

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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The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall

stand in his holy place? he that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Psalm 24:1-5

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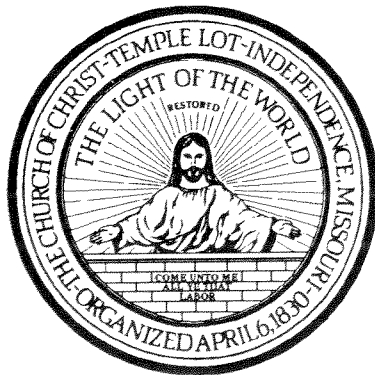
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To promote His Teachings & His Church, the Church of Christ;
To be a voice of warning to His people; To be Zion's advocate.

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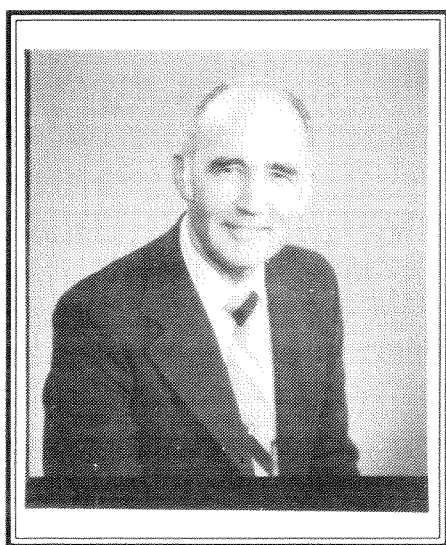
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Our Vital Human Relationships: Part II

The Enduring Covenant

By Apostle
Donald McIndoo



“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good” (Genesis 1:27 & 31).

When the scriptures relate to our entrance into the kingdom of God, every member of this Church of

Christ has an exact picture of what is required. Concerning these principles of the Gospel we have no question, no disagreement nor better way to suggest. But when it comes to the all-important matter of our human relationships along life's way, we each have our own ideas about how to handle them, the way to respond to problems, our own particular views about our personal responsibilities and our private expectations (often unrealistic) of what we are entitled to in life.

It is vital that we consider one of the most important of human relationships, that of husband and wife. Some readers might remember hearing my wife semi-jokingly complain about my lack of communication skills in our relationship. Now I could allow this to be embarrassing enough that I would not dare write about this important subject, but I shall submit this as an example that every one of us, every

...Every one of us, every husband, every wife, every young person contemplating marriage, needs to give studious attention to what the Word of God teaches us about our responsibilities and duties as husband and wife.

husband, every wife, every young person contemplating marriage, needs to give studious attention to what the Word of God teaches us about our responsibilities and duties as husband and wife. Without a doubt there is room for improvement in every household, to say nothing of all the troubled families or broken homes within the body of Christ.

People with troubled marriages need help, but a word of caution. There are too many people out there

who have shipwrecked marriages and now think this qualifies them to help others who are undergoing problems. They tell themselves,

...If we recognize that marriage was planned and ordained by God, then we must recognize, as well, that it was He who correctly set the terms of marriage...

"I've been through it all, so I can help others by sharing with them out of my experiences."

It is never human experience, good or bad, that will help a struggling marriage. We must go back to the Word of God, have confidence in it and learn to apply the basic truths of His revealed Word to our lives and relationships. This truth precludes our turning to the secular marriage counselor or psychologist for help: it is to God and His Word that we must turn if we desire real help with our marital problems. This lays an additional burden upon the members of the ministry, for they must be ready to give sound, scriptural counsel to

those with a troubled marriage.

It is obvious that many of the problems people encounter in their marriage are a direct result of incorrect and unscriptural concepts about marriage itself. This is where our study shall begin. Later we shall consider some specific instructions the Lord has given to both husbands and wives.

THE ORIGIN OF MARRIAGE

Many young people enter into marriage without understanding its origin nor all the implications that understanding should bring to us.

1 *"Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matthew 19:4-6).*

Here the Master points out that it was God who instituted the marriage cove-

nant. It is not, nor was it ever, an invention of necessity made by men.

2 If marriage had been devised by men, then men would be free to change or legislate the conditions and obligations of marriage, or even do away with it as so many are prone to think today.

As young people become increasingly influenced by this prevailing attitude made popular by the media, they will begin their marriage on the wrong basis and set their sights for something far less than God had planned for His children in the beginning of time.

3 But if we recognize that marriage was planned and ordained by God, then we must recognize, as well, that it was He who correctly set the terms of marriage; it was He who placed upon us the various responsibilities that accompany it. When men and women, whether by carelessness or by design, alter those terms or neglect those duties, they cannot escape the unhappy consequences which follow. In our society today there are millions whose lives attest to this truth.

