



Issue 27

The Vision

MARCH 2003

## **Message From President McBride**

### **FIND JOY IN THE WORK**

The quest for joy and happiness is a righteous desire. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught us that "happiness is the object and design of our existence."

The Lord has taught us what true joy is: "I will impart unto you of my spirit, which shall enlighten your mind, which shall fill your soul with joy. (D&C 11:13). Lasting joy is based upon our understanding of and living the gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and enduring to the end. (See D&C 14:7)

Elder Russell M. Nelson gives us this important counsel: "In order to experience true joy, at least three factors are needed. You need to feel good about the people with whom you live and work, your companions in life. You must feel good about yourself, not in any sense of conceit, but simply a proper esteem for yourself, well deserved. And possibly most important, you must feel good about your relation to God and sincerely love Him.

The true test is to be able to look in the mirror first thing in the morning and feel real joy.

We must decide to be joyful, to let our light shine throughout the day by continually smiling and being enthusiastic as we share the message of the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We must be anchored in the knowledge that Jesus Christ lives and desire to become more like him. As missionaries we must work constantly to have a mighty change of heart through prayer, gospel study and by living the principles of the gospel.

Missionaries who follow the mission rules with exactness can pray for the constant companionship of the Holy Ghost with a clear conscience and find joy in the work.

Let us continue to find joy together in the work. My membership in this church has brought me more fun, more happiness and more joy than I ever could have imagined. All of us can have these blessings. They come by devoting ourselves to our missionary responsibilities, in being true representatives of Jesus Christ as we serve those around us, by keeping his commandments, by loving the Lord with all our heart, soul, and mind, and by loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Love, President McBride

## **ASSISTANTS MESSAGE**

The Spirit has been opening doors to more and more referrals. Thanks to our effective Family Home Evening appointments, miracles have been witnessed and lives have been brought closer to the Lord. The members are catching the vibrant vision of the adjusted way of teaching. Congratulations on the success that this has and will continue to bring.

Now let us take a look back in time and restore the vision of the early Elders of this dispensation. May we always remember the glory this Gospel brings to the lives of its recipients. The Lord is at the head of this work and He will guide us to His elect. This guidance comes by listening and acting upon the prompting of the Holy Ghost. It often comes as a subtle thought or feeling. Following those impressions will lead us to the open doors and receptive investigators. Upon meeting these elect it is crucial that we teach them the Gospel immediately. There is no time to waste. We must **PREACH** as the early Elders; speaking to everyone, teaching on the spot, and adapting each principle to their needs.

We promise that as you apply these principles you will witness miracles. Continue to serve the Lord with all of your heart, might, mind and strength. We love you and our prayers are with you daily.

Love Elder Fort and Elder Fletcher

## **CONVERSION STORY**

As Sacrament meeting was over Brother Leon who is the second counselor of the Bishopric in the Monte Vista Branch in Logan introduced a man to us. They called him "El Profe."

I noticed they had a lot of respect for this man. His real name was Alfredo Duarte. Brother Alfredo Duarte agreed to meet with us and it wasn't until the appointment and during the meeting that we learned why they called him "El Profe." Brother Duarte was a teacher in his native country of Mexico. He had a lot of experience as a teacher, he was a very knowledgeable person in things of the world and of the scriptures. For almost 15 years the missionaries had tried so hard to help him reach the waters of baptism, but failing in each attempt. My testimony of the "Pray Now" tremendously increased after this experience, because as soon as we finished praying Brother Duarte had tears in his eyes. We knew the Spirit had born to him that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God. The Spirit did not prompt us to ask if he knew that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God. Instead the spirit told us to ask him if he would get baptized. "Yes" was his reply. The next question we asked him was when would he like to be baptized. "Whenever you want me to" was his answer. Brother Duarte was baptized two weeks after that first discussion.

"Proselyting for the Elect" is an inspired program and as we use it throughout our mission we will find those who are elect. Elder Estrada.



