

Zion's Advocate

*"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;" 1 Nephi 3:187*

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No. 8

I Know Something Good About You . . .

Wouldn't this old world be better
If the folks we meet would say:
"I know something good about you"
And then treat us just that way?

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy
If each handclasp, warm and true,
Carried with it this assurance:
"I know something good about you?"

Wouldn't things here be more pleasant
If the good that is in us all,
Were the only thing about us
That folks bothered to recall?

Wouldn't life here be lots more happy
If we would praise the good we see?
For there is such a lot of goodness
In the worst of you and me.

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy
This fine way of thinking, too:
"You know something good about me.
I know something good about you?"

Roy Ward

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Editorial . . .

Correcting Wrong Requires More Than Faultfinding

There are definite dos and don'ts in determining right from wrong and it seems necessary to remind ourselves of them from time to time. It is quite obvious, due to our several differences of beliefs in the church, that we need to learn how to study the word of God in understanding it and applying it to our lives. Peter tells us " . . . that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (2 Peter 1:20,21)

Although it may be tempting for us to reason out the meanings to various scriptures, and although it may even seem right to commit ourselves by declaring certain absolutes according to our reasoning to serve as guides, we should examine closely our motives to know by what spirit we are being guided when we

interpret scripture. There are many motives that are wrong, one of which is the desire to elevate oneself among one's peers. To set oneself up as an individual of influence and leadership is common in the world. The thrill of being an authority on religion has inspired many ambitious people down through the ages. But it is still a wrong motive.

Even a seemingly honest and good motivation, such as a desire to help correct certain wrongs in the church, can be wrong in itself if we do it in our own human strength and wisdom. Many have contended earnestly for the faith in the church only to see their efforts bring forth division and strife. Somewhere between the awareness of a wrong and the actual statement that it is wrong, the human takes over allowing the imperfect or underdeveloped desire to become nothing more than a personal anxiety. What might

have been an inspiration to do good becomes a seed of controversy.

Those of us, who have witnessed and participated in the ministerial activities of the church for the past two or three decades, are caused to proceed with caution. Our caution is not because we do not feel the need to move forward in accomplishing the work, but we are aware that even the best intentions can result in greater misunderstanding and confusion if done without the guiding influence of the Holy Spirit.

We cannot enjoy the benefits of the Holy Spirit if we insist on using our natural human abilities more than the spiritual powers that are promised to us. If we limit ourselves to our own human logic and if we don't open our eyes to the spiritual realm, we cannot develop our spiritual senses. We must remember that we are commanded to be spiritually minded.

A common habit, that characterizes many of us, is that we will zero in on a certain scripture or principle and overemphasize its importance. We magnify it to the point of crowding out all other principles or truths. It is like using a magnifying glass to read. The few words, sentence or paragraph that we are able to see on the page of a book through the glass is enlarged so that we can see to read that part very clearly, but the remaining part of the page is hidden from us.

If we overemphasize a principle or commandment, or even a certain aspect or view of the gospel of Christ in our teachings omitting the other necessary parts or principles, we will not be doing our duty. Rather we will be presenting an incomplete picture causing our students to be deficient in certain things.

As a for instance, if we overemphasize the principle of faith, leaving out repentance, baptism, the laying on of hands for the Holy Ghost, the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment, how well informed will we be? For that matter, can we say that we are actually saved? Well, you know the answer to that because a great number of church attending people in the world are so trapped by such inadequate teachings.

The thing that I must cry out against is the disposition that rejecting false doctrine is the answer to all our woes in the church. Just as the political world is periodically plagued with the would-be do-gooders dredging up old matters and trying to uncover some skeleton in a closet, so are we subject to similar efforts within the church.

Many fail to realize that exposing of a wrong does not guarantee that right will prevail. Condemning a falsehood requires more than just an attitude of finding fault. As a matter of fact, faultfinders are quite common in the world, and what's more, faults—the human kind—are in abundance.

What we don't need in the church now is another accusing finger! What we do need are the gifts of the Spirit sufficiently prevalent to guide us as a body past our own stumbling blocks—blocks that we have laid in

our own path unwittingly.

There is only one sure way to overcome the wrongs that we think we see in the church, and that is to reach beyond them to the Standard of truth that is in Jesus Christ. If we allow ourselves to become preoccupied with a matter that we feel is wrong, we are likely to allow it to become an obsession with us. Consequently it will bind us to a cause that will govern our every thought and will limit our comprehension of the more full truth of the gospel.

In order to maintain a true perspective in all situations, we must be able to see the greater scope of God's purpose in us. We can't always know His will in all things, but that which we do know will increase as we exercise faith in God. We must be consistent in attitude as well as in action, not letting our human wills get control. Otherwise we defeat the good we wish to do.

The wrong, or the falsehood, is not the important thing. There are many false doctrines, ideologies, theories, etc. in the world and the devil delights in using them to gain our attention, whether it be to gain our favor of them or to cause us to exercise our futile, human reactions in trying to expose them for what they are. In either case he usually wins a victory by drawing our attention to him, for we are no match to his powers, or his ability to deceive, in our own strength alone.

Our awareness of a wrong, according to our personal ability to judge right from wrong, gives us a challenge not uncommon to what has been experienced by human kind throughout all ages. Our remedy for wrong is right, and without the right wrong inevitably will prevail.

Our source of right is God and His channel of communicating right is through His Holy Spirit. Without that divine channel of communication we cannot succeed. We may be able to tread water for awhile, so to speak, but to actually reach solid ground depends on whether we are able to grasp the true life line of God's directing power.

Without the manifestation of God's Spirit in opening the true meaning to the written word of God, we are subject to flounder continually in misunderstandings. We are subject to the persuasions of men and their personal motives and wills.

At this very moment we seriously stand at the threshold of success or failure depending upon our willingness to cast ourselves down at the feet of Jesus and to humble ourselves to the dust of the earth. If we so humble ourselves before God, opening our hearts and minds to Him and patiently proving our good desires, we can be assured that He will rescue us from the multitude of the devil's means to deceive. So let us reach beyond that which perplexes us and look up to that Source of all truth that He might shine down upon us in His revealing light.

THE WAY

Sermon by Apostle Marvin Ely

I hope to be able to present that which might encourage; that which might give to each of you a sense of responsibility and desire to serve Jesus Christ and God. I intend to touch rather considerably on the subject of faith and some related things; how we may arrive at a faith at shall stand in the day in which we live. It is going to take greater faith for a number of reasons, two of which are: For the responsibility we have in an outreach to the children of men, and that we might stand in this time of trial which has been prophesied by the prophets of old.