THE PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE

Of even greater consequences is the failure of people, including many members of the Church of Christ, to understand correctly the very essence of marriage. Unless both spouses devote themselves to the true, biblical purpose of marriage, it shall never be for them all which God intended. Both the Father and the Son were there at the time of creation. They viewed all of its beauty and harmony and said, "It is good." In the image of God was man created and then placed in the perfect, idyllic setting where all needs could be met. But the Lord watched as the man cared for the Garden, interacted with the creatures, and went about all his activities. And the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make an help meet for him."

Man was alone; and being alone, was not complete. The basic purpose for marriage was to meet mankind's inherent need for companionship. It was designed to defeat loneliness, one of the basic enemies of the heart and spirit. This fact is made clear as God, through the

prophet Malachi, chastises Israel's sins against the family:

"Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant" (Malachi 2:14).

Now there are a number of Hebrew words that are translated into English as "companion." They might signify a colleague, a friend, an associate, a neighbor, etc. But this word, *cha-be-reth*, appears only here in Malachi. It carries with it certain connotations:

- 1 It signifies a partner in all of life's activities.
- 2 It indicates being knit together in an intimate relationship.
- 3 It implies one who is a confidant.

Brethren, here is a place where husbands often fall short. Just watch two teenage girls who are close friends. They can talk all day long, confiding in one another all their hopes, their problems, their fears, their little intimate day-to-day activities. But one day one of them will meet Mr. Right

and their lives will be forever changed.

The young woman, now a mother, may struggle all day caring for the kids while

The basic purpose for marriage was to meet mankind's inherent need for companionship.

trying to get the laundry done, the house cleaned, etc. She receives a disturbing telephone call from a friend with some sad news. The baby wouldn't go to sleep. The day wears on, but finally Mr. Right comes home from work. He sits down a moment to relax and watch the evening news as the young mother, alone all day, begins to relate all her troubles to her new confidant. And his typical response? "For crying out loud, Honey, can't it wait until the news is over?" Husbands, this is an area where the typical man needs to make an extra effort to be the companion his wife needs.

- 4 It implies the presence of a constant support system within the family structure.

Husbands, wives—hon-

estly try to evaluate yourself. Are you a partner in all of your companion's activities and interests? Do you really try to keep your relationship intimate, caring and tender? Are you really a confidant; always ready to listen, to communicate lovingly, to empathize? In moments of trouble, care or discouragement for your companion, are you ready to lend support, comfort and encouragement? When both partners can honestly answer in the affirmative, the basic purpose of marriage is being realized.

One often hears it explained that marriage was instituted for the purpose of continuing the species; in other words, for sexual reproduction. Without doubt the sexual relationship in marriage is important, but marriage was meant to be far more than that. All the animal kingdom and millions of people demonstrate that you don't need marriage for the continuation of the species. Marriage was instituted to provide for personal, daily, constant and intimate companionship.

A few months ago my wife, Betty, read of a startling discovery made in a recent government-funded investigation: they found that

men and women were basically different. Just imagine that! All the guys and girls I knew had discovered that by the time of their first

Having created us with basic differences, God has purposed that the man and the woman complement one another, each bringing to the marriage relationship something unique and valuable to the union to make a perfect whole.

date. Seriously, men and women were created fundamentally different from one another, with different needs, different levels of activity, different kinds of thinking. This might be illustrated by an experience my good friends, Leon and Francis Yates, had at the doctor's office.

In some way or another, Leon had hurt his hand and Francis had taken him to have it treated. As the doctor was working on the hand, he jokingly said to Francis, "It must be terrible not knowing what he is going to do next." Her quick reply was, "Oh, I always

know what he's going to do; I just don't know why he's going to do it." There it is in a nutshell—men and women do not think alike nor are they alike at other levels of activity.

Having created us with basic differences, God has purposed that the man and the woman complement one another, each bringing to the marriage relationship something unique and valuable to the union to make a perfect whole. But this complementary process is not going to happen unless there is real companionship, meaningful communication and mutual respect for that which each partner brings to the union.

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE OBLIGATIONS OF MARRIAGE

Of course there are many obligations the husband and wife have toward one another, but I address here the basic, underlying obligation of marriage. When a couple make their wedding vows they are, whether they realize it or not (and they should be made to realize it), vowing to love, honor and cherish one another in that intimate companionship for

the rest of their natural lives. When you think back to your own vows, you will remember that you were not asked by the minister to "be loved and cherished," rather to provide love, honor and respect to your spouse with no strings attached.

Let's note a common misconception people have about this obligation. I heard a young woman say, "I'm not getting anything out of this marriage any more." More commonly we hear people say something like this: "He/she doesn't make me happy any more." Now there is only one scriptural response to such an allegation—you did not make an agreement to obtain something for yourself. Marriage is not a contract which reads, "You do this for me, and this is what I will do for you."