# Action of The Month

**SMILE AND BE ENTHUSIASTIC**

**MEMORIZATION FOR ZONE  
CONFERENCE  
D&C 18:15,16**

## MEMORIZATION HYMN FOR NEXT ZONE CONFERENCE

"COME YE CHILDREN OF THE LORD, #58

### Zone Conference Commits

1. Use thoughts, words, and acts of faith everyday.
2. Set a specific time period to speak to everyone everyday. Tell the Lord where you will go and pray that He will send the elect.
3. Follow the Spirit and knock on two inspired doors a day. At that contact follow the guidelines of the "Preach the gospel" handout.

### CONVERSION STORY

When I was serving in Bountiful we received a referral for a part member less-active family. We went by once a week to set an appointment to teach them, each time being rejected. We continued to do this for 3 months. Finally she made an appointment. We went by as scheduled, but she wasn't there. So we followed this pattern for another month until she finally kept her appointment. The mother was in attendance as was the less-active father and all of their 6 children. As we taught them the Spirit touched their hearts so the father got his act together and got himself worthy to baptize all of their children. On March 8th I had the opportunity to go to Bountiful and see them all sealed to each other.  
Sister Amanda Hurren

### NEW ASSISTANT

Elder Fletcher

### NEW ZONE LEADERS

Elder Klick  
Elder Robinson  
Elder Updike

### NEW DISTRICT LEADERS

Elder Albert  
Elder Hicks  
Elder Needham  
Elder Serrano  
Elder Stephenson

## March Arrivals TRAINERS

Elder Alldredge	Maple Valley, WA	Elder Carruthers
Elder Allred	Cloverdale, CA	Elder Niessink
Elder Brown	Kennewick, WA	Elder Andruski
Elder Dyck	Sacramento, CA	Elder Singleton
Elder Compton	Granby, MO	Elder Thurman
Elder Jensen	Oregon City, OR	Elder Richardson
Elder Klauzer	Blair, NE	Elder Monson
Elder Long	New Oxford, PA	Elder Edwards
Elder Maughan	Merrimack, NH	Elder Heller
Elder Ross	Clare, MI	Elder Shenfield
Elder Smith	Heber, AZ	Elder McLeod
Elder Stovall	Arlington, TX	Elder Proctor
Elder Van Orden	Forsyth, IL	Elder Brunner

### MARCH DEPARTURES



Elder Daniel Anderson	Anoka, MN
Elder Alberto Estrada	Long Beach, CA
Elder Matthew Hunt	Falmouth, ENGLAND
Sister Meridith Hurren	Mt. Pleasant, SC
Elder Jacob Mollenhauer	Pasadena, MD
Elder David Olsen	Lethbridge, CANADA
Elder James Patterson	Mesa, AZ
Elder Nikolai Ravn-Petersen	DENMARK
Elder Jonathan Shasky	St. Paul, MN
Elder Alejandro Monge	Chihuahua, MEXICO
Elder Marco Valverde	Puerto Vallarta, MEXICO

MARCH 2003

KEY INDICATORS

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Companionships</u>	<u>Baptisms</u>	<u>Invest. Disc.</u>	<u>L.A. Disc.</u>	<u>Disc.in Members Homes</u>	<u>Invest. at Church</u>
Spanish	10	18	242	126		
Idaho	6	15	126	36		
Cache Valley	8	17	238	104		
Willard Bay	6	15	206	85		
North Ogden	8	14	217	63		
Ogden	6	15	219	72		
South Ogden	7	31	171	83		
Roy	8	21	184	91		
Clearfield	8	11	163	126		
Layton	7	9	307	129		
Kaysville	6	16	219	64		
Bountiful	9	26	360	29		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>2652</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>46%</b>

