



Issue 26

Utah Ogden Mission

February 2003

## Message From President McBride

### "TEACH BY THE SPIRIT"

The Lord described the importance of teaching by the spirit when he said, "If ye receive not the Spirit, ye shall not teach." (D&C 42:14)

As missionaries you meet people who have studied philosophy, world history, languages, science and the arts. You meet people who are better educated than you are. If you don't have the Spirit of the Lord and if you don't teach under the direction of the spirit, how can you expect to accomplish your mission? We cannot compete with the world on its terms. If we are to fulfill our calling, we must teach the Lord's way. If we have the Spirit of the Lord to guide us, we can teach any person, no matter how well educated, any place in the world. If we are His servants, acting under His spirit, we can deliver His message of salvation to each and every soul.

#### (1) Requirements for Teaching by the Spirit:

We must keep the commandments and be clean before God so His spirit can dwell in our personal temples. The Spirit of the Lord will not dwell in an unclean temple. (1Cor.3:16-17) We must cleanse ourselves by repentance, by confession when necessary, and by avoiding impure actions and thoughts. We cannot have the companionship of the Holy Ghost if we are in transgression, if we are angry, or if we are in rebellion against God's chosen authorities. If we are to have the spirit with us, we must keep the commandments of God and keep ourselves clean in thought and deed.

#### (2) Preparation Precedes Power:

We must be involved in the hard work called preparation by studying the missionary discussions, studying the scriptures and studying the teaching of the living prophets.

We must make ourselves presentable and understandable to our investigators. This includes our grooming,

speaking clearly and avoiding offending people through ignorance of their culture or their personal family circumstances. Preparation is a prerequisite to teaching with power by the spirit.

#### (3) Being Led By the Spirit:

We must desire to be led by the spirit and be willing to put aside all our preparation and follow the spirit's direction. We must treasure up in our minds the teachings of the gospel (D&C 84:85)

When teaching the message of the restoration and the other missionary discussions, you should make specific preparations by studying all the discussions, studying the scriptures, and praying specifically to know the needs of the family or individual that is being taught. Every morning during companionship study, you will create teaching outlines to meet the needs of the people you will teach that day. Most of the time you will carry through with your preparation but sometimes there will be an authentic impression to leave something out or to add something. We should make careful preparation, but should not be exclusively bound to that preparation. Teach from the heart and let the spirit guide you as you teach these special children of our Heavenly Father.

The Adjusted way of Teaching by the Spirit is producing wonderful results in our Mission. Our teaching pool, discussions and baptisms have increased significantly over the past few months. Many more families are being united through baptism.

We have the gift of the Holy Ghost, and the right to the constant companionship of the Spirit of the Lord to: (1) testify of the Father and the Son, (2) lead us into truth, (3) teach us all things, and (4) bring all things to our remembrance. Let us go forward with faith, teach by the spirit, and bring many more souls unto Christ.



## ASSISTANTS MESSAGE

Dear Elders and Sisters,

Recent months have been filled with success seeing record numbers of baptisms in the month of November and December. However, the number of baptisms has decreased substantially during the month of January, partly due to the direction that investigators must attend church three times. Now let us bridle our passions, and do all that we can to assist our Heavenly Father to bring those lost souls back into the fold.

"These are 'perilous times'. We battle literally for the souls of men" (Elder Ballard). We have been called to the battle Elders and Sisters, but we cannot do it alone. It is a blessing to serve in a mission where 64% of our baptisms come through member referrals and we must continue to rely on their help. We realize that Monday nights have not always been the easiest time to find effective activities to do, but by using this new Family Home Evening program, Monday evenings can become the most effective time to do member work! There are few more effective places for missionaries to be on a Monday night than at elect members' homes, helping them make commitments that will lead other families back to our Eternal Father. By using Proselyting for the Elect principles, we can help these wonderful member families see miracles. What a special opportunity it is for member families to be a part of the conversion of their friends of other faiths.

We are on the errand of the Lord. May we always remember the divinity of our holy callings and magnify them as we strive to be the best servants that we can possibly be.

We love you,

Elders Andruski and Fort

## CONVERSION STORIES

In my second area, Bountiful, I had the most wonderful experience of being guided by the Holy Ghost. We had tried to catch the Ward Mission Leader, but he wasn't home. As we walked away from his home the Spirit prompted me to go and visit the man across the street. We did and Jason answered the door. He told us he didn't have much time so we did a "sampler". The next day when we came back to teach Jason, he told us he wept as he read the Book of Mormon. We explained the Holy Ghost to him and he knew it was true. Jason was baptized a short time later. I know the Lord leads this work! Elder Cartwright.

I think that my most inspirational experience happened while I was in Wyoming. That's where we met the Montes family. The first time I met the family was while I was knocking doors. When we met Brother Montes for the first time, thoughts of faith did not fill my mind. I mean when he opened the door I heard two crying kids, the house was a mess, and there were two cases of beer in the doorway. I thought "there's no way this guy will want to listen to us." But he accepted a Lamb of God and said we could come back the next day. So we went back the next day and things had really changed. When he saw that it was us at the door he rushed us into the house and said he had watched the video and that he loved it! He wanted one in Spanish so that his wife could understand it. So we ran out to the car and got our last video in Spanish and gave it to him. He then told us that he wanted us to come back the next day to teach him and his family. So the next day Elder Estrada and I went over and taught the most spiritual first discussion ever. Before we ever started Brother and Sister Montes told us that they wanted to come to church, just because they liked the video. As we taught the discussion there wasn't a dry eye in the room. As we finished the "Pray Now" there was this peaceful silence in the room. Then before we could ask Brother Montes he said he knew that Joseph Smith was a prophet. When we invited them to be baptized they both said yes. Their only concern was that they were moving in 2 1/2 weeks. We told them that wasn't a problem and they said okay. On August 30, 2001, Rafael and Maria Montes entered the waters of baptism. The gospel really does change lives. I've seen that so many times. It has to be true.