In God's plan, one never obtains by striving to obtain. Jesus made this clear when He said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38). No, in God's economy one receives by giving; one obtains

forgiveness by forgiving and love by loving; one receives friendship by being friendly. So if one's marriage is suffering from a lack of love, more

Marriage is not a contract which reads, "You do this for me, and this is what I will do for you."

devoted service and caring for the other partner is the only antidote.

"Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth" (1 Corinthians 10:24). We see in this concise commandment that God instructs us not to be thinking, as is our normal way, "How can I become happier?" Rather, our primary thought should become, "What can I do to make my companion happier?" When our primary thoughts and purposes concern ourselves, it is called selfishness. Selfishness is always sin, and we must learn to recognize it as such. In 2 Timothy 3, the Apostle Paul listed the sins that will make the world a dangerous place in the last days. At the very top of the list we find, "For men shall be lovers of their own selves..." At the

very center of most marital problems we find selfishness or self-centeredness.

The relationship outlined in Ephesians 6:5 and 7 between servants (today we would say employees) and their masters (today's employers), is vital to our understanding of the basic obligation of marriage. "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ. With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men." At the heart of our major obligation in marriage is this lesson: We serve and please God by correctly serving and pleasing our companion in life.

THE COMMITMENT OF MARRIAGE

Misconceptions about our necessary commitment to marriage causes great difficulties. Most young couples begin their married life very much in love, but because of natural differences which always exist between two individuals, problems soon make themselves known. When things go wrong, if there is no strong commitment to marriage and to one another, people

tend to just call it quits. Last year the number of divorces exceeded the number of marriages in the metropolitan area where I live, and this is because marriages without strong commitment are doomed to failure.

Today our nation is reaping the results of this lack of commitment. The statistics are printed in the newspapers daily. Our society is reaping a harvest of sorrow: impoverished families, welfare abuse, child abuse, jealousy, murder, insecurity, suicide and delinquency—the list goes on and on because intelligent adults are unwilling to make a meaningful, scriptural commitment.

The Bible describes marriage as a covenant. Keep in mind the Lord's strong rebuke of Israel's refusal to honor such a covenant: "yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant" (Malachi 2:14). Yes, marriage is to be a covenant of companionship, growing stronger through the years. In the Bible we read of two basic types of covenant. *The Illustrated Dictionary and Concordance of the Bible* describes them like this: "One, the covenant of obligation is binding only

upon the human partner; the other, the covenant of grant binds God to carry out a solemn promise." —p.247. Let's take a closer look at

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these two types of covenant.

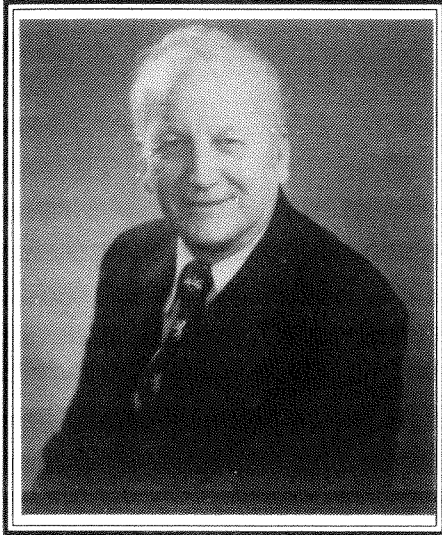
First, a covenant of grant. In this type of covenant it is God, alone, who takes on the obligation and man has no responsibility for its fulfillment. An example would be the covenant God made with Abraham, to make him the father of many nations. Another example would be God's promise never to destroy the earth by water again.

The covenant of obligation is radically different. In the Sinai Covenant God does not promise to perform any specific act; whereas, the people of Israel were committed to specific obligations toward God and toward one another. The Ten Com-

mandments spells out the conditions of the obligations. Blessing and happiness come with obedience, while transgression of the commandments promises sorrow and cursing. The marriage covenant is a covenant of obligation. It offers great rewards and blessings to those who are obedient to their vows and committed to them.

If we, as the Church of Christ, carelessly fall into the habits, thinking and practices of the world concerning so important a matter as marriage, we can expect the wrath of the Lord to be pronounced upon us as surely as it fell upon Israel. It is altogether fitting and essential that we, as adult members of the body of Christ and His ministry, teach our children by word and example the origin of marriage, the true purpose of marriage, the obligations of marriage and then demonstrate before them our lasting commitment to the covenant of marriage.

Another View of the Glories



By Apostle
William A. Sheldon

A recently published perspective of the Apostle Paul's reference to the glories typified by the sun, moon and uncountable stars of the universe, and of their application or likeness to the resurrection of the dead has prompted this response.

