

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;"*

I Nephi 3:187

Volume 70

Independence, Missouri — October 1993

Number 10

O Lord,

I have trusted in thee,
and I will trust in thee
forever. I will not put
my trust in the arm of flesh;
for I know that cursed is he
that putteth his trust in the
arm of flesh. Yea, cursed is
he that putteth his trust in
man, or maketh flesh his
arm. Yea, I know that God
will give liberally to him that

asketh. Yea, my God will
give me, if I ask not amiss:
therefore, I will lift up my
voice unto thee; yea, I will
cry unto thee, my God, the
rock of my righteousness.
Behold, my voice shall for-
ever ascend up unto thee,
my rock and mine everlast-
ing God. Amen.

II Nephi 3:61-66

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To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour;
To promote His Teachings & His Church, the Church of Christ;
To be a voice of warning to His people; To be Zion's advocate.

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Priesthood articles and sermons, testimonies for "Path Lights," submissions to other regular monthly Z.A. features, and news items of Church-wide interest are requested, and should be sent to the Editor as listed above. Deadline for material requiring publication in any certain month is the 10th of the previous month.

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avoid overuse of underlining, ALL-CAPS, and *italics*. The most important thing, though, is to send the material — the staff can arrange for typing or otherwise prepare anything you send.

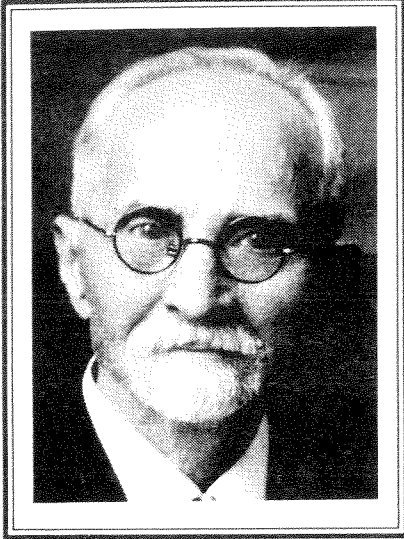
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To Your Knees, O Israel



By Joseph Luff

November 1931

Revelations 3: 15-20: "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment,

that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

A vision was given to a prominent Elder in the Reorganized church a number of years ago. A scene was shown him as a tier of shelves, and from the things that loaded the lower one the saints seemed to be helping themselves, and feeling delighted. The upper shelves seemed to be loaded with richer treasures, increasing in excellence and value to the top one. While dwelling in thought upon this picture his mind was enlightened by what he took to be the good Spirit and the import of the following language fed his soul:

"The treasury of my

◆ "The treasury of my grace is replete with blessings richer than they have known...but they can not be reached by them from the ground they now occupy.

grace is replete with blessings richer than they have known; provided by me and intended for the enrichment and sanctification of the estate of my people, but they can not be reached by them from the ground they now occupy.

"If therefore ye desire these things that they may make for my glory in the building up and establishment of my kingdom on earth, and to this end would lengthen the arms of your faith for acquirement, stand ye in high and holy places, remembering that the high places are those unto which I sought to lift you when ye were chosen out of the world, and they can not remain holy if in-

vaded by those pleasures which belong to the estate from whence ye were chosen, nor by the indulgence of those things not commended of me that do not

◆ ...My people...have been deceived, and have invited into their lives and their homes and their assemblies many things which before they had disallowed and decried.

minister unto holiness. In the cheerful separation of yourselves from these things for my sake, and in your obedience to my law is revealed the sincerity and the degree of the love you profess for me, for love hath within itself all the persuasion to obedience and sacrifice.

"It has again and again been declared unto you that the set time to hasten my work is at hand, but my adversary, whose mission is to destroy, hath given greater heed to this than have ye, in

that he has greatly multiplied his emissaries of service, and to the extent of his power has given them angelic habiliments insomuch that my people, by reason of this transformation, have been deceived, and have invited into their lives and their homes and their assemblies many things which before they had disallowed and decried. Their innovations have rendered less holy the places where it has been my purpose to walk in communion with my disciples, yea, they have crowded the resorts of my heritage till they have made the places too narrow for my feet and there is small room for me to walk in their midst.

"If ye love these more than me, then be content with the fruit they yield, but if ye will be strong in my strength and share in my triumph, and if ye account my wisdom sufficient unto the mission given me of my Father, which purposes your final redemption, then be advised of me and love as I have loved, and feed ye alone at the table my hand

hath spread, and consider it your glory to deny yourselves even to the uttermost, even as I have done that my Father might be glorified and ye might have

◆ ...Be advised of me and love as I have loved, and feed ye alone at the table my hand hath spread, and consider it your glory to deny yourselves even to the uttermost, even as I have done that my Father might be glorified and ye might have joy.

joy. Remember that with God change is not known and his pleasure is still in those things alone which have given him delight from the beginning."



Granville Hedrick, Prophet

Synopsis of Sermon Delivered on the Temple Lot, October 4th, 1896.

—1st of 3 Parts—

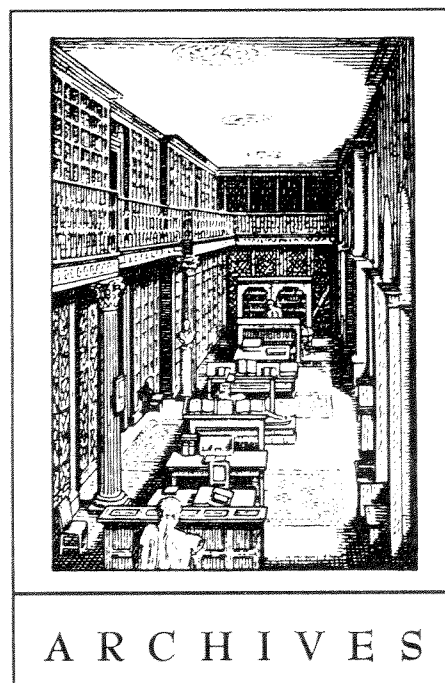
Delivered by
Apostle Haldeman

I will read the 4th verse of the 4th chapter of Matthew:

“But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”

These were words used by the Savior in answer to a challenge from the evil one; it is just as necessary today to live by every word that has come from the mouth of God unto us as it was in the day when the Savior uttered those words; it is a duty which every man owes to his Creator. In our search to know whether we are living by every word that has come from the mouth of God we have thought to talk tonight upon some words which some people claim never came from the mouth of God at all; words which I might call one of the corner stones

of our faith. I desire that you will uphold me by your faith and prayers; it is necessary that I have the faith and confidence of the brethren and sisters tonight, as I shall pursue a somewhat different course than I am wont to do. It is necessary, not only for our own good, but for the good of those who are looking about, that the revelations which are especially believed in by us as a people be more fully understood. I want to say right here, that the devil cannot foretell future events, with any degree of accuracy. While we all admit that revelations and prophecies must come from some spirit, the only way by which we can tell whether it is from God or not, is to put it to the test. If the prophecy has its fulfillment in the course of events, it is safe to put it down as having come from the proper authority, so says Isaiah. Especially when the prophecy comes through one of God's chosen servants may we look forward with certainty to its



A R C H I V E S

fulfillment.