Let me read Moroni 7: 35-36, "And Christ hath said, If ye will have faith in me, ye shall have power to do whatsoever thing is expedient in me. And he hath said, Repent all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me and be baptized in my name, and have faith in me, that ye may be saved." Now there is a lot of impact in those two verses. Number one, if you have faith in God you shall have power to do whatsoever things are expedient. I copied a little definition of the word "expedient": "Useful for effecting a desired result." Second, is repent, be baptized and have faith in God that you may be saved. This is the purpose of man, to work out his salvation here upon the face of this earth. Sometimes we flounder and walk away from the way we should walk. There is a way that we should follow, and I hope to touch not only you that are older but also every child with a hope and desire to have that faith. Our little ones are important before God as well as we who are older. And there is a scripture that says, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18: 3-4.

Now turn to Moroni 10: 17-18, "And Christ truly said unto our fathers, If ye have faith, ye can do all things which are expedient unto me. And now I speak unto all the ends of the earth, that if the day cometh that the power and gifts of God shall be done away among you, it shall be because of unbelief." It will not be because God's arm is shortened. Unbelief is the only thing that can stop these things. If we have sufficient faith, great and marvelous are the things that can be wrought. And I think that is so important that I want to touch upon the way we can arrive at that faith.

I would like to speak a bit on this power, as well. In Moroni 7 it mentioned, "... power to do whatsoever is expedient in me." In Moroni 10: 4-5, "And when ye shall receive these things," (what 'things' is that talking about? That is this book from which I read, the Book of Mormon, a book which is supposed to be one in thy hand with this book, which is the Bible, according to

Ezekiel.) "I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; And if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost; and by the power of the Holy Ghost, ye may know the truth of all things." We must not underestimate the power of the Holy Ghost in our lives. It was by that power that holy men of old delivered prophecies that are written, that we still have today; it is by that power of the Holy Ghost we can know the truth of all things.

2 Nephi 14: 6, says, "... if ye will enter in by the way and receive the Holy Ghost, it will shew unto you all things what ye should do." A plain and simple statement. We are told in scripture that if you will hunger and thirst after righteousness that ye shall be filled with the Holy Ghost. So we must not underestimate the importance of the power of the Holy Ghost in our lives. If you want that power of the Holy Ghost to be effective in your life you must hunger and thirst after righteousness.

Back to the 6th verse of Moroni 10, "And whatsoever thing is good, is just and true; wherefore, nothing that is good denieth the Christ, but acknowledgeth that he is." Now, return to Moroni 7: 11-13, "But behold, that which is of God, inviteth and enticeth to do good continually; wherefore, everything which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve him, is inspired of God. Wherefore, take heed, my beloved brethren, that ye do not judge that which is evil to be of God, or that which is good and of God, to be of the devil. For behold, my brethren, it is given unto you to judge, that ye may know good from evil; and the way to judge is as plain, that ye may know with a perfect knowledge, as the daylight is from the dark night." Now that is significant, the way to judge is plain.

We find another scripture in 2 Nephi, how Nephi gloried in plainness, and he wrote this: "For my soul delighteth in plainness: for after this manner doth the Lord God work among the children of men. For the Lord giveth light unto the understanding: for he speaketh unto men according to their language, unto their understanding." Chapter 13: 4-5. I hope and pray that I might inspire your hearts by the gift and power of the Holy Ghost to your understanding. I know I'm speaking your language. I'm not speaking some other language, but I hope to touch you according to your understanding.

Now to verse 14, chapter 7, Moroni, "For behold, the Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that they may know good from evil; wherefore I shew unto you the

way to judge: for everything which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ;" Note that the spirit is given to every man, not just one. It has to invite to do good, to believe in Christ. Verse 15-16: "Wherefore ye may know with a perfect knowledge, it is of God; but whatsoever thing persuadeth men to do evil, and believe not in Christ, and deny him, and serve not God, then ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of the Devil. For after this manner doth the Devil work, for he persuadeth no man to do good, no not one; neither doth his angels; neither do they who subject themselves unto him." This thing called "persuadeth," doesn't mean that the Devil won't do some things that have the appearance of good. We're told that he can work some mighty miracles. We are told in Matthew 24: 24, that "there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." The devil can appear as a minister of righteousness, also his angels, but they don't persuade to do good. It might have an outward appearance of good but it's ultimate end is evil.

Moroni 7: 17, "And now, my brethren, seeing that ye know the light by which ye may judge," and I hope I've outlined it to your understanding, "which light is the light of Christ, see that ye do not judge wrongfully; for with that same judgment which ye judge, ye shall also be judged." So be pretty careful how you judge, for you're going to be judged with the same judgments. And notice verse 18, a beautiful verse: "Wherefore I beseech of you, brethren, that ye should search diligently in the light of Christ, that ye may know good from evil; and if ye will lay hold upon every good thing, and condemn it not, ye certainly will be a child of Christ." It is commanded that we search diligently in the light of Christ. Jesus Christ said, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." John 5: 39. Yes, that commandment is there. It is important in our individual lives.

Turn again to Moroni 10, and read the 7th verse, "And ye may know that he is, by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore I would exhort you, that ye deny not the power of God; for he worketh by power, according to the faith of the children of men, the same today and tomorrow, and for ever." There it is. He works by power among you according to your faith. It's simply outlined, as plain as any man can present it; plain to our understanding. He works by power according to the faith of the children of men and it is by power that the gifts of the Spirit are wrought among the children of men in all their abundance. If they are ever done away it will be because of unbelief and not because God has changed. God is an unchangeable God. If he were a changing God, you and I would never know which way to go. But he isn't a changing God. He expects the

same of you and I as he expected of Adam, Noah, Abraham, Nephi, Alma and of others. A perfect way of salvation was laid out in the beginning and it doesn't need changing. I brought out in the past about the old paths and the commandment to walk therein. That is the way, and there is no other.

We find in the book of Hebrews, chapter 11, that the elders of old received a good report by faith. There are some who accomplished great and marvelous things by faith. Verse 6 says that "without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." That doesn't really need much explanation. I never cease to be amazed at how the scriptures tie in together. What a wonderful blessing this is. What a fortunate people we are to have a God so great and wonderful.

In the book of Luke 17: 5, we find the apostles of Jesus Christ coming to him and saying, "Increase our faith." Before I continue to read from Luke I want to use Matthew 10: 1, "And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease." Now these were the twelve disciples, or Apostles as He called them, and he gave them power to do these things. Now return to Luke 17, and remember that these were the same men who had that power given to them, and Jesus responded to their request for increased faith in verse 6, "If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you." Now what is this mustard seed that's so important here? It doesn't mean some tiny bit of faith. That isn't what it means because in that mustard seed is potential. Potential growth, potential action, potential life. It becomes a great herb, and Christ quite commonly called the mustard a tree in which the birds can find refuge. He likened the kingdom of heaven unto a mustard seed. We must have that potential of growth and life in our faith.

Now there's a passage of scripture in Matthew 17: 14-21, of which I'll tell you part and read a part. In this instance a certain man came to Jesus Christ and kneeled down before him, concerned for his son. He said he was a lunatic. And the man said, "... oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not cure him." Then Jesus said, "faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour." These are the same men who were given power against unclean spirits. And the disciples were concerned, and we should be concerned also, because of things we aren't accomplishing. They were so concerned they came to Jesus apart.