*Families United Through Baptism*

The Chidester Family, Elders Ericksen/Garcia  
Bountiful Zone



The Pace Family, Elders Albert/Camp  
Clearfield Zone



The Grant Family, Elders Hamel/Timms  
Ogden Zone



The Camacho Family, Elders Dorman/  
Sandigo, Spanish Zone



The Thorne Family, Elders Stephenson/Elmore  
South Ogden Zone



The Rodriguez Family, Elders Schramm/Stamley  
Estrada, Spanish Zone



The Macky Family, Elders Monson/Klauzer  
Idaho Zone



The Stephens Family, Elders Santos/Petrell/  
Homer, Clearfield Zone



The Bapori Family, Elders Davies/Rodriguez,  
Spanish Zone



## CONVERSION STORIES

As we were traveling to an appointment we were distracted by a truck that was being unloaded so we felt that we should stop and help. We found out that it was a part member couple and invited ourselves in and gave Scott and Brooke a few things to think about. We ended up teaching all of the discussions and then found out that Scott would be called to go to war in 3 days. We scheduled to eat at a member home with them. That night we committed Scott to be baptized that next day at 4:00 p.m. We had the font filled, programs ready but Scott was nowhere to be found. We found out that he was called that day at 9:00 a.m. to be ready by 1:00 p.m. to leave for Virginia for training. At the same time he found out that his wife was pregnant. His wife, Brooke ended up having complications. This gave Scott the opportunity of returning and again accepted the challenge to be baptized. He was a changed man after that day and looks forward now to being sealed for time and all eternity. Now my joy is full. Elder Hemming.

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The most amazing conversion story I had on my mission occurred in my first area, Syracuse. It was my first month in the mission and my trainer and I had been working hard with out any success. We both really wanted to see someone baptized that first month together but nothing seemed to be working. We decided to turn it over to the Lord and leave it up to him. On May 30 we got a call from the President of Syracuse West Stake asking us to come and meet a man by the name of Chuck Deaver who wanted to be baptized. We went over immediately. Chuck was very "elect", and had been taught by the missionaries in the past. We reviewed the discussions with him, and he was baptized by his son the next day.

We got ready for bed that night and my companion pulled out his pocket knife and began to carve a small line in the back of his name tag. I asked, "What are you doing?". He responded by telling me that he put a dash in the back of his tag for every person he baptized. I pulled out my old leatherman and began to do the same with my tag, but as I stared down at that lone dash on my tag I realized that true conversion comes by the power of the Holy Ghost and that was what mattered most in Chuck's life. I look at that one dash on the back of my tag now and I realize I may not have had that much of an effect on Chuck's conversion to the Gospel, but his conversion made an immeasurable difference in the way I worked the rest of the mission, because I realized that it was the Holy Ghost that made all the difference. Elder Kevin E. Blandamer

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One of the most inspirational experiences happened this last week. It all started out with a member family picking up their newly released missionary from the airport. It was the Nelson family. While they were going home their son asked the parents who lived in a particular home. The answer was the Neaf family. The next question asked was "what do you know about them?" "Not much," was the parents response. The son replied, "Don't you think we should know them, we should bring them some cookies. The story goes, the whole family went over to deliver the treat to Neaf's home, whom they didn't even really know. The Neaf family invited the Nelson's into their home to visit. After the visit the Nelson's told the Neaf's they would like to have them come over and visit some time.

In the missionary world, myself and my companion had picked out a family from each ward to go and do member work with. Among the family's chosen, was the Nelson family. We stopped by their home and set up the member work appointment.

When we went over to do the member work, I was very impressed with their returned missionary son, who was persistent, but encouraging at the same time. The Neaf family was brought up and we extended an invitation. The family was extended a one week commit.

The Nelson family went through with their commitment and the teaching process began now that the finding was over.