There has always been a peculiarity about God's selections in choosing men to be His mouthpiece; sometimes those who would be the least accepted of men are chosen of God to convey His will to the children of men. If God should always act in the way that would meet the approbation of man, then God would act in man's ways. With but few exceptions God's servants have always met with opposition because the things which

have come forth through them have failed to come through the object that had been selected by man. We believe, as do all factions of Mormonism, that God spoke through the medium of Joseph Smith, and although he forgot to walk uprightly before God, yet the arm of God was not shortened, nor had God forgotten His promises because His children were scattered and overthrown. His purposes remained unchanged. While man was not able to look into the future and tell what would transpire; while man had no conception of how Zion was to be redeemed and her children return, yet God had not forgotten. The Lord knew that He had hundreds of men among the children of Israel who had not bowed the knee to Baal; the same thing was true concerning this latter day work. He knew there was a band of men and women who had not bowed the knee to the iniquities and fallacies that crept into Mormonism; He knew that they had been true to the principles they first received. These people were fasting and praying that the land of Zion might be redeemed.

In 1832, a man named Harvey Green received his

mission from the Church of Christ, and he met, converted and baptized a man by the name of Jedediah Owen, and confirmed upon him the holy priesthood. This man was among those who were captured at Far West in 1838. He afterwards, among others, was taken and placed in Richmond jail. Bro. Owen was released because there was found against him no charge; they could not hold him. In 1838 he went from Missouri to Iowa, and from thence to Bloomington, Illinois, county of McLean. There he came in contact with that band of men who were striving to hold to the pure principles of the Church of Christ, and who kept aloof from those who were believed to uphold false doctrines. These men kept themselves clean from the things which had broken up the Church. There Jedediah Owen met Granville Hedrick and assisted in ordaining him; it is to this man and others of like history that we owe the authority of the Church of Christ, and that authority has never been defiled by that hot bed of iniquity in Nauvoo. Those men kept their priesthood unspotted. Thus was the hand of God Almighty made mani-

fest, it was not through any power of their own, it was the power of God that kept them from the evils that crept into the Church, that He might have a people in the latter times, for He knew that He must redeem Zion. This Granville Hedrick was a man of great faith; he fasted much and prayed hours upon hours in secret prayer. Is it strange that God found him out? It is to his fasting and prayers, in a great measure, that we are indebted for our existence as a Church today. I will prove to you tonight by the history of our country that one of Granville's revelations, at least, was of God. I am here tonight to tell you that profane history bears me out in the statement that Granville Hedrick spoke by the Spirit of God; time has proven and demonstrated the divinity of his utterances. How many of the prophets of God have been able to say that in the year so-and-so certain things shall have their fulfillment? No other place can be found where any prophet gave the year in which his prophecies should be fulfilled; yet such a man was Granville Hedrick, and the histories of this country bear me out in the assertion that the things he prophesied did

take place.

Those men of whom I have spoken, with 13 members of the Church of Christ, were assembled at Bloomington, Illinois, in the year 1864, in the month of April, and they were endeavoring to approach the throne of grace to obtain the word of the Lord concerning the redemption of Zion. They saw the Church over-run with would-be leaders and the people turning to the right and the left, but they believed there was a source left yet to which they could appeal, and their appeal was not in vain. I am going to read to you the revelation received by the Church, through Granville Hedrick at that time; in this revelation that I shall read Granville has committed himself. He has given place and date, and if I prove to you that his words were true, perhaps you will believe other revelations of his to which he has not given the place and date.

Given to Granville Hedrick in the presence of thirteen members in answer to solemn prayer and much fasting for two days previous—

“Hear, oh ye people and hearken to the counsel of your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

who are called by My name and keep My commandments, you who have sought to know My will concerning My people, who have professed My name and entered into the new and everlasting covenant to keep all the counsels and commandments of the only true and living God. Hear then these things which are revealed unto you by the power of His Holy Spirit; prepare, O, ye people, yourselves in all things that you may be ready to gather together upon the consecrated land which I have appointed and dedicated by My servant Joseph Smith and the first elders of My Church in Jackson county, State of Missouri, for the gathering together of My saints that they might be assembled in the day of My chastening hand when your Lord will pour out His wrath and indignation upon the ungodly. And inasmuch as My Church and people have been driven and scattered, therefore take counsel of Me, your Lord and Director, who says unto you, prepare yourselves and be ready

against the appointed time which I have set and prepared for you that you may return in the year A.D. 1867, which time, the Lord, by your prayers and faithfulness in all things, will open and prepare the way before you that you may begin to gather at that time. Hear now, O ye people of My Church—take counsel together that you may escape the awful calamity of war and famine which shall fall upon this people of the Northern states, beginning in the year 1871, at which time the sword shall fall heavily upon the people, and famine shall quickly follow, and thus shall the sword continue to be drawn, and by bloodshed shall this nation war and contend until they are overthrown and their liberties taken away from them, which shall terminate in the year 1878—”

“Hold on,” says somebody; “Don’t read any further Brother Haldeman. Do you mean to say that our liberties terminated in 1878?” Just wait till I get through and then you can judge for yourselves.

"And thus anarchy and destruction shall reign throughout the dominions of the wicked, while you, the people of My Church, shall be assembled and grow up unto a peaceable multitude when I, the Lord your God, will raise up a strong and mighty people whose delight will not be to shed blood, but will trust in God and live in peace, for I, the Lord God, will protect them. Wherefore, all ye people who have covenanted with the Lord your God to keep all his commandments according to the fullness of the everlasting gospel, I say unto you, lay aside all your contentions and false doctrines and teaching and turn to the pure principles as they are given in the everlasting gospel. If you do these things you shall be a blessed people."