They didn't want the people to know about this. They asked him, "Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief . . ." That must have really hit home. He also said, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." *Nothing shall be impossible to you!*

In John 14: 12, Jesus Christ said to his disciples, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." Nothing shall be impossible to you, and greater things shall ye do. Then he goes on in verse 15 to say, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

Returning to Matthew 17: 21, Jesus said, "Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting." There are things you cannot do without prayer and fasting. I know this to be true, not just because I've read it, but because I've experienced it personally in my life. There are certain things which I was called upon to do, and I knew ahead of time that in order to be successful I had to pray and fast. The Lord heard and evil spirits were cast out because of that. I know it. I'm a witness before you that it is true. I've been there and I know how the power of God works, but I also know that I can go a lot farther. There's a lot expected of me, and you each have a lot expected of you. I hope to install within you a desire to really draw close to God.

—to be continued—

Path Lights

A TESTIMONY

My vocabulary is not sufficient to write or to express to you in any way the change this occurrence has brought to me. I have had several outstanding spiritual experiences that have changed my life however this one differed from them all. I've known joy and peace that has overpowered me and brought me to tears and physical weakness. I have had the spirit come over me to such a degree that it has affected me for days afterward. This experience makes me realise that God is infinite and that whatever you and I know or enjoy from past blessings shall be overshadowed in an instant at any time the Lord sees fit to carry us on the wings of his spirit. Most of the spiritual experiences in my life moved me to tears however this one was beyond tears.

On the evening of April 2, 1984 the Elders and Apostles met to consider a matter of spiritual importance. The meeting was held at the East Independence Local. The meeting progressed and certain things happened causing me concern and distress. We engaged in a second season of prayer and while offering my prayer I had a great desire to repent of my thoughts and to be led completely by the spirit. My concern was for the congregation that was depending on the Apostles and Elders for leadership and council. I poured my heart out in repentance that the Lord would forgive me if my heart was not right before him. The spirit came over me to the extent that I was assured of my forgiveness. I was again at peace and my soul rested but, as the meeting continued I could plainly see that others didn't receive the same blessing and peace concerning the matter at hand. This in turn troubled me further in

behalf of others. The meeting adjourned and I started home in the car the Pennington's had loaned me. I was conversing with God vocally by myself as I drove. I was as well concerned because I was scheduled to preach the following night and didn't want any of my personal anxieties to show up in the sermon. Then while driving down 350 HWY it came to me that I must do something I had never done before for myself.

I lifted up my voice and cried out, "In the name of Jesus Christ get thee behind me satan that I may serve my God."

Brothers and sisters, even as I write this my soul remembers the inexpressible happiness and the taste of heaven I then knew. The further I drove and the closer I got to the Pennington's home the happier I became. When I drove up the drive and walked into the house and went up stairs I could scarcely contain my joy and peace. I wanted so to tell the world, Hosana, Hosana, blessed be the name of the Lord, Hosana I am free, I am Free Indeed! I was made free like a little child is free! I was freed to serve my God! I was freed from all fear and guilt. Death for Christ would have been sweet.

I am completely at a loss to tell what I now know of the reward that God has for each of those who will live for Christ and forsake their sins and themselves and give their soul to God to be used by Him. I knew the power over me was the spirit the servants of God would one day preach to the world through. I knew that by the "foolishness of preaching" could souls indeed be altered and saved. I knew that if it were expedient in the Lord I could have prophesied. I knew that this was the spiritual experience that would call to Christ's sheep

"repent and serve me." I knew Christ's sheep would respond and be able to make commitments that were previously too hard to make.

While under the influence of this gift there was only one thing important in life, serving my God. All things concerning myself were of no consequence. If we could all see and feel for just a moment the things that are truly important in life we would change as a people and that willingly without regret. Life is so short and most of the things we believe are needed for happiness aren't needed at all. There will be joy in our total submission to God.

I was carried upon the wings of his spirit though the night and well into the next day. I went through my usual routine of menial tasks and duties as a father and husband and with a freedom that never before have I experienced. I went to Conference that day carrying this spirit with me but, as I went I began to feel and understand that everyone in Christ's church has not known this great testimony and that was my one sorrow. I could feel the pains in the souls of many and it made me sad. I felt many things and knew many things that have previously been taken for granted by me.

When I awoke there was a song in my heart. I have no musical abilities and can't remember the simplest songs so when I do think of a tune I pay close attention to it. I shared with my wife the words and she recalled the name of the song. It was #107 in Zions Hymnal, "The Angel Message," and the opening words are, "I have found the glorious gospel. . .". What ever my lot in life I shall always know "I have found the gospel". If I fall away each of you will know that I had this testim-

ony. The closing song for the Tuesday morning prayer service was #354, "With A Steadfast Faith," and as we sang the song and came to the refrain, "Tho' the sun and moon and stars shall cease, And the beauty of the earth decay, Yet the word of God, oh, blessed be His name, It shall never, never pass away" and I KNEW IT WAS TRUE; the word of God shall never pass away.

I have tasted the white fruit. I know that I AM THAT I AM is and lives and will reign. If you have not known this indiscribable fruit "desireable to make one happy" then repent and humbly pray that the day will come when you shall taste of it. I do openly proclaim there is nothing of this world worth sacrificing your opportunity to savor the taste of this sweet fruit. Don't take the jeopardy of temporary comforts and thrills. Give and to you it shall be given. There will be times in our future when the Lord will pour out his spirit upon the congregation of the saints, to give them the joy and confidence needed to serve Him. I know this to be a fact however, we must first each be tried to show our faith.

Yet, brothers and sisters, with all this we will still be corruptible humans. We shall be given much and much shall be required from us and great will be satan's power to tempt and lead away even the very elect. Stay humble and sacrifice your pride and wants and God will continue to pour out his spirit and in a way that none of his sheep will doubt that it is the Lord who speaks, "follow me".

YOUR BROTHER IN CHRIST
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If there is a testimony in your life I can use in this series, please send it to:

Path Lights
c/o Melissa McGhee
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Independence, Mo. 64052

A PUBLIC "THANK YOU" NOTICE

To all of you who sent flowers, cards, visited or whispered my name in your prayers—please accept my heart-felt "thanks". For in my recent illness while being "detained" in the Missouri Chest Hospital, I couldn't breathe lying down and had to sit up day and night. After five days of this I received an instant blessing. I could lie down and breathe! I slept like a baby all night and a nurse had to wake me up at 7 a.m. for breakfast! To us it was a miracle, for which we will

be eternally grateful.

The thought that you were upholding me in your prayers never ceases to thrill me and fill me with a joy only those who have been on the receiving end can know.

Thank you. Your love, good wishes and prayers have done their work and I'm up, home and feeling wonderful. May God bless you.