I agree wholeheartedly that Paul was attempting to express in human terms of understanding the magnitude of that marvelous plan of God in the redemption of humanity from the grasp of death. There are those (no reference to the above) who

attempt to circumscribe this plain analogy, whose approach is incomprehensible to me, except as an effort to becloud the light of truth as shed by the apostle and of ancient prophets, and more especially as given in the words of Christ upon this subject. Yet, such is the case, and I can only mourn the poverty of spiritual insight so demonstrated.

Still, I am persuaded that the author of this recent perspective has placed a very limited analysis upon the question of the resurrection which will not bear the weight of scrutiny into the whole scope of the revealed word of God as relating to the final destiny of man. Nevertheless, I would not presume to possess wisdom to end all controversy upon God's ways, though I hereby contribute a mite of that which is written for our profit and learning.

A question comes to mind: Are we to believe that the resurrection is only a stop-gap before the final judgment of mankind, or as a temporary provision by the

great Judge of all the earth? Or is it the opening step toward His ultimate consignment of the souls of men beyond the bar of final judgment? A reasonable evaluation of the word of God by the Spirit of truth will affirm the latter.

The so-called "first resurrection" is to occur within the time frame of the millennial reign of Christ, but the "second resurrection" follows that first resurrection and the "little season" of the devil's release from the "bottomless pit" to deceive the nations again (see Rev. 20:1-3). Therefore, the total scope of the resurrection goes far beyond the millennial reign of the saints upon the earth, and which must be taken into account as we seek to understand the application of the term "glories" to man's state beyond the grave. After this life, we shall receive our bodies again in a perfected state (see 1 Cor. 15:35-38 and 42-44) as a habitation of our spirit for eternity, and this is true whether we speak of those to come forth in the

first resurrection, or that of the second resurrection.

Now, since Apostle Paul tells us regarding our bodies to be raised up, that they shall be glorified, and compares them to the glory of various heavenly bodies (sun, moon and stars), saying, "*So also is the resurrection of the dead,*" even so we are to understand that there shall be varying degrees of reward, even so great that we could not begin to number them. This demonstrates the remarkable purity of justice and mercy to be exercised by Jesus Christ, into whose hands is to be given the stupendous task of rendering a righteous judgment upon mankind.

This thought is concisely verbalized to discerning minds in the plain affirmation found in both the Bible and Book of Mormon: every man shall be judged according to his works, and in accord with his desires. As was nicely defined in the aforementioned article on the "glories," the word *according* means "in agreement, harmonizing with, agreeable, just." In other words, we shall receive a reward from God in agreement or harmonizing with our works in this life, whether good or evil. I cannot accept

the idea that, in a general sense, men are either totally good or totally evil; rather, to the extent or degree that either good or evil is done, we shall receive. Only God can judge this, and He will consign us to that place, that glory, which corresponds with the inmost desires of our heart, and which actuates our being.

Now, let us just look at some statements made by Christ himself, the one who is to perform this judgment, by way of confirming the above premise.

"And whosoever shall give unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward" Matt. 10:42.

Verses 40 through 42 give us to understand that anything done in receiving the servants of God or for a little child through pure desire, he shall "in no wise lose his reward"; and can we suppose that goodness demonstrated toward others will go unrewarded?

We are told that if a people (city) will not receive the gospel of the kingdom, "It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judge-

ment than for that city" Matt. 15:15. Well, since there is to be *toleration* even for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, then there will have been some surcease (end) of pain, and perhaps a glory represented by a faint star (see also Matt. 11:21-22).

"And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more" Luke 12:47-48.

Some will be beaten with many stripes (in the prison house or hell) and some with few (or fewer) stripes; varying degrees of suffering for sin. This is not the second death reserved for sons of perdition, and, of course, it harmonizes with Rev. 20:12-15, which reveals an end to both death and hell, and to the suffering entailed thereby.

“Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven” Matt. 5:19.

Thus there shall be some who shall be *least* in the kingdom of heaven, and some shall be *great* in the kingdom of heaven; surely a variation of glory or reward. In this vein, we find further:

“Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven” Matt. 18:4.

To become humble as a little child (become converted) is to become *greatest* in the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, some shall be least in that kingdom.

If we are to have eternal life, we must “keep the commandments” (of God), but if we would be *perfect*, then give also of our treasure to the poor in true compassion. See Matt. 19:16-21. Here also is a demonstration of varying reward or glory.

“And whosoever shall speak a word

against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven” Luke 12:10.

We may speak against Christ and it shall be forgiven (of course, through repentance), but a blasphemy against the Holy Ghost will not be forgiven. Degrees of suffering may be incurred because of sin, but this all shall cease except for sin against the Holy Ghost.