Many people, and among them some of the members of the Church of Christ, have not been able to understand this revelation, and some have declared it to be a failure. At the time when it was given the Civil War was still going on and the country was full of des-

perate characters. This whole United States was convulsed with the horrors of war. In the state of Missouri the spirit of war was not stamped out until years after this prophecy was uttered, and any man who dared to let his voice be raised here at the time of its utterance in behalf of the Union, much less in behalf of Mormonism, was unsafe. No man would have dared to attempt to come up here to redeem this land either by purchase or any other way. If any man had come up here in 1864 and proclaimed himself a Mormon his life would have paid the forfeit. Testimony given in the Temple Lot suit indicates that if men had come here in the year that prophecy was uttered with a view of redeeming this land they would have been shot down like dogs. This nation was in such a state of contention that the smartest men were unable to say who would gain the victory, the Confederacy or the Union; this consecrated spot of ground was under the domination of men who were in rebellion, and unutterably opposed to everything in the nature of Mormonism. No one had any assurance that the South would not succeed; how then

could Granville Hedrick say that in three years time the people of God would begin to gather, except by the Spirit of God? Yet that revelation was believed as from the mouth of God and a little band of people looked forward to its fulfillment. Granville could not back it up by proof or reason, yet he believed God. God had not given up the gathering of His people, and He spoke through Granville Hedrick and named the year when they should begin to gather. Granville committed himself to a date. A man who would give utterance to a belief that in the year 1867 men would begin to gather to Zion and that God would open the way, would be regarded as having lost his mind. I want to tell you that in the year 1864, when that revelation was given, it was published and broadcast, and the Reorganization warned its members not to come up to this place—not to be led by what they called a spurious revelation. The man through whom that revelation came was not a man of their choosing, but God chose him and they would not give heed to his utterance.

They were aware of the intense animosity existing

in Jackson County against the Mormons, and they failed to believe that God had the power to cause such a revulsion of feeling in the public mind as to admit of the complete fulfillment of this word.

God was not speaking alone to those twelve or thirteen persons who were assembled that day at Bloomington. He was speaking to every man and woman who was interested in the building up of Zion,

"You shall begin to return in the year 1867."

Can you find a single individual who came to this land in that year with a view to the building up and redemption of Zion, save the few, the little humble band called the Hedrickites? They were the people who were prompted to come up here and purchase and possess this land. Some brethren, more venturesome than others, came up here in 1866 but the feeling was so strong against Mormons, that they did not deem it safe to make themselves known, but the way was opened up in 1867 because the Lord had spoken it, and public sentiment in Jackson county underwent such a change that this little band was received in this land and were allowed to

purchase property and dwell here. That portion of Granville's revelation was fulfilled to the letter and is beyond contradiction. If you attempt to disprove it you will fail.

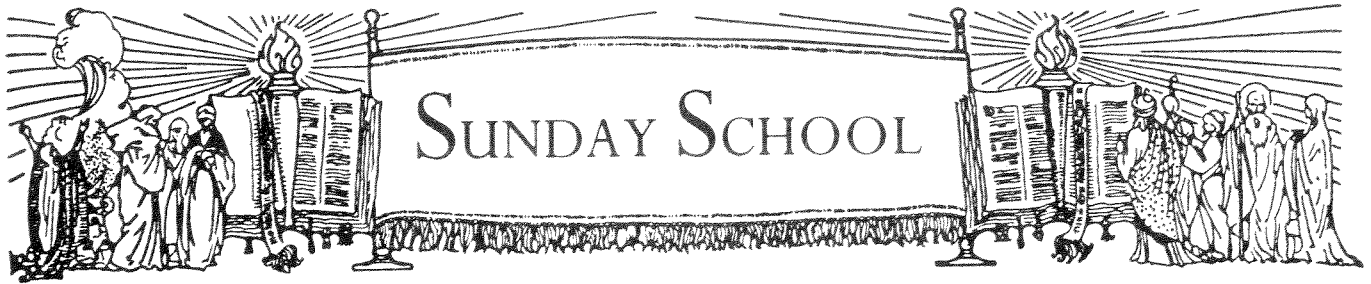
But to go on to another portion of the prophecy. Beginning in the year 1871 certain things were to happen. Who will explain it? Some of those who were present when that revelation was received and who acknowledged it at the time, deny it today and declare it to be a failure. Why? Because of their lack of being able to put together the different things as they have occurred. Others do not discern it because they will not. I am willing to take every syllable and show you from history that revelation was fulfilled. "War and famine shall fall upon the people of the Northern states beginning in the year 1871." Now, nothing has a beginning except in a small way. These things were not all to have their occurrence in 1871, but they were to begin to occur at that time; just as all the nooks and corners of the land of Zion were not filled in 1867, but they did begin to gather. It shall be my duty to begin with the year 1871 and to point out some of the things which

came to pass, to show you that the sword did fall heavily, and that wars, famines, destruction and bloodshed did take place in the years mentioned, and that the liberties of this people—the people of the United States—did terminate in 1878. I will stand right upon these dates, and will bring forth, not bare assertions, but proofs; facts in history which have been given to us by men of repute. The land of Jackson County began to be settled by saints in 1867 as God revealed, and destruction and war began to be poured out in 1871 as God revealed. The sword shall fall heavily, not in 1871, but in this time which shall begin in 1871. Great calamities were to follow the beginning. It must stretch out and occupy some years, beginning in 1871. By this famine, by this calamity, by this bloodshed, by this destruction, shall this nation war.

To be continued.



GENERAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



Thoughts About Teens

So much of what young people have to face today is so very much different than it was even a few years ago; more pressure and greater temptations. But the solution to all problems and questions, pressures and temptations comes from one source, and that is the Word of God. We all know that they need the Word of God. Stress this.

Feeling like we're getting through, especially to this age group, is sometimes a concern. And if you've never worked with this age before there are a few ways to take the scare out of it. There are a lot of "don't's" I think I could share. In fact, I think that's the tack we sometimes take with this group.

◆ ...The solution to all problems and questions, pressures and temptations comes from one source, and that is the Word of God.

"Don't do this, don't do that." But I'd like to try to emphasize some "do's". Do be positive—positive—positive. If they think you are enthusiastic, you will have their attention and their interest. Be excited about digging in and finding something in the scriptures that they can use in their lives that maybe they haven't thought of in quite that way before.