The Neaf family consisted of Casey, the father who was less active; Lisa, the mother who wasn't a member; Colton, who was 7 and Trapper, who was 2 weeks old. When we started teaching them, we taught in different members homes. As we taught they started coming to church and keeping other commits. Lisa was very receptive and believed the things we taught, but her parents weren't in favor of the message of restoration. I believe that was what was holding her back. We taught for four months, then about a week and 1/2 ago we taught her about fasting and started a fast with her. The fast went great. We came by last Thursday and she had decided she wanted to be baptized. Lisa Neaf was baptized April 20, 2003, Easter Sunday. The Spirit was so strong, this was a great experience for me. Through this story of finding, teaching and baptizing there were many great principles taught, but just as our Mission Values state: "The Spirit is the Key." Elder Deason



I will never forget an experience I had with my trainer. We got a call from a WML. He had someone for us to visit. So we had him pick us up and we drove to Tamie's house. We went in and started to teach. As we were finishing up we were talking about the Holy Ghost and the laying on of hands for the Gift of the Holy Ghost. She said she wanted to see it in the Bible. When she said that Elder Schewee and myself looked at each other. Neither one of us knew where it said that in the Bible. Elder Schewee explained that he wished he had a better understanding of the Bible. Well, as he said this he was flipping through his Bible. He looked down, read a passage, then looked at Tamie, handed her the Bible and said, "Read this." she read the passage, Acts 2:37-38, three or four times. Then said, "I have to do it." "Do what?" we said. "Get baptized", was her response. We asked when, and she said "tomorrow." I was amazed at how the spirit led us to the scripture and how willing she was to get baptized after finding one bit of truth. I will always be grateful to the Lord for that experience. Elder Jason Young

Franz stopped us outside our apartment and asked if he could refer a friend in Layton. We asked him to invite him over to his house to hear the discussions. He committed to be baptized right away. He was elect. Franz had been less active. He was a teacher in the Aaronic Priesthood, although he was 18. He was ordained a priest and baptized Mario. As the two young men came out of the water they embraced in tears of joy at finding the joys of the Gospel together. Elder Needham

While I served in Ogden I met a man named Nilson Valbuena. He was referred by missionaries, he interrupted a DLT to ask for help to bring his family from Venezuela. He had come to this country to work awhile and then return to Venezuela, but he found more than anything, he discovered that he didn't need to smoke or drink. He had made a determination to change his life. What was so amazing about his conversion were the trials he faced. He lived in a house where the Gospel was not lived in its smallest portion. Shortly after he brought his family, he lost his job, and then his place to live, and then his car. After he had come from so far, he was going to pack his bags and go. I remember sitting with him on a rock the day his van was stolen. It was a Sunday, the same day he had decided to be baptized. "I'm going to pack my suitcases and take my family to Wyoming, but I'm still going to be baptized today. Though they no longer live in Utah, he and his family are still faithful. Elder Puster

While serving in the Student Wards at Weber State, we received a call from a young man asking to have the discussions. To say he was elect is an understatement. During the time we taught him he accepted everything. What is amazing is that his conversion had come a couple of weeks before when he had gone to church with a friend in Southern Utah over a break. Because of the things he heard and saw at church he came back to school and found us. This experience strengthened my testimony of the importance of inviting people to church, a place where they can feel the Spirit and be converted. Sister Amanda Knickerbocker

While serving in the Ogden Doughnut area we met a boy named David from Chilangolandia, Mexico. He was a member girl's boyfriend and we invited him to hear the discussions the 1st time we met him. The discussions went great and David began going to church and progressing quickly. He finally did make it to baptism and received the holy Priesthood. As I think of David and many others I've taught I've seen the holy Spirit work in them and bless and change their lives. This is the greatest work in the world and I'm grateful that I could serve in this mission. I'm thankful for all of you also and wish you the best. Que Dios Les Bendiga! Elder Spence