“And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me” Matt. 25:40.

Here we see that those outside the kingdom of God who would do good to the saints of God (the brethren of whom He spoke are those who have done the will of God—Matt. 12:48-50) shall thus have done so to Christ, and will be rewarded for good. This alludes to a consignment of glory.

“But to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give; but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared” Luke 10:40.

Some will sit on the

right hand of Christ and some on his left hand. Whichever side will be an appointment of glory, but no doubt those on His right hand will be most glorious. At any rate, those on his left hand are not condemned to spiritual death.

“In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you” John 14:2.

The many mansions are not simply many houses to accommodate a large number of souls, but to accommodate those of varying degrees of glory; but, of course, there is a greater mansion, or glorious abode, for the saints of God, typified by the glory of the sun.

All of this is not to diminish the suffering or pain to be experienced in hell, or the prison house, or to in any way encourage thinking that one may live a life of sin and rebellion against God without the sure testimony of the word of God that such will receive divine chastisement in accord with his evil works. Alma gives us a graphic description of his own suffering which was a type of that suffering which would have been his beyond mortality had he not repented “nigh

unto death" (see Mos. 11:190-193). Nevertheless, it shall end, as previously stated, through the grace of the One who has the keys of death and of hell (see Rev. 1:18).

Much more could be said, but this is sufficient to show that the resurrection is

not simply to bring mankind from the grave at various stages of the millennial reign, but it includes the later resurrection of the unjust or the wicked. We have found that the gospel principle of the resurrection of the dead will be consummated in the glories received as a

final reward after the day of Judgement. Each will receive an exaltation or glory, one of the various degrees, according to his works.



Father

4 years: MY DADDY CAN DO ANYTHING.

7 years: MY DAD KNOWS A WHOLE LOT.

8 years: MY FATHER DOESN'T QUITE KNOW EVERYTHING.

12 years: OH WELL, NATURALLY FATHER DOESN'T KNOW EVERYTHING.

14 years: FATHER? HOPELESSLY OLD FASHIONED.

21 years: OH, THAT MAN IS OUT OF DATE. WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?

25 years: HE KNOWS A LITTLE BIT ABOUT IT, BUT NOT MUCH.

30 years: MUST FIND OUT WHAT DAD THINKS ABOUT IT.

35 years: A LITTLE PATIENCE, LET'S GET DAD'S MEANING FIRST.

50 years: WHAT WOULD DAD HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT IT?

60 years: MY DAD KNEW LITERALLY EVERYTHING.

65 years: I WISH I COULD TALK IT OVER WITH DAD ONCE MORE.



Hunger

When I look back on why I accepted the Book of Mormon and the Church of Christ, Temple Lot, I realize it was because of a hunger to know God's word better and to figure out what role he had for me in his kingdom.

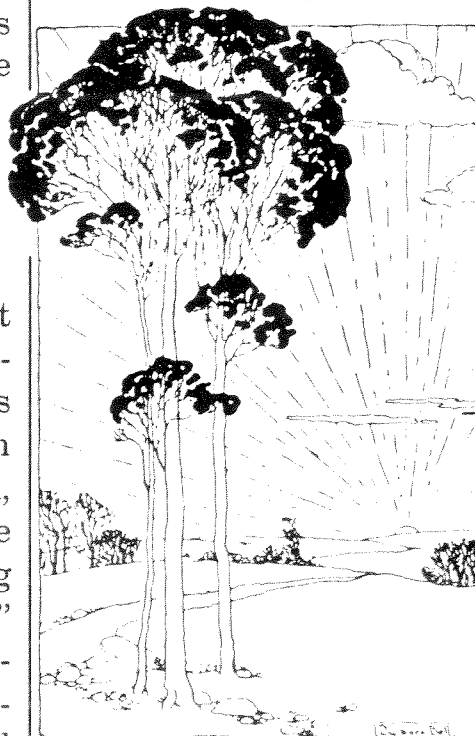
I had attended church with my parents fairly steady most of my life and had been active, yet I was out of high school before I was baptized. It was a decision I had waited on until I felt the inner need, or hunger, and not because someone else was telling me it was "the thing to do."

Having made my decision, I went along for several years, but then started to feel a hunger for something more. After analyzing this need for something more, I realized I had been receiving the milk of the gospel, but now was ready for the meat.

"But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses

exercised to discern both good and evil" Hebrews 5:14.

My husband, Robert,



PATHLIGHTS

and I had at that time been dating for awhile, and were into comparing our different religious upbringings. He asked if I would consider reading the Book of Mormon to gain a better understanding of a major influence in his life, and I

made one of the best choices of my life and said, "Yes, I will." Once I got started I could hardly put it down at night to go to sleep. Here was the real "meat" I had been hungry for, but had not been receiving. Finally, my soul was finding real satisfaction.