Earn their trust by not being judgmental or critical of their thoughts. Try to use some tiny shred of something that someone has to offer. Be creative enough to make it fit somehow. They'll appreciate the fact that their opinion was not discarded and they'll be more likely to open up more.

If someone wants to be quiet and not participate, let them. When they feel comfortable, they'll enter in. One of the most disconcerting things to a shy person is to be put on the spot. "Well, Mary, what do you think?" If Mary ever had a thought, it's gone. And so is her self confidence, as well as her confidence in you. There are more subtle

ways of bringing her out. Sometimes they just appreciate the privacy of their own thoughts. It gives them a chance to mull over their opinions and balance them against what they are hearing. Sometimes, when you can just hear someone else express what you believe, it helps give you the courage to say something at a different time. I've never yet had anyone in my class who, if given time and confidence, didn't open up. One of the things you can do to help is to talk privately to that person after class or after church or between services. Talk about their school work, or ask what some of their interests are. Help them know that you're interested in them as a friend. It carries over into class.

When any student has participated and really contributed positively, catch that person after class and tell them. They need to know they're on the right track. I've even occasionally called parents when someone has really come up with a good idea or made an improvement in some area, just to compliment their child. It gets passed down to the kids and everybody is a little happier that day.

I think one of the most disconcerting things to a teacher about this age group is that you can't bluff

◆ **The best classes you will ever have will be those that spin off of a spontaneous question that was the result of the burning desire to know an answer, rather than an artificially created and contrived question asked out of obligation to please the teacher.**

with them. They're old enough and experienced enough that you know they know when you're insecure. And they know, you know they know. Consequently we're sometimes intimidated by them. And in our own efforts to be respected by them we become stiff and formal. Free flowing discussion doesn't thrive in this setting, so loosen up a bit. Let them see you laugh, let them see you get excited about them and what you're going to discuss.

Another pitfall is asking if anyone has any questions in general they'd like to ask. An uncomfortable stony silence usually follows. The best classes you will ever have will be those that spin off of a spontaneous question that was the result of the burning desire to know an answer, rather than an artificially created and contrived question asked out of obligation to please the teacher.

I can't agree more with some of the suggestions submitted by other teachers—you must prepare with prayer and have faith that God will use you to do His work. You prepare a lesson and have a plan—and if someone raises a question be ready and willing to abandon your plan instantly. Don't feel frustrated that your plan didn't work. Remember, it was the plan of study and the lesson at hand that prompted the question, so the plan is not lost. It can always be picked back up a little later. So often the subject will work itself around again, and if it doesn't, there's always another week. What's most important is to open up those lines of communication, not just that they feel

comfortable with you but with each other.

There are two things that are not permitted in my class:

◆ ...The world is so full of sacrilege and blasphemous attitudes that it is hard for our young people to separate those influences from even things at church.

1 I don't allow any put downs of each other or another person's thoughts and opinions. The class then becomes a safe harbor for thoughts to take shape without the fear of ridicule. It promotes confidence, friendship and communication. If an opinion expressed doesn't hold water, that fact will eventually become apparent through guided study, without put downs. As the students become more at ease with each other and you, they even begin to laugh at themselves.

2 I also don't allow having a disrespectful attitude about God or the scriptures or anything sacred or holy. Not that we can't have

fun. Actually we have a lot of fun and there's a lot of laughter in my classes. But it's not inappropriate. I think the world is so full of sacrilege and blasphemous attitudes that it is hard for our young people to separate those influences from even things at church. If those kinds of things come up, I think there can be a constructive way to deal with it. Instead of talking about how "so and so" shouldn't have said "such and such", we discuss in the light of the scriptures what it was that was inappropriate. Just about anything can become a lesson if it needs to. The answers are always in the scriptures.

I think that's one of the things I'd like to stress especially with this age group. There are a lot of philosophies of the world and a lot of philosophies of secular religions with which this age especially will come in contact. Don't think for a moment that they don't get into some very basic "nitty gritty" conversations with their friends, inside and outside the church, about things that we, as parents, might have cause to cringe about. They need to know by what standard we judge

everything we touch. The answer again is contained in the Scriptures.

Earlier I wrote that the key to a meaningful class is

◆ ...The key to a meaningful class is where...there is a free and open discussion among the students.

where you as the teacher are not standing before them being philosophical or waxing eloquent or lecturing (horror of horrors). It is where there is a free and open discussion among the students. Now for some hopefully practical suggestions.

If you're having trouble getting them to talk, consider creating your own game or project, or even a teaching aide of a lower class level. Pick something where they are involved in creating collectively and where they are required to plan and decide on an outcome. They'll have to talk. Let it get a little noisy, within reason; it helps loosen them up a bit. You'll find that they begin more and more to zero in on discussing the Scriptures, and the planning becomes less

important. You have then used the game as a vehicle to get them started thinking, talking and exchanging ideas that help form their

◆ **Make the people in the story come alive for them by having the students put themselves in the places of the Bible character.**

beliefs and standards. If you ever finish the game, or sometimes even before you have, it can be a marvelous way to review lessons by playing.

Occasionally choose Bible Quiz questions and have them work on the answer in a group. They have to collaborate and come up with a mutually agreeable answer. Many questions can arise out of a discussion about the "right" answer. Abandon the game and dig in and find the answer, or tell them you'll write it down and study it next week. Then be sure to follow through. They learn to work together and to know each other better when they're having to collaborate on the answer.

Choose even "elementary" Old Testament Bible

Stories. Ignore their initial groans. They'll be convinced it's fun shortly and be anxious to do it again. The object is not to read the story for the story line or plot. Make the people in the story come alive for them by having the students put themselves in the places of the Bible characters. For instance, think about how Adam must have felt as God called to him in the garden after Adam had partaken of the fruit of the tree. It's fun to watch the quiet smiles around the room as they remember some incident in their own life where they "got caught and mom called". Oops! What's the first thing they wanted to do? Hide, and then "pass the buck". Use these to point out the temptations that all men have. Our natural reactions are no different than Adam's or Eve's. Use it to discuss the consequence of disobedience—every action has a consequence. Use it to discuss the necessity of taking responsibility for our own actions. Apply it to school problems or family situations.