I am glad to serve with you in the Utah Ogden Mission. I am thankful for we are called in Heavenly Father's Mission. It is a great privilege to serve Him. I had a lot of great experiences in my mission. I would like to share with you one of the great experiences. It happened to me in my last area, which was in the Ogden Utah North Stake. I taught discussions to the Robbins family with several companions. Their names are Elder Klick, Elder Ritter and Elder Taylor. We answered all their questions even almost 100 questions. They have been taking the discussions for 4 1/2 months. In this time God was preparing this family for baptism and His church. We had a great fellowshipping who is Brother Burdon. He sat in during all the discussions. We asked Brother Robbins to be baptized on Saturday, May 3. He said, "Yes". After his baptism he wanted to baptize his wife. Then they wanted to be sealed in the Holy Temple of God as an eternal family. We love that family so much. I loved my mission. I know that our Heavenly Father prepared his people by his prepared servants. I truly know that this work is true. I love my Heavenly Father. Good luck for your mission. Much Love, Elder Dulgunn.

While serving in Montpelier, Idaho we had a great experience pursuing a media referral. We had driven a while when we finally reached the house that we were supposed to. Unfortunately no one was home, so we decided to make the best of our drive by OYM-ing the neighbors and researching the referral. We crossed the street and began chatting with a woman who introduced herself as Bev Martin. Supposing that she was less active, we started to share a scripture with her and invite her back to church when she asked if she could follow along in her Book of Mormon. As we talked with her more we found that she loved attending church when work permitted and thoroughly enjoyed her "Mormon" neighbors. She shared with us her conversion to the Jewish faith, and we in turn shared a "sampler" and set up a first discussion. In subsequent discussions her life and lifestyle changed in a very positive manner as she learned about the Book of Mormon, kept her commitments and made covenants. There was a new radiance in her eyes and home, and she was further blessed as she entered the waters of baptism with her two daughters. I have a testimony that media referrals are given for a reason. Because of one I found an eternal friend. Elder Joseph Gale