Yes, I had questions. I was hungry for the knowledge and wisdom that was unfolding before me page by page. I was privileged enough to have several wise people around me that would assist me in discovering these answers for myself—never pushing—letting me go at my own speed. No question was insignificant; all were worthy of an answer.

I still remember when I realized my baptism in the other church was in effect no more than "just getting wet." The realization that it had not included the laying on of hands, or the receiving of the Holy Spirit made me feel so naked and defenseless I just wanted to sit and cry. The Lord made me realize right then that I

needed to be baptized in His way into the Church of Christ.

When plans finally worked out for my baptism to take place, even a flat tire on the way to Independence from Council Bluffs didn't stop me for too long.

My spiritual birthday, June 1, is a cause of more

joy for me than my physical birthday in September, because it was my choice to "be born." I am going to be nine this year, so I am still growing in that aspect of my life, but everyone, no matter how many years in the Church, still needs to grow and strive to gain wisdom.

My prayer is that my

"hunger" will never diminish, and that I can show others how fulfilling it can be to feast on God's word.

*Diana Dewaele
Council Bluffs, IA*



THE RALLY

Come ye Saints and rally 'round the Lord
Unite all your strength with one accord
Feast on His spirit - seek enjoyment of His love
Thanking Him for blessings sent from above
Take the testimonies that are given here
And carry them to others throughout the year
Tell of the sermons of the promises He'll ensure
Everlasting Life if we'll but just endure
Tell of the healings that emanate from His hand
If only ye have little faith - that is His one command
And don't forget those who from the Church did stray
And for reasons of their own did not come today
We need their testimonies too in order for us to grow
And strengthen our knowledge of the Lord for there is much to
know
We felt the presence of Christ today
Sorry for those who stayed away

—*Sam Kidd*

Do You Believe in Guardian Angels?

Before this experience that my daughter Sue and I had, I had often read books about guardian angels and wondered if they really existed. We were going shopping last fall and we decided to take my car. Now I very seldom drive, but in order to take my car, I had to drive to Sue's home, which is about a twenty minute drive from my house.

When I got up to go in the morning a light snow had fallen. I didn't want to drive, but I knew Sue wouldn't let that bother her, so I thought I'd better go.

Well, I prayed all the way, asking to have a safe trip and also a quick one. My prayers were answered. I was able to drive carefully and arrived quickly and safely. Sue's thought was, the roads must not be bad if mother drove here, so we started out on our shopping trip. We hadn't driven far when the roads began to get slippery.

A semi started to pass us, going way too fast for

the road conditions. When he started to pass, he got so close he ran us right off the road! Sue said, "Hang on mother, there's nothing I can do." This is when our guardian angel stepped in. We seemed to glide right off the road into a deep ditch. It amazed me that both of us were very calm. Usually I get very upset when anything bad happens, but we both just got out of the car and went to a farmhouse and called for help.

I know our guardian angel was with us because we could have hit posts or worse yet, rolled the car over! We both thanked God for sending our guardian angels to help us when we needed them.

This summer, Sue and I were again going shopping and we were near to the place where we needed to turn off, when suddenly Sue moved into the next lane. I remember thinking, "Why are you turning here when we will soon have to turn the other way?" Again, our guardian angel was intervening.

Right behind us was a big garbage truck with no brakes! He was blowing his horn when the light turned red and just then a semi-truck turned right in front of him. He just barely missed it. If Sue hadn't turned into the other lane just when she did (being urged by the Spirit), we would have been smashed right between those two trucks!

This is why I now believe in guardian angels.

Written by Sister Norma Keith of Muskegon, Michigan, and also experienced by Sister Sue Heath

Will God's Miracles Ever Cease?

Part II

Our Wonderful Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace had performed innumerable miracles making it possible for me to commence obtaining a Bachelor of Science with a major in elementary education, but now would His plans be frustrated by man's changeability? No, they would not, and in May 1990, I graduated after taking many more steps toward the degree through the power of God. Howbeit, the change in the college president and the major differences in administration caused me to worry because now tuition, accumulated work hours, class semesters, and the possibility of a place to student teach would no longer be the same. Surprisingly, I came to learn that these changes were actually a miracle from the Lord, and because of the changes, I came to understand that I fell under a

grandfather clause. Thereby, the changes made it possible for me to graduate from this college since the changes came during the time drastic changes were transpiring in my personal life.

My fears and anxieties were alleviated, and I was comforted when the Holy Spirit brought to mind the verse in I Nephi 1:65:

"I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded, for I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them."

I knew that although there had been much controversy on changes in my personal life as a maiden to enter wedlock, I knew I had been given a vision from the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the True and

Living God on whom He had chosen to be my husband, Mister Enoch Gould.