Sometimes I think we think of these people in the Bible and Book of Mormon as possessing unattainable

righteousness. We think we could never be like them, when in reality we are very much like them. We're all human. They are

◆ **Comparing the values of the world in which they live to Scripture is sometimes a new experience, especially if it means coming to grips with not participating in something they've been doing.**

wonderful examples of righteous living (with a few errors and mistakes thrown in); but nevertheless, they worked through their troubles with God's help; or they chose to continue in their evil and reaped the consequences. There isn't one of these stories that doesn't hit home with these kids. And it's interesting to see how they relate these stories to their own personal lives. Again, the Scripture teaches us how to overcome these unruly traits of human nature.

One of my favorite courses of study for teenagers is Romans 12. Have

them make a list of things that they think being conformed to this world means. (You may be surprised, but take whatever they offer, no matter how diverse.) I

◆ I want them to be acutely aware that everything we participate in, the friends we have, the things we become involved in, the things we say or don't say, all have a very real impact on our personal spiritual health.

recommend accepting all views without comment or judgment. Comparing the values of the world in which they live to Scripture is sometimes a new experience, especially if it means coming to grips with not participating in something they've been doing. Searching the scriptures will either condemn or condone their opinions and they will come to the realization, most of the time on their own, that they need to revise their standards. These realizations may not be instantaneous; but given time, I've seen big changes

in opinions. Use a blackboard or paper to list the pros and cons of different ideas. Be ready to be challenged! Just be confident without being defensive. Just back everything up with scripture! The answer is always there. Once your list is complete, one item per week can be studied. Have them do a little homework and bring back scripture relating to the subject. It was during this study that a lot of discussion about what they have to deal with every day at school was discussed. We spent weeks on this project and they never tired of it because it was pertinent to them and their immediate needs.

Another thing I might suggest is to study the writings of Paul. These kids are deep thinkers. You've raised them well and they're ready for it. One question I was asked, "What is a living sacrifice? I thought sacrifice meant to die; this seems like a contradiction." They may not understand all of the words or how it's put together, but it can be a wonderful puzzle to unravel together. And they love the spiritual and intellectual challenge of tearing it apart and putting

it back together in a way that makes sense. It's not such a mystery that they can't comprehend it. And they have a ton of fun doing it.

◆ If they come away with anything from my class, I hope it is the absolute knowledge that the tools we need to survive this world and grow spiritually are contained in the Word of God.

Another "game" that brings out a lot of questions and discussion is a product I purchased. It was a teen challenge question game. They were given a situation that they might be confronted with and then required to give a solution. We never really played the game the way it was designed. Instead I picked the questions I thought were age appropriate and they all worked together on the solution. They didn't always agree on the proper way of handling a situation. In fact, there were some real differing views. There were days that we had staged debates on the is-

sues. They loved it. And I did too, because they were learning to be kind to each other even though they disagreed. Not once did they become unkind or rude. Every reason had to be backed up with Scripture or it didn't count. If they couldn't (since I had chosen the questions), I had come prepared with scriptures to help them see what God would have them decide. It's always there. And that's the comfort they need.

I do have one caution about using games or any material promoted by or published by another religious organization. Their views may not be our own. The game I used had answers the publishers thought appropriate. And on several occasions I disagreed 100%. The question was still a good one, so I used it anyway and used Scripture for a standard for our solution. At the end of class, I shared with them the answer given with the game, and they were as amazed as I was at how un-

founded in truth the answer was. It was the kick off of another discussion for the following Sunday. When we are presented with religious information or materials outside our church, study, accept and use only what agrees with the Bible and Book of Mormon. Don't accept with blind faith any religious opinion promoted by secular religious organizations. Our standard again—the Word of God.

If they come away with anything from my class, I hope it is the absolute knowledge that the tools we need to survive this world and grow spiritually are contained in the Word of God. I want them to be acutely aware that everything we participate in, the friends we have, the things we become involved in, the things we say or don't say, all have a very real impact on our personal spiritual health. Our actions or lack thereof have definite consequences, both immediate and eternal. I'd like them to become friends with the

men and women of the Scriptures. We have the examples of many righteous men; some who were called friends of God. Men and women who were just that—men and women. Heros—yes! But living human beings who bore the same cross we must bear today and were victorious. They offer us the example of attainable righteousness. I hope to teach them that God never asks of us more than we can bear or gives us temptation that he will not supply the strength to withstand. Most of all I hope they know with unwavering knowledge that Jesus is their best friend, that He died for them, and that he intercedes in their behalf when they feel that all else in their world is falling apart.

Manon Lawrence

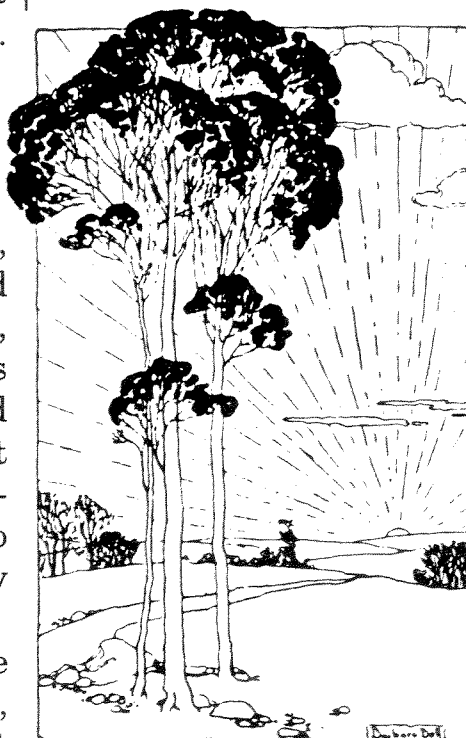


A Letter to the Saints

This letter has been a long time in coming. Every time I would try to write it, something always came out missing. That something was inspiration. Today, when our Brother Mike McGhee gave his sermon, I found my inspiration. In closing his sermon he used song #211, "Blessed Assurance," and in reading the last verse, "Perfect submission, all is at rest," he emphasized that it is a hard thing to let go of something and let Jesus take over. It's hard to let it rest. It most certainly is for me.

I want so much to be able to heal my husband, James, but I can't do it. It has to be Jesus that does that, and it seems I'm not being very patient for that healing. Every time James hits a low point in his life, we just automatically give up and say, "This is it." But God bounces him back and I feel ashamed for not trusting Him enough to take care of James. So Brother Mike's sermon hit me today and I am very

grateful that he decided on that particular subject. It was a great blessing and an inspiration to me.