Oren Caviness

— TRIBUTE —

to Apostle Elmer Leon Yates

Elmer Leon Yates was born in Seiling, Oklahoma on April 22, 1907 to James Elmer and Lillie May. He was the youngest of seven children born to this union. When Leon was but seven years of age his missionary father moved the family to Phoenix, Arizona. They made this lengthy journey by covered wagon and along the way suffered hardship, but enjoyed many spiritual experiences that would be remembered through life by each member of the family, experiences which would firmly reinforce in the mind of a young boy his marvelous spiritual heritage.

During the last several years Leon and his brother-in-law, Oren Caviness, have born testimonies in which they told of climbing trees as youngsters playing together in Colorado that they might "preach" to the cows in the pasture below. Here, reflected in children's play we see a portent of things to come in the lives of those who set their "... affection on things above, not on things of the earth." (Col. 3:2) As a young man Leon would accompany, when possible, his father in his missionary travels through the west.

When, as a young boy, Leon applied for a job carrying newspapers for the "Arizona Republican" where his two older brothers had routes, he was told that he wasn't big enough. "No bigger than a mosquito," said the agent, but Leon convinced them to try him out and he got the job. This determination exhibited at an early age was to be a characteristic demonstrated throughout his life. It is a characteristic which sometimes proves frustrating and irritating to opponents but which enabled him, when coupled with the blessings of God, to gain the victory over crippling injuries, temporary setbacks and insurmountable odds he was to encounter in later missionary work in Mexico. The appellation, mosquito, was later shortened to "Skeeter" and finally to "Skeet" by which he was affectionately known to a multitude of friends.

In California he met the woman who was to be his companion and helpmate for life. He was married to Francis Dexter on his twentieth birthday in 1927 in Phoenix, Arizona where they would make their home and raise their family. To this union three children were born; Leon Jr., Marlene and Ronald.

Leon was called to the office of Priest by his father, Apostle James E. Yates. He was ordained October 30, 1929 under the hands of his father, assisted by Elders

Hubert A. Yates and Isaac Owens.

He was ordained to the office of Elder on May 30, 1934 by his father who was assisted by Elders Oren A. Caviness and Hubert A. Yates. For the next twenty years these three young elders were to serve the congregation of the Church of Christ in Phoenix alternating in service as Pastor, assistant Pastor, teaching adult and young peoples' classes and traveling to serve the several isolated members in that region. No young person growing up in Phoenix during that period would forget the closeness of that tie they felt with these elders in Christ's church.

At age 51, in the year 1958, Leon received a disability retirement from the Phoenix Fire Department where he had served for 30 years. He served as a Captain and was also the president of the Firefighters' Union. He also ran his own farrier business for sixteen years. After his retirement he and his wife moved to Mack's Creek, Missouri where they became valued members of the Collins Local of the Church of Christ.

Leon was called and ordained to the office of Apostle at the 1954 Conference. He was ordained April 11th under the hands of Apostle Leon A. Gould (after whom he was named) and Apostle Thomas E. Barton.

Prior to his retirement from the fire department Leon took a leave of absence to accompany Apostle Clarence L. Wheaton on a missionary trip to Yucatan. He was to continue his labor in this field for the remainder of his life. Although his ministry took him to many places in the United States, Canada and Europe his primary responsibilities were to build up the church among the Indian people of Mexico. He and his wife expended much of their time, resources and energy carrying the Word of God to the people of Mexico. In spite of many problems, times of personal danger and great persecution, the work of the gospel flourished during Leon's ministry there and today in the states of Yucatan, Quintana Roo and Campeche there are many locals of the Church of Christ where he and his companion are remembered with fondness and love by those who received the gospel through their efforts.

The spiritual legacy and heritage that were his are now passed on to others through his long life of dedicated service to the Lord and the restoration of His gospel in the latter day.

One day at a time! but a single day,
 Whatever its load, whatever its length,
 And there's a bit of precious scripture to say,
 That according to each shall be our strength.

The three great essentials of Happiness are:
Something to do.
Something to love.
Something to Hope for. *Chalmers*

MICHIGAN REUNION

The weekend of June 16-17, 1984, set aside for the annual reunion of Michigan Saints and friends, found over 100 gathered at the Bradley local to renew old friendships and worship our heavenly Father. The young people of the local deserve a big vote of thanks for all the hours they spent scrubbing floors and carpets, dusting, and generally cleaning the church so that it would be in "apple pie" order for our worship services. The weather was hot and humid, but just right for those of us who were camping out.

We were especially pleased to have in our midst, Apostles Robert Jensen and Don Housknecht and Elder Eugene Gould. This was Brother Gould's first trip to Michigan — we hope to see him again next year. Others visiting from out of state were, Karen Jake and family from Florida and Nora Jackson from California.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16 — Morning

We were welcomed to the Saturday morning preaching service by Elder LaVern Lussenden, who was in charge.

Opening song was "Come, Learn of the Meek and Lowly," followed by prayer by Brother Lussenden. Second song — "Amazing Grace."

Following a few opening remarks and a scripture reading from the 58th Chapter of Isaiah by Brother Lussenden, Elder Eugene Gould was introduced as the speaker of the hour. Brother Gould used the following scriptures, which we urge you to read in their entirety:

Deuteronomy 11:26-28

Deuteronomy 11 is an appeal for devotion to God's word and obedience to his commandments, with wondrous promises and ominous warnings. We are promised a blessing if we obey his commandments and a curse if we will not obey them and go after other beliefs and teachings which are false and contrary to the teachings of the Lord our God.

Deuteronomy 7: 9-10

This scripture contains one of the greatest promises God has made to man who would keep his commandments. If we will repent and turn to God, we will be recipients of his blessings throughout our lives and when we pass from this life we will be the recipients of eternal life to live with our Saviour in his presence.

Acts 2:36-39

Here Peter is speaking to the congregation on the day of Pentecost, with instructions on what we should do to begin with. Peter's answer when they asked him, "What shall we do?" was "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." This promise was not just to this people, but the promise was to go on down to our time and to the end of time.

Book of Mormon, Page 214, Verses 71-91

King Benjamin is speaking to his people at the time he was to give up his kingdom to his son. You will remember that King Benjamin was a righteous king. He not only gave them his commandments, but commandments from God, and because they had kept these commandments they were kept from falling into the hands of their enemies and prospered in the land. King Benjamin also warned his people against allowing contentions to arise among them.

Brother Gould pointed out that God is the same today as he was back then, and we have the same promise if we obey his commandments. It is his feeling that part of the reason for the downfall of the restoration movement can be traced to the fact that we have allowed contentions to come among us.

Deuteronomy 30:11-15

We have the commandment to serve our God with all our might and strength — a blessing if we keep his commandments and a curse if we reject his commandments.

For our closing song, following this inspiring message, we sang "Praise Ye The Lord," followed by prayer by Brother Lussenden.

Immediately after the morning preaching service, we formed a caravan and drove out to East Lake to witness the baptism of Diane Raymond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gale Brantner. The ordinance was performed by Apostle Robert Jensen. Following the baptism, we drove back to the little white church for the confirmation through the hands of Apostles Jensen and Housknecht and extending of the Hand of Fellowship by members of the congregation. We ask an interest in the prayers of the Saints on behalf of this young lady, who has committed herself to serving the Master.