We walk for miles and miles, each and every day.  
Sharing this gospel message, to all along the way.

We talk with every person, we see along the road.  
We testify about the truth, just as we've been told.

But did we do it out of love, with charity for all,  
With hope within our heart, that our breath will not fall?

Or did we do it for a number and say "we did our part."  
All for our own praise and glory to look good upon some chart.

Why do we go out to work, each and every day.  
Are we looking for some numbers or to save a soul today.

Do we love the people the way the Savior would?  
Oh, let us love the people the way we know we should.

Elder Seth Wege



# Action of The Month

**FIND ELECT FAMILIES TO TEACH  
THROUGH ELECT MEMBER  
FAMILIES**

**MEMORIZATION FOR ZONE  
CONFERENCE  
2 TIMOTHY 1:7**

**MEMORIZATION HYMN FOR  
NEXT ZONE CONFERENCE**

**WE ARE ALL ENLISTED, #250**

## NEW ASSISTANT

Elder Jared A. Fort

## NEW ZONE LEADERS

Elder Kevin E. Blandamer  
Elder Nicholas E. Elmore  
Elder Jared D. Hemming  
Elder Paul M. Schramm  
Elder James K. Townsend

## NEW DISTRICT LEADERS

Elder Joshua R. Edwards  
Elder Brandon R. Judd  
Elder Cigi D. Petrell  
Elder Brandon S. Thurman  
Elder Marco A. C. Valverde  
Elder Jonathan M. Whetten  
Elder Jeremy D. Witbeck

## Zone Conference Commits

1. Study Proselyting for the Elect: Member Work every Monday morning in companionship study in preparation for Family Home Evening.
2. Schedule three FHE appointments each Monday evening unless you have specific teaching appointments.
3. Fill every line of the Blue Planner with effective proselyting activities in 15 minute nightly planning and carry out your plan.

## COMPANIONSHIP STUDY

Prayerfully consider the needs of the people that you will be teaching and create an outline for each discussion appointment. Prepare for your day by studying from the scriptures, discussions, missionary guide and the missionary gospel study program.

## JANUARY ARRIVALS



## -Trainers-

## JANUARY DEPARTURES

Elder Peter Burdych II  
Elder Thomas Burton  
Elder Paul Davies, Jr  
Elder Craig Diczun  
Elder Bryan Farnsworth  
Elder Efrain Herrera  
Sister Danielle Jones  
Elder Aaron Johnson  
Elder Bret Morse  
Elder Danijel Perkovic  
Elder Scott Petersen  
Elder Carlos Sandigo  
Sister Chantel Vineyard  
Sister Angela Woolley

Columbia, MO  
Monmouth, OR  
Singapore, SINGAPORE  
Mississauga, ON, CANADA  
Jacksonville, FL  
Monterrey, MEXICO  
Tucson, AZ  
Pflugerville, TX  
Marion, NY  
Zadar, CROATIA  
Cle Elum, WA  
Miami, FL  
Perrysburg, OH  
Rose Hill, KS

Elder Mark A. Fletcher  
Elder Nikolai Ravn-Petersen  
Elder Ronaldo L. Rodriguez  
Elder Francis C. Hutto  
Elder Leander M. Lehmann  
Elder Ronald E. Spence  
Sister Amanda Knickerbocker  
Elder Ezra Z. Niessink  
Elder Andrew H. Deason  
Elder Jared H. Benson  
Elder Alejandro Monge  
Elder Brigham T. Dorman  
Sister Amanda Knickerbocker  
Sister Mele Akaveka

Elder Benjamin Cartwright  
Elder Ryan Clark  
Elder Jason Fairchild  
Elder Joseph Gale  
Elder Matthew Porter  
Elder Gabriel Ruhnow  
Elder Seth Wege  
Elder Regan Wright  
Elder Richard Clark  
Sister Grace Clark

Piqua, OH  
Albany, GA  
Lucedale, MS  
West Des Moines, IA  
Lusby, MD  
Springfield, OR  
Cottage Grove, OR  
Raymond, AB CANADA  
Fort Collins, CO  
Fort Collins, CO



# MISSION SUCCESS REPORT December 2002

Zone	Companionships	Baptisms	Invest. Disc.	L.A. Disc.	KEY INDICATORS	
					Disc.in Members Homes	Invest. at Church
Wyoming	8		120	34		
Idaho	6	19	128	42		
Cache Valley	10	22	188	82		
Willard Bay	7	26	136	103		
North Ogden	8	21	121	33		
Ogden	7	10	125	41		
South Ogden	7	24	142	70		
Roy	8	20	201	43		
Clearfield	8	24	136	61		
Layton	8	15	100	40		
Kaysville	9	14	154	46		
Bountiful	8	30	134	41		
Totals	94	225	1685	636	40%	46%

## Families United Through Baptism



Conover Family, Elders Singleton/Waldron  
Clearfield Zone



Soberanis Family, Elders Luna/Rodriguez  
Spanish District, Kaysville Zone



Jenny Nash, Elders Carroll/Fairchild, Kaysville Zone



Roberts Family, Elders Zander/Klick  
North Ogden Zone



Lee Family, Elders Shasky/George, Roy Zone



Vanderhoof Family, Elders Gale/Meldrum, Layton  
Zone



Kinder Family, Sisters Hurren/  
McDonough, Bountiful Zone



Marquez & Cazzarez Family, Elders Monson/  
McLeod, Roy Zone



Watkins Family, Elders Cartwright/Meldrum  
South Ogden Zone