PATHLIGHTS

I would like to take this time to thank all of our visiting ministry, for all of them are a blessing to us at the Springfield local. We look forward to each and every one of their visits. I would also like to thank all of you for your continued prayers and concern. Also,

a great big heartfelt thank you to all of those who contributed to us in a financial way. It comes in at the most needed times. Jesus always promises to look after us and not leave us and He certainly does.

One of my favorite verses out of the Bible is Philippians, Chapter 4, verse 13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," and I certainly can with Christ and with prayers from all of you. God bless you all and bless you Brother Mike for delivering the words that were my inspiration.

Love to All, Your Sister
in Christ,

Sandy Addie
Springfield, Missouri

With Him, All is Well

God has brought me carefully through another round with cancer. I'm thankful for his presence.

I'm thankful for the saints who visited me in the hospital. My roommate was touched by their righteousness. The sweet spirit overflowed my side of the room, to hers. The veil was penetrated (the curtains between us). She inquired

of me after each visit who my guests were. She wanted to know, "Were they ministers?"

Indeed, God's very chosen messengers of peace and healing and administering ordinances. I was administered to; I was served sacrament; scriptures were shared; children sang to me; we prayed together.

I'm thankful for the

flowers, cards, letters and gifts. The doctors and nurses have been so kind and the news was good. "No cancer in the surrounding tissues." Now there is new medicine to check the return of cancer.

Perhaps we sometimes wonder why, but those of us who have a Savior know that with Him, all is well.

*Lovingly,
Shirley Rose Bailey*

Correction to the September '93 Zion's Advocate, pg. 154:

ADDED TESTIMONY FOR THE BOOK OF MORMON

(Continued from page 152)

Seeing all this at a tender age and feeling God's warm spirit leading and directing His work is something money can not buy away from me. I know the Gospel is true and He did bring forth the Book of Mormon as an added strength for us along with the Bible. To believe that the people in Jerusalem were the only ones to receive a written word from God would make one believe in a partial and discriminating person, one given to favoritism. That I do not believe for the Book of Mormon plainly states, "Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." (3 Nephi 7:20)

I firmly believe in a living God and He is the same yesterday, today and forever no matter what men say to the contrary. I see Him manifested when I view His handy work. Man cannot match or duplicate the beauties of nature no matter how much they try. I thank God daily for the privilege of talking with Him in prayer. He has sustained me for over 79 years of life, and I sincerely hope and pray I can sing His praises with my final breath.

Edna R. Smith

N E W S



N E W S

COLLINS, MISSOURI

The weather is changing in our area from hot and humid summer time to cooler, quieter fall. School has begun again and all the kids that were racing up and down the roads are now tucked away in classes and busy learning new things. Little Justen Cook begins pre-school today and is very excited. Young Colt Harrison begins kindergarten today as well. Colt was pretty worried about this new step, to the extent that he asked for administration Sunday. I'm confident that God will be very pleased to bless and watch over him.

Speaking of our young ones, summer has been a kind of rough time for a couple of them. About six weeks ago, Justen had a wreck with the neighbor boy on his bike and broke his

(Justen's) arm. Then three or four weeks later his cousin, Jodi Cook, was climbing on an old swing set that fell with her, and she came away with a broken arm, too. Both are doing fine now and have adjusted very well to wearing casts and being more careful.

Our pastor, Jack Martin, suffered a mini-stroke in the lower half of his right eye. This has taken some getting used to, but through administration and prayer Jack has been able to adjust rather well, and is able to continue his work with his heating and air conditioning business, as well as being able to bring the gospel to us at church.

Butone Livingston is recovering from colon cancer surgery and has recently been graced by the arrival of a new grand-daughter, Miss Indiana Rose, daughter of Randy and Renee Livingston.

Michael Burchart, stepson to Larry Shaw, has recently undergone surgery due to the rupture of a weakened vessel in his brain. This caused Michael to be paralyzed on his right side, some loss of memory, and unable to speak. At present

he is still in the hospital and taking therapy. His right side has not shown much improvement yet, but he is able to speak now, which gave me such a thrill when I called and Michael answered the phone himself.

Also, our sister, Jo Eddy, has taken extensive tests in regard to her cirrhosis of the liver and has found that a liver transplant is unnecessary at this time. My prayer is that God will see fit to restore her to perfect health. And I pray the same for Michael and Butone and our sister, Gussie Martin, who is having colon tests this week with possible surgery to follow. God is our hope. We use doctors and their skills, but they are so limited, whereas God's power and mercy is without measure.

After the Missouri Reunion and August Minister's Conference was over we were pleased to have our two brothers from Yucatan, Placido Koyoc Yam and Placido Koyoc Matu, come to visit at Collins. They were in the company of Apostles Don McIndoo and Jay Moser. We enjoyed a wonderful visit with them and on Sunday Elder Placido, senior, was our speaker, and

Brother Don McIndoo interpreted for him. The simplicity of the gospel sounds as good to me in one language as another. It has no borders or boundaries and is freely given to everyone.

Here are a few gleanings from sermons I'd like to share with you:

- ✓ *God is God, whether we believe in Him or not.*
- ✓ *When we offend our Heavenly Father, we remove ourselves from His presence.*
- ✓ *We have to be busy doing what God has commissioned.*
- ✓ *What does it take for you and I to get to Heaven???*—*Pleasing God!*
- ✓ *The length of time you've been baptized doesn't really matter; it's remaining faithful that is important.*
- ✓ *Obedience is the act of faith.*
- ✓ *Who do we seek to please?*
- ✓ *Why won't the world take (receive) the gospel of Jesus Christ?—It's free!*
- ✓ *God will not delay His promise like men may delay their promises.*

*Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman*

FARMINGTON, MINNESOTA

August 11, 1993

AIn the trust of the blessings of Jesus Christ in each of our lives, the Church of Christ Farmington local also adds its testimony in this monthly report. The month of July brought about the observance of Independence Day and with it celebrations of thankfulness to the true and living God for another year of freedom. Our family was truly joyful to participate in our country's providence that God has lent the United States, and in tribute we watched a fireworks' display on July 4th as we reflected on the words of John Adams:

"I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, balls, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to another, from this time forward for evermore."