Following the confirmation, we adjourned to the dining area across the street from the church for the purpose of feeding the mortal body. During the lunch hour, we had an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of and renew acquaintances with brothers and sisters we see only at reunion time.

Afternoon

After lunch, we reconvened for the second sermon of the day. For our opening song, we sang "Make Me a Blessing," followed by prayer by Elder Conley Addington. For our second song, we sang "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me."

Brother Addington then introduced Apostle Robert Jensen as our afternoon speaker. Following is a brief report of the highlights of his sermon:

Brother Jensen opened his sermon with a quotation from 1 John, verses 1-4, and pointed out that insofar as world conditions are concerned it almost seems that these scriptures could be a modern day publication.

It states in the Book of Ecclesiastes that "there is nothing new under the sun," which seems to indicate

that we as human beings continue to make the same mistakes as were made by human beings since the days of Adam. This is not a very good record for those of us who have had the benefit of so many thousands of years of experience that we can read about in our history books. We were reminded that there are many lessons in the Old Testament that are applicable to us today from which we can benefit if we will listen.

Brother Jensen referred to a newspaper article in which it was reported that the Space Program is busy proving that what has been called myth in the Bible is true. Even the Space Program is proving that God lives and his word is true.

It was further pointed out that there is coming in the latter part of this latter day dispensation of time, critical situations in which we shall need the Lord to fight for us, to bless our lands, and to bless our families in health, strength, and direction. We have this promise in I Nephi 7:30, "And all that fight against Zion shall be destroyed." Zion shall be were the Lord's people are gathered together.

What of Zion? In speaking to our day and time, the word of the Lord in I Nephi, 3rd Chapter, verses 187 through 189, says: "And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;

"And if they endure unto the end, they shall be lifted up at the last day, and shall be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb;

"And whoso shall publish peace, yea, tidings of great joy, how beautiful upon the mountains shall they be."

In closing, we were reminded to not set our sights short, but remember that the reward is to those who continue unto the end.

We closed the service with the singing of "The Old, Old Path," followed by prayer by Brother Addington.

Business Meeting

Following Brother Jensen's sermon, we reconvened at 4:15 for the annual business meeting, chaired by Brother Norman Trudgen. Following are items of interest from that meeting:

Jeff Butts, whose term on the Reunion Committee expired this year, was reelected for a 3-year term.

June Haines was reelected as Secretary and Reporter for the 1984-85 year.

Considerable discussion was had on the three referendums just received, on which we will be voting shortly. Brother Jensen was requested to give a brief explanation of each, and a question and answer period followed.

Brother Addington announced that the church at Maple City is now free and clear of the restriction previously placed on it and that ownership is now in the hands of the General Church in Independence, with the stipulation that if Maple City ever again becomes a local the property will revert back to them. He and Sister Addington have indicated that it will be

possible to have the 1985 state reunion at Maple City. Final decision on location for the 1985 reunion will be made at a later date by the Reunion Committee.

SUNDAY

Morning

At 9 a.m., we gathered at the church for communion and a prayer and testimony service. The service was under the direction of Apostles Jensen and Housknecht. The opening song was "The Savior at Your Door," followed by prayer by Brother Jensen. For our second song, we sang "Jesus is Calling Today."

We were reminded by Brother Jensen that the purpose of the sacrament is to renew the covenant we made with our Father in the waters of baptism wherein we promised to keep his commandments to the best of our ability throughout the remainder of our lives. As oft as we return with a contrite spirit and a broken heart for the mistakes we may have made, our heavenly Father is willing to forgive us.

Brother Jensen then read from the 6th Chapter of the Book of Moroni, which deals with observance of the Lord's supper.

Following serving of the emblems, Brother Housknecht read from the 94th Psalm, verses 11 through 23.

Prior to turning the meeting over to the congregation for prayer and testimony service, we witnessed the blessing of Baby Jeffrey Tee Thomas, son of Jeffrey and Cindy Thomas, by Elder LaVern Lussenden.

There then followed a season of prayer and testimony. Many took part, giving prayers and testimonies truly inspiring to the rest of the congregation. We also witnessed the ordinance of administration to the sick, when a little baby was presented to our heavenly Father for his blessing and healing.

For our closing song, we chose "My God! Thou See'st Me." Closing prayer was offered by Brother Jensen.

Afternoon

Following lunch, we again met at the church for the final service of the day, a song service under the direction of Brother Lussenden. In addition to group singing by the entire congregation, specials were rendered by Ken and June Haines, the Lussenden Quartet, the Lussenden Trio (LaVern, Rick, and Wayne), and the Lussenden Quarter II (LaVern and Joyce and LaVern's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Lussenden).

We closed the service with the singing of "How Great Thou Art," followed by prayer by Brother Lussenden.

Tired and weary, but spiritually enriched through communion with our brothers and sisters of like faith, we said our fond farewells and went our separate ways for another year. A special thanks to the "Bradley Bunch" for another wonderful reunion.

Reported by June Haines

COLLINS LOCAL NEWS

It's good to have the opportunity to write to you again. As I look over my notes of the past two months I see how quickly time has slipped by me and also the changes it has left behind. I guess time wouldn't be time if it didn't leave a mark on us to show its passing.

May 13th was Mother's Day and after we had enjoyed a nice volunteer program, our Brother Larry Shaw, being the speaker of the hour, shared approximately 30 questions "a mother might ask" with us and gave answers and comments.

A few examples are:

Q. What is the greatest sin?

A. Fear. Fear of ridicule, fear to be your own person.

Q. What is the best day?

A. Today. This is all you've got. We can't do anything about yesterday and tomorrow may never come.

Q. Who is the biggest fool?

A. The boy who will not go to school.

Q. What is the cheapest, most stupid, easiest, thing you can do?

A. Find fault.

Q. What is the greatest thought?

A. Thoughts of God.

I mentioned earlier about time leaving its mark on us. On May 14th time left a great void in our lives. Our beloved brother, Apostle Leon Yates, passed from this mortal life into that peaceful state we know as paradise. Although we feel a great loss and are saddened, I know that the angels in heaven surely rejoiced.

A memorial service was held May 19th at the Collins Church of Christ by Apostle Don McIndoo, assisted by Apostle William Sheldon. Graveside services were conducted by Brother Oren Caviness with closing comments and prayer by Brother Joe Yates.

"... The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Our guest speaker for the month of May was Brother Loren Bryant from Cowgill, Missouri. He spoke of how man's days are numbered. This life is a life of preparation. There have been those who compromised the word of God. How much can WE compromise His teachings? We should be careful what we speak in the name of Christ. There are a lot of promises in the scriptures—some we like to dwell on; some we don't—still they are promises.

