WORK

D&C 29:6&7

HYMN: CHOOSE THE RIGHT #239

→Baptismal Recommends Received Through April 10, 1998 →

Amanda Carpenter **Brooke Dockstader** George Cummings **Zachkary Burton** Stephany Empey Robert Eskridge Johnnie Bristow Michael Alvares **Trent Anderson** Alesha Blakeley Lorena Alarcon Clayton Barney John Crowden Alan Geraghty Alma Calleja Ellen Bristow Page Balaich Daniel Gellis Karen Black Clay Black Jacob Cox

Barbara MacDonald Fegan MacDonald Elizabeth Mueller Carrie Longhurst **Edward Kopecky** Monique Phillips Marie LaChance Sarah Marciano Yancie Parsons Cameron Perry **Sammy Miller** Parker Phipps Casey Layton Sandra Perry Robert Long Bryan Lopez Kara Marsh **Kyle Phipps Tyler Miller** acey Long ee Owen Shangchia Graham Adriana Jarquin Amanda Jenson Shawndell Hoyt Rachel Johnson Douglas Irwin Edgar Jarquin Magen Haroni eter Gilchrist Scott Hammer Anthony Haar Justin Harrop ason Jerman James Grasse Chris Jensen Lacie Heinz Cody Jones John Hofer **Fravis Hall** Shane Hall Sunja Kim

Christopher Simpson

Zachary Simpson

Shaun Slaney

Cameron Seamons

Steven Schafer

Whitney Sant

Torri Sant

Whitney Seifert

Nancy Sellers

Kevin Weatherspoon Morris Timmreck Monica Zermeno Andrew Surette Omar Villarreal Cody Wilkerson Adam Williams Carrie Stevens Dawn Tanner Alexa Warren ose Zermeno Susan Vargo **Aaron Smith** Jason Wirey Jimmy West Jan Warren Tai Smith

> Nickalaus Renteria Constance Rhoades

Christine Prisbrey

Dawn Preece Mark Preece **Dustin Rallison**

Tyler Rallison

Ryan Quinton Brock Rallison Michelle Remo

Roberto Rodriguez

Mark Ritchie