Of particular interest in this year's festivities for our family was the spectacular sight of a firework that

formed itself into a ring (or a circle). This circle almost seemed to symbolize the circle of friends we enjoyed seeing in July. Stephen, Judy, Charity, Jared, and Faith Gould and R.G., Bobby and Sue were among our friends who chose to visit with the Farmington local for church services and fellowship.

Friends in the Farmington local began gathering on Tuesday evenings in July for "Women's Meetings" to fellowship, pray, discuss, give testimonies, and/or talk of family matters. The meetings were held at Merlin and Eva Lin Eddy's house. Please pray for the Eddys, as they have many responsibilities in Christ's church—such as travelling to Wisconsin to hold scripture studies with scattered members—which is what they did again in July.

*Your sister in Christ,
Patricia Gould*

HOUSTON, MISSOURI

Greetings from the Ozarks. We have had a nice September in southern Missouri. We are looking forward to the beautiful leaves.

We had a very nice Rally on May 30. We sure enjoyed the visitors who came to worship with us. Our first speaker was Brother Roland Sarratt. He reminded us of our God. He still speaks, He recognizes, He is in control, He is worthy of our confidence, He cares, He loves, and HE puts us here for a purpose.

Brother Nicholas Denham was our second speaker. He reminded us, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God," Matt. 5:8. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect," Matt. 5:48.

Brother Glen Gill was our afternoon speaker. I missed a wonderful sermon. I was at home with a sleeping grandchild, but the rest of the family enjoyed the sermon of Brother Gill.

Our recent speakers have been our faithful pastor, Brother Arthur Smith, Brother Loran Bryant, Brother Martin Addie,

Brother Virgil Addie, Brother Marvin Case and Brother Smith Brickhouse.

We wish continued prayers for Brother Arthur Smith, Sister Anna Keeney, Sister Lois Helseth, Brother John Jones and Brother James Addie.

Sister Anna Keeney celebrated her 91st birthday this past summer. She still attends church on Sunday.

Our high school graduate, Christopher Ely, is attending college at Union, Missouri, this fall. We are very proud of Chris.

Brother and Sister Virgil Addie enjoyed the Wisconsin Rally this summer. Sister Mary Jane Medders, Jared Medders, Sister Dee Anna Hutcheson and children enjoyed the Missouri Reunion in Independence, Missouri.

I am so happy to report four baptisms in our local. On September 5, Michael Jordon was baptized, and on September 12, Carol Keeney, Jennifer (Medders) Pounds, and Jared Medders were baptized. They made a very important decision to follow Jesus the rest of their lives. Brother Arthur Smith and Brother Marvin Ely took care of the baptisms. We were happy to have Brother and Sister Brick-

house and Brother and Sister Oldham for this wonderful occasion.

Brother Marvin Ely was our speaker on September 19th. He preached a wonderful sermon on humility. Brother Arthur Smith spoke the following Sunday on a very important subject, "Feed my sheep." He stressed the importance of the spiritual food.

May we each become more humble, and Dear Lord, help us from day to day, that when we kneel to pray, it will be with thankful hearts, and will be in such a self forgetful way, and live for others.



RAVENNA, MICHIGAN

Greetings from Ravenna Michigan, Church of Christ Local:

We are all back from the Church Reunion in Missouri, which was well attended. We all enjoyed being there, but are happy to be back home.

Some remarks from our ministry: one recently asked what was the strongest day of the week. The answer was Sunday, because all the rest were weak days.

The Book of Mormon, page 86, speaks of our freedom of choice. It should be to do what we should do, and not just what we want to do. We have the power to choose and to make decisions. We should wash our garments clean, and be prepared to meet the Lord.

While in Missouri, Sister Sarah Brantner, Sister Jeanette Cunningham and Sister Ellen Van Duine, and myself, Lois Heath, were able to meet and visit with Sister Lillian Brown, Sister Ruth Randall, Sister Wanda Jo Eddy, and a granddaughter and family of Sarah Brantner's.

Since coming back home there was a Sunday sermon about "The Old Old Path." We sang the song and were

told that 'the old old path' we started in held memories for each of us, and that we should continue to walk in it. Two visions were read, one of Brother Clarence Wheaton and one of Brother Yates.

We had visitors—my daughter Lois Armstrong and Ken and June Haines met with us. June played the piano; we did enjoy that!

At a recent prayer service our reading was about Zion and what we should be doing to prepare ourselves for it.

Starting with our recent Wednesday night prayer meeting, Elder Max Spencer read to us from Psalms 24. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts. Lift up ye gates, ye everlasting doors, and he will come in.

On the Sunday following, Elder Gale Brantner, our pastor, talked to us of Zion. We should fast and pray on and about thoughts of Zion to get our minds away from things of the world. The Book of Commandments 2:3-5: Joseph Smith, with God's help, established the Church of Christ. He was inspired to build the Church and the cause of Zion. In 1830, this Church was restored and it

started to bring about Zion.

On September 18 we had a day called 'Zion Awareness Day.' Twenty-six people gathered at our local. The meeting was opened by Elder Aaron Heath with the songs: "Marching to Zion" and "Onward to Zion." A prayer by Elder Max was given. Then Elder Aaron Heath preached from the Book of Mormon, page 681: all things common—because of dealing justly one with another they became a delightful people. There were no contentions among them because the love of God was in their hearts and nothing bad. They were partakers and the children of Christ. All were of one accord!

Sacrament was served, the meeting closed, and we had a lovely meal served in our dining area by Sister Sue Heath and Norma Keith. Afterwards, Brother Gale had a study lesson concerning Zion.

We also enjoyed some prayers and testimonies from the young children, as well as the older ones. Song specials, articles and poems were read.

*Sister Lois Heath
Advocate Reporter*

O B I T U A R Y

Iva J Giddings, age 83, died in Flint, Michigan, August 29th, 1993. She was born May 15, 1910, in Farwell, Michigan. She was the daughter of William and Mary Bigford. She was one of twelve children. She was married to Frank Giddings in March of 1933. He pre-

Obituary

ceded her in death in 1986. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Dorothy J Jansen of Clio, one granddaughter, Mrs. Lori Sasser of Mt Murris, Michigan; two great-grandchildren, one

brother, Delton Bigford of Marion.

Sister Iva was a member of the Church of Christ, Flint Local. Services for family and friends were held at the Corey funeral home in Evart, Michigan, Elder Adam Porter officiating.