Brother Jack Martin was our speaker May 27th and took his text chiefly from the 5th chapter of Ephesians comparing the husband-wife relationship to that of Christ and the church. How can two become one flesh? You become a family—much as Christ, God, and the Holy Ghost are one in purpose, "family". Verse

32: A great mystery—Christ and the church are to be one also. It is not expedient to think more of ourselves, but to submit ourselves one to another. The life you lead is like a candle on a candle stick—if we let it shine those 'round about will notice. They may not always revere you for it, because not all are followers of Christ.

The Colorado Reunion was June 8th, 9th, and 10th to which some of the Collins Local were able to attend. Jack and Betty Martin, Rhondal and Irene Shaw, (who are visiting in Oregon and Colorado until October.) Allen, Shawna, Brian, Terri, and myself all count it a privilege to have been there. It was a first time for my family and we enjoyed it very much. Thank you all for your warm hospitality.

Brother Tony Grzincic was our guest speaker for June. He said we met in Christ's name and in His presence. Does it mean anything to you that where two or three are gathered, there He is to be also? Perhaps Brother Grzincic said that because there were so few of us, but we were only too happy to be there and get to hear him. He told us of Nicodemus, the Pharisee, coming to Jesus by night and how at a later date Nicodemus didn't stand up for Jesus under pressure of the other Pharisees. He made his point by asking the question: will we—stand up for Jesus under pressure?

Brother Allen Kauffman was our speaker June 23rd. He spoke on repentance and forgiveness. He defined each word and asked, do we accept God's forgiveness when we repent? We must recognize that we have sin. (Rom. 3:23) The sacrifice we have to make to God is a broken heart and a contrite spirit. How much dedication do we have, as a people, to our God?

Brother Oren Caviness has been in the hospital due to congestive heart failure, but is home now and doing better. He has to have oxygen at night, but can go without it during the day sometimes. We're hoping that soon he will be strong enough to come back to church again as his and Esther's presence is missed considerably.

Sister Floralise Yates has also been in the hospital and is home again and under the care of her daughter-in-law who is reported to be doing an excellent job in caring for her. Floralise is a diabetic and the doctors have had quite a time getting her insulin regulated and such.

I am sure many prayers have been offered for Oren and Floralise and I know God has blessed them, but please do not stop praying for them as they have a ways to go yet. Also, please remember Lynda Yates and her mother-in-law, Oreta. They both have health problems and will appreciate your prayers on their behalf as well. I know there are many in need and I do not mean to burden you, but we need your support in prayer, not only for our sick, but for our local in general. Do not let us down—we need you. God bless you all, is my continued prayer.

Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman

OKLAHOMA NEWS

Springtime has been a busy time for all of us. Busy times continue as we face these hot summer days. Not only have we kept a busy church schedule, but a busy home schedule as well. We all lost many shrubs this past winter due to a freak weather pattern. Among the many shrubs lost were dozens of roses. We all love our homes and we take good care of them and this means busy evenings replacing all the dead shrubs.

The Beems made a move this spring. They moved from Norman to the edge of Oklahoma City. It is a small acreage located at the top of a knoll. From their front yard, you can see cattle grazing and in a distance housing developments. It is peaceful, beautiful, and quiet. They love it!

On May 6, we were surprised and happy to have visitors from Independence. Roger and Martha Bruner were visiting his sister who lives in Welston, OK. They joined us this beautiful sabbath morning and Roger spoke to us. It was a treat for those of us who had never heard him. Brother Roger said, "You can't just know (the gospel), you have to believe. You can't just believe, you have to do." He went on to say that whatever our attitude or frame of mind is, our actions are going to show it. We are an advertisement of what we believe.

Mother's Day, Brother Frank Fann spoke the sermon. Christy Beem wrote about Brother Frank's sermon. Christy writes: Brother Frank Fann read in Acts a story about a woman who had faith so strong. She was very sick and when she saw Jesus she reached out and touched Him and she was healed. Mothers care about their children's appearance and God does, too. God cares who our friends are and He's there when we need Him. (Thank you, Christy. I wish I could have heard the sermon, too.)

The other Sundays in May, our pastor Elder Larry Beem preached. We were told that it is getting more and more difficult to be Christ centered. We need to become spiritually prepared. Prepare for Christ's second coming. We must pay attention and be aware of the happenings around us. Many times we become so self centered, we have tuned God out of our lives. We cannot make idols of our possessions. As we grow in the knowledge of Christ, we need to become more attuned. Let us open our ears to hear and open our hearts to receive the word of God. This is what we are striving for: "And may the Lord bless your soul, and receive you at the last day into His Kingdom, to sit down in peace." (Alma 18:17)

During the month of June, our little group was going here and there visiting family or on a vacation trip. Our most joyous Sunday was when Brother Tony and Louise came to be with us. We greeted the Grzincics with a barbecue on Saturday night at the Beems. On Sunday morning, everyone gathered again

for church and Sunday School. Brother Tony based his good sermon on the scripture John 4:1-42. The story of the woman at the well has been the subject of many sermons. There are many thoughts to be considered. Why didn't Jesus go with the others for the meat? Why did Jesus ask a Samaritan for a drink? Why did the woman talk to Jesus when she knew He was a Jew? Brother Tony was a good teacher as he explained some of his thoughts about this famous story.

July promises to be a good month, for we are going to have the Marvin Cases with us on July 9. We are eagerly looking forward to that.

"And may the grace of God the Father, whose throne is high in the heavens, and our Lord Jesus Christ, who sitteth on the right hand of his power, until all things shall become subject unto him, be, and abide with you forever. Amen." (Moroni 9:28)

Alzada Massey
Reporter

Smith Golden Wedding Anniversary

The Children and the Grandchildren of Kenneth and Edna Smith honored their parents on their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a reception held at the George Owen Nature Park Lodge in Independence on Sunday, June 3, 1984 from 3:30 to 6:30.

Kenneth and Edna were married June 4, 1934 at the home of Brother and Sister Nelson Tucker at Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Father of the bride, Elder B. C. Flint, performed the ceremony and the knot was tied secure for it has stayed tied for 50 years and God willing many more.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and thanks to our many friends and loved ones that sent greetings and cards expressing their love for us on this happy occasion. We take this means of letting all know how deeply your well wishes are appreciated.

Sincerely in love,
Kenneth and Edna Smith



Letter To The Editor

4056 E. Danbury Road,
Phoenix, Az., 85032
July 3, 1984

Roland Sarratt, Editor,
Zion's Advocate,
Independence, Mo.,

Dear Brother,

At long last CUT FROM THE ROUGH, the life story of my father, the late Apostle James E. Yates, is now in print and ready for distribution.

Because it emphasizes the Restoration of the Gospel and related spiritual experiences I hope you will consider it not inappropriate to mention in *Zion's Advocate* to let the readers know that it is now available, and that all particulars regarding it may be obtained from me, at my home address above.

The book contains his own account of his early childhood; his baptism; his call to the ministry; his ordination; his courtship and marriage; their life on a homestead in Okla. Territory and his missionary experiences through a long and dedicated life.