Before leaving college in Missouri—the college where I had been exposed to the fullness of the gospel (found in the Bible, the Book of Mormon, and latter-day revelation), and Christ's true church, and was baptized, and been strengthened by the priesthood (God restored to this earth) and by many, many members in Christ's body, to travel to Minnesota, I was able to retake a class that I had received a less than satisfactory grade, and was blessed, from God, that in the retake, the professor used an entirely different approach, and I was miraculously able to pass the course. On campus, God had also given me a job where I worked with a classroom of grade school children and another classroom of preschool children. What a miracle!

Once in Minnesota, Enoch and I obeyed the

Lord's leading, guidance, and direction and were married. I still had a year of college left before I could graduate, and, therefore, there were several steps we had to take. However, I now held responsibilities for others than myself, such as an immediate son, Enoch Seth, and (after several months of marriage) a new life growing inside me, Cassandra Elaine, and I resolved to try my hardest and was rewarded, for the first time in my college career, by being on the Dean's List. The steps my husband and I took together would have been impossible by myself, but my 'help meet' gave me the resolve I needed as he served to support, assist, encourage, and strengthen me through this time as God softened the Dean of Faculty's and advisor's hearts, and the college, in whole, to work with us to accept my new application, and allow me to transfer the courses which were taken at a university in Minnesota to the college in Missouri. How miraculous, I am positive this was the exception. What may have been even more miraculous was that these courses were among

the last 30 hours, and policy is that the last 30 hours were required to be taken on site. When enrolling in some of these necessary courses, equivalent courses were offered, at the perfect timing, and were approved by my advisor.

Needing a mode of transportation to attend the classes, God provided family and friends to assist, but when classes became daily instead of weekly events, my reliance changed to needing their assistance in helping me train for a driver's license, which God again provided in the perfect time frame. What now lay ahead was the final step and milestone of student teaching, and what a blessing it was as I taught a darling fourth grade class under a lovely teacher in the same city where my husband worked. Thus, we saved money as we car-pooled. We were also helped financially, by God, when my extra work hours from college paid for my teaching, and when we saved the expenses of customary fees usually required by the public relations' officials of the school district.

At graduation time,

when I held the actual evidence of the God-provided diploma, I recalled how God had paved a way for us to accomplish this thing which He commanded. Later, I was able to use not only the degree but the Minnesota and Missouri teaching licenses (in which God proved He was ever near when He helped me fulfill requirements in passing tests and a course to make the renewals go from one to two to five year licenses) to home school our son for three years and thereby also use this tool to unset traps, set by unkind persons, against our family, and keep our family unit intact. Which again showed me the power of God. I am convinced that I still only know a portion of the reasons why God wants me to be a teacher.

*Your sister in Christ,
Patricia Gould*

N E W S



N E W S

BRADLEY, MICHIGAN

April 19, 1995

Dearest Brothers and Sisters:

God's news, good news. IT'S FINISHED (enough to hold services). Our local held Easter Services for our first meeting on April 16. Oh, what a beautiful service it was.

The sun shone, which seemed so refreshing as we haven't seen much of it in several months. It made everything and everyone seem to come alive, which is the reason for this season as Christ fulfilled His promise when He arose from the tomb after his crucifixion.

All was joyful as voices sang songs of praise to Him who made this feat all possible. There were some discouragements in the beginning but through much

patience and many prayers from all, both near and far, prayers have been answered.

With the Lord's guidance and the many talents He has given each and every soul here, the labors of love are evident in His house. It took about six months to get to this point.

From the first phone call to get blueprints to start construction, to the last stroke of a paintbrush, it has been worth all of the tireless hours spent by each and every person here who was able to pitch in.

When we didn't know where monies would come from for this or that, another check would come in the mail. Many thanks to those who helped us financially.

We truly are a blessed people!

We still have a lot of little things to do to finish before we have an open house: a railing on the altar, carpeting in the dining area, paint the utility room floor, etc.

Other blessings came from all this work as we had opportunities to get together and have fellowship and learn a little more about one another. These were truly

joyous times.

We'll be announcing our Open House at a later date.

Please continue to pray for our little local as we do have many who are sick and afflicted and our prayers will continue to be that God's will be done.

Pam Lussenden
Secretary
Bradley Local, MI

N E W S

COLLINS, MISSOURI

The month of March was a pretty dry month for early spring, but April has changed that outlook considerably. Mowing the lawn is still a kind of novelty—we nearly have to carry an umbrella to get it done! Our garden is—well, right now it looks like a giant mud puddle with a couple rows of green beans poking their heads out. Yes, it's still raining. Allen asked me if I thought it would rain this easy in July and August. Now, what do you think?!!