In Memory Of A Beloved Aunt

*When memories of the past arise---
I welcome them as cherished
friends,*

*Recalling those who shared---en-
riched my life, mingled, sweet-
ened, flavored---to tone and
blend.*

*Of beloved places, names and faces
placed high among those I love
best,*

*Is the one who enlivened---form
and feature of the frame which
now lies here at rest.*

*Of wit and humor and keenness of
mind---vivaciousness and charm*

*Of sensitivity to others' sorrows---
of laughter---never meant to
harm*

*With artful hands, to paint a pic-
ture---to stitch, create a cheerful
place,*

*A loyal mother, wife and friend---
for kin, also a treasured space,
It's often said by the high, the*

*learned---the great and worldly
wise,*

*Our most tender joyous memories
are but sad, bitter and dis-
guised---*

*That when at times our minds
return to the precious scenes of
youth,*

*We know not how to separate---
mere maudlin sentiment from
truth---*

*It's said by those who lead us to
believe---that they really ought
to know,*

*That protectively we cover child-
hood misery, with a rosy, gilded
glow.*

*But I believe that they are the
blind and leaders of the blind,
For the lightheartedness of youth
takes flight,*

*Then understanding lights the
growing minds.*

We then begin in new and bright

*enlightenment, to set our spirit's
free,*

*We leave behind our shallow self-
centeredness, that sees so nar-
rowly.*

*With increasing clarity of insight
we view our former childish side,
With compassion and charity---we
release and forgive those prior
wonders of our tender budding
pride.*

*So it's good that time softens,
cushions and eases the harsh,
ripping edges of life,*

*Through those who have loved us,
and tried to prepare us to face
bravely the trauma and strife.*

*Reflection is good for the soul and
the spirit, remembrance is hu-
manity's bond,*

*From the dawn of creation, from
nation to nation, to the end of
the world and beyond.*

by Sister Noni Onstott

Obituary

—Hester P. Tyler —

Friends, relatives, and sisters and brothers in Christ gathered September 14, 1993, at the McEvoy Funeral Home in Paris, Tennessee, to commemorate the life of Hester P. Tyler. Hester passed from this life September 11, 1993, at the age of 88 years. Funeral services were conducted by Elder Leslie Case. Sr. Margret Gill was organist and also sang "At the End of the Road". Bro. Glenn and Sr. Margret Gill sang "In the Garden". Hester's body was laid to rest in the Foundry Hill Baptist Cemetery south of Puryear.

Hester was born Hester Paschall on May 4, 1905, in Henry County, Tennessee, to Thomas Wrathier Paschall and Ella Mohundro Paschall. Her parents preceded her in death. She was married June 10, 1922, to Edward William Tyler, who

preceded her in death in 1971. Two sons were born to this union. Thomas E. Tyler of Puryear, Tennessee, and Noble L. Tyler, who preceded her in death in 1991. Three sisters, Crystal Snider, Myrtle Robertson (wife of the late apostle R. R. Robertson), and Edith Barnet preceded Hester in death, as well as two brothers, Heman Paschall and T. W. Paschall (former pastor of the Puryear, Tennessee, Church of Christ (Temple Lot)).

Hester was baptized June 25, 1967, by Apostle Joseph Kidd and was received into the Puryear, Tennessee, local Church of Christ (Temple Lot). She was a devoted member of the Church the rest of her life.

She leaves a son, Thomas Edward Tyler, of Puryear, Tennessee; two brothers, Crawford Paschall of Cleveland, Ohio, and Van Paschall, who resides in

Michigan; as well as 9 grand children, 24 great grandchildren, and 8 great great grandchildren. Her caring ways and the loving, humble example she projected in life will be missed by all.

In his sermon, Elder Glenn Gill reminded those in attendance that we had come not so much to mourn a death, but to celebrate a life, and draw edification from the example in humility and love afforded by that life. He reminded us that our time on earth is a gift from God and that at death our souls will return to the God that gave us life and the freedom to choose between good and evil.



CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1993 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 4. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M., Monday, April 5. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 2 and 3. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1993 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 18 through 20, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to the Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

	Price Each
Zion's Advocate Subscription Rate:	
Members (optional)	\$ 4.00
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Book of Mormon (1908 Authorized Edition - Leather)	20.00
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- The Principles of the Gospel - Laying on of Hands
- The Principles of the Gospel - Baptism
- The Latter Day Restoration
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- Articles of Faith & Practice of the Church of Christ
- Articles of Faith & Practice (Spanish)
- Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
- What the Church teaches about Matrimony (Spanish)
- Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)
- Priesthood - Divine Authority
- Why? (Amplifies absence of a "First Presidency" in Scripture)
- A Synopsis (Compares beliefs of 3 Restoration churches)
- First Presidency or First Apostles?
- Marriage for Time and Eternity? - A Fallacy
- Baptism for the Dead? - A Fallacy
- Zion and the Temple of the Lord
- Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?
- God's Purpose in America
- The Great Plan of Redemption
- The Cost of Salvation

*NOTE: Donations will be accepted to cover postage & printing costs. (Multiple copies available: 6-50¢ / 100-\$5.85 plus postage)

Sunday School Materials

Send orders for SS Materials to Becky Sheldon, 31607 E. Major Rd, Grain Valley, Mo 64029. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ except as noted. Donations will be accepted to cover postage.

- Church History for Juniors - includes a Teachers Guide
- The Book in the Stone Box - About the Book of Mormon
- Bible Stories to Grow By - 52 lessons about God and Jesus for ages 5-7
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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:

Slide Programs with Taped Narration

Specify program(s) wanted, anticipated dates of use, and the make of your projector. Slide projectors and tape players are not provided except in the Independence, Missouri, or Phoenix, Arizona, areas.

Allow adequate advance time for handling and shipping, and for your own preview of the programs. Write to the AVVAA Committee, Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, MO 64051.

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Complete set narrating the King James Version of the Bible New Testament and a set for the entire Book of Mormon. Write to Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136. Specify which set is desired and the estimated length of time you expect to use it

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For a sermon on cassette tape write to Mike Kelley, 1949 E. Libby St., Phoenix, AZ 85022, or Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136.

PRIESTHOOD VISITATION

If you or someone you know (member or non-member) would like to be visited by a member of the Priesthood of the Church of Christ, please call or write to the Council of Apostles at Church Headquarters in Independence. The phone numbers and address are listed on the inside front cover.