It contains many poems from his own pen, together with an account of the persons and occasions which prompted them. There are humorous and earthy incidents related in the book as well, but the spiritual aspect predominates. Some of the activities of the writer's family are included also, and if you like to read about what makes a missionary and his family tick, you will enjoy CUT FROM THE ROUGH, the title Father gave the autobiography he began before death stilled his pen.

I have been too long in honoring his request that I complete what he began, but I am glad now to offer the 200-page volume with twenty-four family photographs. We can only hope that lovers of the Restoration will find the book interesting to read and something that will inspire him or her to walk joyously and securely in the "old, old path."

In Gospel Bonds,



Evalena Sills

(The book is priced at \$10.00, plus mailing costs.)

Transformed By Prayer

When the Scriptures tell us that the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much, it plainly teaches us that true prayer is not in vain. Our own experiences also confirm the fact, that circumstances and conditions are changed as a direct result of prayer, and that things are definitely altered for the benefit of the person who is the subject of the intercession. But we shall have an entirely wrong idea of the final object of prayer, if we limit its results to the outward alteration of our material and physical circumstances.

The main purpose of prayer is not to change things around us. Its greatest and highest objective is to change us, the things within us; to transform our hearts and minds that we may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of Christ. When times of distress come upon us, when we are in a stunned state, when our hearts are being tested, we need to pray, for we need to be changed from within.

The object of the circumstances that have created our time of need is that we might be renewed, transformed into the image of Christ, God's only begotten dear Son. And when the prayer that results from our affliction has wrought the necessary change within us, then the outward circumstances will of necessity change.

To attempt by prayer to alter things outside ourselves without the needed adjustment within ourselves, will lead to disappointment, and may indeed cause us to feel that we cannot rely upon prayer. For we shall ask and receive not, if we ask amiss. But through the Spirit, we seek transformation first from within, then the Spirit will aid our weakness. Not knowing what we should pray for as we ought, the Spirit will intercede on our behalf in a language understood by God and Christ who reads our hearts. Prayer corrects our thoughts, and strengthens our faith, and allows new vitality to enter our lives. As we realize the presence and power from on High, so our hearts and minds are kept in the peace which passeth all understanding. And then we know that all things work together for good to those who love Christ and are called according to His purpose.

When prayer works these things in us, then we are truly seeking First the Kingdom (ZION) of Christ and God within our own hearts. Then, indeed, the circumstances, the conditions, the things material and physical around us that are crying out for solution — all these things shall be added unto us. For our surrendered lives will bring us into harmony and peace with our Creator, and our sorrow shall be turned into joy, a joy which no one can take from us.

So let us as a family in Christ pray for one and another, because a family that prays together will stay together.

Elder John J. Schut
The Netherlands

Prayer and Diligence In Keeping His Commandments

Drawn from a sermon by Elder Arlo Gould

I'll begin by reading in 1 Nephi 4:8-13. The elder sons of Lehi were disputing among themselves concerning the things their father had spoken to them. When Nephi inquired the cause of their disputations they answered, "Behold, we cannot understand the words which our father hath spoken concerning the natural branches of the olive tree, and also concerning the Gentiles. And I said unto them, Have ye inquired of the Lord? And they said unto me, We have not; for the Lord maketh no such thing known unto us. Behold, I said unto them, How is it that ye do not keep the commandments of the Lord? How is it that ye will perish because of the hardness of your hearts? Do ye not remember the things which the Lord hath said, If ye will not harden your hearts, and ask me in faith, believing that ye shall receive, with diligence in keeping my commandments, surely, these things shall be made known unto you?"

One important part of this reading not usually stressed is, "*with diligence in keeping my commandments.*" The covenants and promises of the Lord are conditional; the condition is compliance and obedience on the part of man. Webster listed the word "*careful*" as a synonym to the word diligent. We must be careful to obey the commandments of God if we want to receive of Him our petitions.

Turning to Enos 1:24, we read, "For he had said unto me, Whatsoever thing ye shall ask in faith, believing that ye shall receive in the name of Christ, ye shall receive it." Here again is the "believing that ye shall receive" when we ask; but we must remember to carry diligence in keeping His commandments along with that, and ask in Christ's name.

Again in Mosiah 2:36, "And now, if God, who has created you, on whom you are dependent for your lives, and for all that ye have and are, doth grant unto you whatsoever ye ask that is right, in faith, believing that ye shall receive . . ." Faith to believe that we shall receive, asking in the name of Christ, diligence in keeping his commandments, and now one more condition for the granted prayer: *asking that which is right.* We can't ask wrong things, things to hurt others or ourselves, or to the detriment of His purposes, and think He has promised to grant them.

3 Nephi 8:50-51, "And it came to pass that when Jesus had spoken these words unto his disciples, he turned again unto the multitude, and said unto them, Behold, verily, verily, I say unto you, ye must watch and pray always, lest ye enter into temptation; For Satan desireth to have you, that he may sift you as wheat; therefore ye must always pray unto the Father in my name; and whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my

name, *which is right*, believing that ye shall receive, behold it shall be given unto you." This was spoken to the whole multitude.

Moroni 7:26, "And as sure as Christ liveth, he spake these words unto our fathers, saying, Whatsoever thing ye shall ask the Father in my name, *which is good*, in faith believing that ye shall receive, behold it shall be done unto you."

" . . . in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established." Matthew 18:16. Here we have Moroni, Nephi and Mosiah all warning to ask only those things that are right and good, and we need not suppose to receive ought of the Lord if we are not diligent in obeying this commandment. And if we do not receive because we are careless in keeping this commandment, shall we not fail to receive if we are careless about keeping any other of His commandments?

3 Nephi 13:6, Jesus Himself speaking, "And verily I say unto you, Whatsoever things ye shall ask the Father, in my name, it shall be given unto you; therefore ask, and ye shall receive; knock and it shall be opened unto you; for he that asketh, receiveth, and unto him that knocketh, it shall be opened." In this incident Jesus didn't mention anything about having faith or believing that we shall receive what we ask for. Does it follow that it is not essential? He doesn't specify asking for that which is right. Does it follow that, right or wrong, whatever asked is granted? He doesn't mention that it is needful to be careful in keeping His commandments either, so is that not necessary?

Mormon reiterates the need to believe, chapter 4:84, "Behold I say unto you, that whosoever believeth in Christ, doubting nothing, whatsoever he shall ask the Father in the name of Christ, it shall be granted him; and this promise is unto all, even unto the ends of the earth." This promise is unto *all*, even down to the *end time*, and *wherever* upon the face of the earth. That definitely includes us. Mormon has added a requirement, not only to believe doubting nothing but to *believe in Christ*. How could one ask in His name if one did not believe in him?

Mormon 4:92-93, "O then despise not, and wonder not, but hearken unto the words of the Lord, and ask the Father in the name of Jesus for what things soever ye shall stand in need. Doubt not, but be believing, and begin as in times of old, and come unto the Lord with all your heart, and work out your own salvation with fear and trembling before him." A clipping from *Pulpit Helps* reads, "Pray as if everything depended on God; work as if everything depended on man." Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, with dili-

gence (carefulness), keeping His commandments.