# Baptismal Recommends Received Through MARCH 2003

1. Adams, Anne	48. Denson, Colton	95. Larsen, Jesse	144. Ramos, Dylan	193. Wilcox, Drew
2. Adams, Jesi	49. Keneth	96. Lee, Austin	145. Reyes Robles, Rolando	194. Wilcox, Ryan
3. Alexander, Megan	50. Denson, Tanner Crae	97. Lee, Shannon	146. Richards, Tammie	195. Williams, Oshare
4. Andrade, Auel	51. Diazleal, Francisco	98. Leiva, Elvidio	147. Ridley, Gordon	196. Wilson, Clifford
5. Andrews, Ico	52. Diazleal, Jennifer	99. Leon, Mercedes	148. Rios, Maria	197. Wolford, Ian
6. Archibald, Alexa	53. Dillon, Candice	100. Leonard, John	149. Roblero, Karina	198. Woodward, Cody
7. Archibald, Nina	54. Dirmeyer, Michael	101. Letcher, Sierra	150. Rodriguez, Alejandra	199. Woolsey, Santana
8. Arita, Brenda	55. Elson, James	102. Liwang, Danilo	151. Rojo, Josefina	200. Ycaza, Christina
9. Arnoldus, Crystyl	56. Englen, Christopher	103. Lopez Perez, Monica	152. Romero, Kenny	Ashley
10. Barker, Angel Renee	57. Fenn, Megan	104. Lopez Torres, Humberto	153. Romero, Michelle	201. Yeiter, Nicholas
11. Barker, Christina	58. Fenn, Orvel	105. Lyles, Jessica	154. Romero, Peggy	202. Zepp, Deanne
12. Bennett, Kristina	59. Fenn, Toni	106. Mai, Layca	155. Romero, Stephanie	
13. Bennett, Lisa	60. Fernandez, Sandra	107. Maldonado, Ingrid	156. Romero, Zaida	
14. Blair, Haley	61. Findlay, Jessica Lyna	108. Mares, Luna	157. Rossander, Adam	
15. Blair, Lance	62. Fisher, Sarah Anne	109. Marshall, Shaina	158. Russell, Robert	
16. Blair, Shanise	63. Fisher, Nadine	110. Martinez, Brooke	159. Samuel, Mary Jo	
17. Braunworth, Dara	64. Gallegos, Ruby Jade	111. Martinez, Desrae	160. Sanchez, Sam	
18. Burbank, Brittany	65. Gines, Daxson	112. Martinez, Lorcuzo	161. Sandoval, Sky Pearl	
19. Burrell, Tyson	66. Gines, Daxson	113. Matthews, Ryan	162. Sango, Michael	
20. Bustos, Rodrigo	67. Graham, Alexis Jansen	114. McDaniel, Blake	163. Scott, Kindall	
21. Carson, Laura	68. Grandy, Shannon	115. Middlestead, Samuel	164. Serrano, Brian	
22. Carter, Kimberly	69. Greenleaf, Charlene	116. Mittelstaedt, Steve	165. Serrano, Rachel	
23. Castaneda, Jordan	70. Greenleaf, Christopher	117. Moore, Michael	166. Serrano, Raymond	
24. Castaneda, Kylie	71. Gregory, Alex	118. Moore, Madelyn	167. Shaanta, Jessica	
25. Castaneda, Lorcuzo	72. Gurule, Brandie	119. Myers, Charles Glen	168. Sharafsalh, Golnar	
26. Castaneda, David	73. Hadlock, Lawson	120. Nevarez, Julian	169. Shaw, Erin	
27. Cavazos, Anthony	74. Hadlock, Paige	121. Nevarez, Monica	170. Smith, Eva	
28. Chandler, Valentino	75. Hall, Vance	122. Northcutt, Lee	171. Stark, Lacey	
29. Chaney, Kirk	76. Hatch, Joshua	123. O'Connor, Samantha	172. Stead, Joshua	
30. Chaney, Scotty	77. Hepworth, Curtis	124. O'Dell, Brock	173. Stewart, Ryan	
31. Chatelain, Chad	78. Hepworth, Jaime	125. Oquendo, Angelique	174. Stock, Nicole	
32. Chidester, Teresa	79. Hermida Rodriguez, Stephanie	126. Palmer, Melissa	175. Stuart, Justin	
33. Cisneros, Oscar	80. Hermida, Estiquico	127. Parcat, Joseph	176. Swensen, Eric	
34. Cisneros, Victor	81. Higley, Nikki	128. Parsons, Joseph A	177. Thompson, Marie	
35. Coffin Jr., David	82. Hirsch, Kami	129. Perez, Analia	178. Thorne, Tennifer J.	
36. Colombe, Brandon	83. Hood, Sarah Deanna	130. Perez, Gilberton	179. Thorp, Thary Onk	
37. Comacho, Maria	84. Hooten, Herman	131. Perez, Hector	180. Thursby, Ellen	
38. Comacho, Perla	85. Jensen, Sabrina Alma	132. Perez, Terri	181. Trujillo, Jake Britt	
39. Coombes, Danielle	86. Johnson, Stephanie	133. Perry, Shane	182. Turgon, Miyah	
40. Corner, Pierre	87. Keefauver, Sue	134. Pierce, Belinda	183. Turner, Oscar	
41. Coyle, Tati James	88. Kelley, Katie	135. Pitt, Makayla	184. Valdez, Azucena	
42. Coziah, William	89. Kendrick, Nicole	136. Porter, Estes	185. Valdez, Martin	
43. Craghead, Zachary	90. Kilbarr, Hollie	137. Poth, Alyson	186. Valenzuela, Diamantina	
44. Creaner, Jeanifer	91. Kish, Anthony	138. Poth, Carly	187. Vergara, Julio	
45. Crosby, Dylan Jared	92. Koether, Scott	139. Poth, Gregory	188. Vergin, Monique	
46. Davis, Tabitha	93. Landaverry, Erick	140. Poth, Jacquelynn	189. Verhaal, Tyson	
47. DeLeon Hernandez, Luis	94. Landaverry, Jocelyn	141. Poth, Maxwell	190. Vogeler, Britney	
		142. Poth, Samantha	191. Von Cannon, Harold	
		143. Price, Keenan	192. Watman, David	