Mormon 4:94, "Be wise in the days of your probation; strip yourselves of all uncleanness; ask not, that ye may consume it on your lusts, but ask with a firmness unshaken, that ye will yield to no temptation, but that ye will serve the true and living God." Are there things we need from the hand of the Lord? Here are a few, at least, of His directions on what is required of us in our approach to Him: Ask in faith, believing in Jesus, asking in his name; believing we shall receive; doubting not; asking what is good and right only, out of a good and right motive, not to consume it on our lusts; being diligent in obeying His commandments with a firmness, unshaken, to serve Him, the true and living God.

LET ME BE A GIVER

God, let me be a giver, and not one
Who only takes and takes unceasingly;
God, let me give, so that not must my own,
But others' lives as well, may richer be.

Let me give out whatever I may hold
Of what material things life may be heaping,
Let me give raiment, shelter, food, or gold
If these are, through Thy bounty, in my keeping.

But greater than such fleeting treasures, may
I give my faith and hope and cheerfulness,
Belief and dreams and joy and laughter gay
Some lonely soul to bless.

Mary Carolyn Davies

Phoenix Reunion

The 1984 Phoenix Reunion will be held November 23, 24 and 25, 1984 at 2929 E. Seista Lane, Phoenix, Arizona. We are looking forward to your fellowship with us.

If you desire to attend please contact:

Jay Moser (pastor)
4062 E. Danbury
Phoenix, Az. 85032
(602) 971-6697

Gordon McCann (assistant Pastor)
18808 N. 30th Street
Phoenix, Az. 85024
(602) 867-7681

Don McIndoo (apostle)
18830 N. 30th Street
Phoenix, Az. 85024
(602) 971-1208

Missouri Reunion

DATE: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, August 10-11-12, 1984. First meeting to begin 9:00 a.m., August 10.

PLACE: Warrensburg, Missouri at East Hudson Conference Center.

LOCATION: East Anderson St., east off Hwy. 13 in Warrensburg.

LODGING: Rooms are \$14.00 for a single room & \$20.00 for a double room per night. Pay as you enter, linens are furnished.

FOOD: Meals will be furnished, desserts included. Donations will be accepted from those who dine with us. We would like to know approximately how many plan on attending so the menu can be prepared. Please notify Jeanette Cunningham, Rt.5, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

There is plenty of room for all. Arrangements can be made for disabled if we know ahead of time.

Let us all try to attend and worship and associate together to make this the best Missouri Reunion ever.

The Tri-State Reunion For 1984

The Minneapolis Minnesota Church of Christ has obtained the use of the Group Camp at Whitewater State Park, about ten miles north of St. Charles, Minnesota for the 1984 Tri-State Reunion. It is reached readily on State Highway 74 which runs through the center of the park.

The dates for the reunion will be August 31 through September 2. Entry into the camp for our use will be from 2:30 p.m. on August 31, and we expect to decamp on the morning of September 3.

We find the camp ideal, with clean sleeping facilities, a new sanitary facility this year with hot and cold showers, and, we think, very satisfactory facilities to meet together and be fed spiritually and physically. Ample space and facility for spare time recreation is everywhere at hand.

Some warm blankets, clean, plain clothes and yourself, are all you need to bring. A nominal park-use stamp must be procured at the park office for each car entering the camp. Inquire for day rates.

We welcome the news if you plan to meet with us. Your card or letter may be addressed to Merlin Eddy, 12115 - Rich Valley Blvd., Rosemount, Minnesota 55068.

We would like to see (and hear) you there.

The Minneapolis Minnesota, Church of Christ

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1985 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will commence Sunday, March 31, 1985. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 1. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, March 29 and 30, 1985.

The 1984 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 15th, 16th and 17th at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to: Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

ZION'S ADVOCATE SUBSCRIPTION RATE:

	Price Each
Non-members \$4.00; Foreign \$4.50 Per Year	
Book of Mormon (Missionary Edition)	\$5.00
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The Principles of the Gospel, Faith and Repentance	N/C
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Apostasy or Succession, Which?	N/C
The Book of Mormon (Tract)	N/C
Articles of Faith and Practice of the Church of Christ	N/C
Articles of Faith and Practice (Spanish)	N/C
Article No. 9 (Bible and Book of Mormon)	N/C
Article No. 20 (Marriage)	N/C
Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus	N/C
What the Church teaches in Respect to Matrimony	
(Spanish)	N/C
Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)	N/C
Priesthood, Divine Authority	N/C
"Why"	N/C
A Synopsis of the Church of Christ's Beliefs and Practices ..	N/C
First Presidency or First Apostles	N/C
Marriage For Time and Eternity?	N/C
Baptism For The Dead?	N/C
Zion and the Temple of the Lord	N/C

NOTE: Donations accepted to cover postage and printing costs. Lot prices of tracts exclusive of postage are in packs of 6-50¢, 100-\$5.85.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Send all orders to: General Sunday School Association Treasurer, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472.

	Price Each
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 1 Childhood of Jesus (Out of Print) _____	N/C
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 2, Jesus' Ministry (Out of Print) _____	N/C
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 3, Jesus' Ministry con't. _____	N/C
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 4, Life of Jesus _____	N/C
Church History for Juniors (34 pages plus Teacher's Guide by Donna Moser) _____	N/C
The Book in the Stone Box (7 pages) by Viola Henning _____	N/C
The Bible Game "Who Am I?" by Doris Housknecht _____	\$1.30

(No charge for single box to a Local Sunday School)

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AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS

The following materials are available on loan to members of the Church of Christ from the Audio, Video, Visual-Aid and Archeology Committee. Send all requests (except for sermons) to Elder Gary Housknecht, 2901 S. Norwood, Independence, MO 64052.

Slide Programs with Taped Narration

"Mexico, Land of Contrast" (39 minutes) — Illustrates how modern archeological finds in North and Central America lend credence to the Book of Mormon and the story it tells of the continent's former inhabitants.

"Out of the Dust" (45 minutes) — Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon. Also available is a 35 minute version directed toward Indian viewers and entitled "A Lamp Unto My Feet."

"Light at Evening" (27 minutes) — Story of the bringing forth of the Book of Mormon and the restoration of the Church of Christ in the 1820's and 1830.

"The Return" (12 minutes) — Reveals the significance of the return to the "land of Zion" in 1867 by the members of the Church of Christ especially as holders of Title to the dedicated Temple Lot.

Specify program(s) wanted, anticipated dates of use, and the make of your projector. Slide projectors and tape players are not provided except Independence area.

Bible New Testament on Cassette Tapes

Complete set narrating the King James Version available to visually-impaired members.

Sermons on Cassette Tape

Write to the AVVAA Committee, Church of Christ, 2929 E. Siesta Lane, Phoenix, Arizona 85024.