After the April Conference meetings were over, Apostles Don McIndoo and Jay Moser paid our local a visit and Brother Jay brought the sermon for that Sunday.

Easter Sunrise Services were again hosted by the Collins Christian Church. Songs were sung and the resurrection story was read again to remind us of the price that has been paid for mankind.

Following the Sunrise Service, we enjoyed a volunteer program at our own church, with a good amount of participation from a nice sized crowd. Elders Jim and

Hubert Yates were also among those present and Brother Hubert was our speaker for the preaching service. Afterward we all enjoyed dinner together and some good visiting too.

Our sister Jo Eddy has had another visit in the hospital recently, but is home again. When she feels good she tends to over-do and then is pretty tired out for a day or two. Please continue to remember her in your prayers. Jo is one of our dearest friends here and we care very much for her well-being. Two of Jo's sisters have been visiting and helping out around the house. I know Jo has enjoyed their company. I'll bet there was some pretty singing, too. I love to hear them sing together.

We held our annual business meeting April 23rd. Brother Jack Martin will continue as our pastor with Brother Allen Kauffman as assistant.

In closing, I will share a few sermon quotes that you may want to consider:

- You're not above temptation, folks. None of us are exempt from falling away.
- The "American Dream"

is: To have, to get, and to gain.

- We glorify God when we endure to the end.
- Our greatest enemy is our self.
- You have a choice in your life to make that no one can make for you.
- Don't let Satan deceive you into thinking the things of the world are joy or fun.
- Hate, when we let it enter into our being, completely overcomes us.
- Hate is not justified.
- You can get your mind warped to where you think what you're doing is right.
- God will avenge. Our job is to love and obey.

*Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman*

R E U N I O N S

Missouri Reunion

The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite ALL to attend the 1995 Missouri Reunion, which will be held August 11th, 12th and 13th, 1995. All meetings will be held at the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) building located on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri.

Noon and evening meals will be served Friday and Saturday, with a noon meal only being served on Sunday.

For information please contact:
Isaac Brockman, Sr.
1203 Baker Dr
Independence, MO 64050
(816) 254-8190

Roland Sarratt
15910 E 36th Terr
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 373-6605

Smith "Buzz" Brickhouse
5713 Logan Rd
Kansas City, MO 64136
(816) 356-9214

Tri-State Reunion

The 1995 Tri-State Reunion will be held from 1:00 p.m. September 1, to 11:00 a.m. September 4, Labor Day weekend. The location of the reunion will be the Whitewater Group Center at Whitewater State Park. The park

is located near St. Charles, Minnesota. Cabins at the group center will sleep 120 people. Bedding is not furnished.

The Minnesota locals welcome all who can come. Let's let our songs of joy ring

through the canyon walls.

For information please contact:
Merlin L. Eddy
3370 203rd St W
Farmington, MN 55024
(612) 463-2218

1995 Phoenix Reunion

Join with us for a weekend of spiritual refreshment and rejuvenation at the Phoenix Reunion. Come and enjoy the fellowship of the many loved ones in Christ, and feast upon the word of God with us.

Reunion dates are Friday, November 24th through Sunday, November 26th.

For more information, or if you plan to attend, please contact:
Pastor Elder Joel Yates
2924 E Rockwood Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85024-3436
(602) 569-9296

ASSISTANT PASTORS:
Elder Gordon McCann
18808 N 30th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85024-3436
(602) 867-7681

Priest Glenn Orsted
1327 E Wescott Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85024-2393
(602) 780-8764

If you cannot attend, please remember the reunion and all of its parts in your prayers.



TEEN CHALLENGE '95

A Church Youth Camp filled with fun, fellowship, study and worship.

CAMP CLASSES: Archery, canoeing, radio broadcasting, sign language, volleyball and woodworking are just some of the classes planned for this year.

STUDY CLASSES: Each day there will be a study class centered around a scriptural theme.

SPORTS: The afternoons will be full of swimming, volleyball, softball, horse-shoes, basketball, and more.

CAMPFIRE: There will be nightly campfires with plenty of time for both fun and serious activities.

Camp Far Westa is a beautiful, spacious, well-kept camp that is only an hour away from Kansas City. Their facilities include a pool, boy's and girl's dorms and showers, a large cafeteria, a lake, a ball field, etc.

MINISTRY: There will be priesthood in attendance at all times.

CHAPERONS: There will be one adult for every eight campers.

LIFE GUARD: The camp provides a certified life guard.

FOOD: The facility provides the food service—SNACK BAR AVAILABLE.

AGE GROUP: Junior and Senior High—ages 12-18.

DATES: August 6-11, 1995

TOTAL COST: \$90.00 (\$80.00 if paid before July 1, 1995).

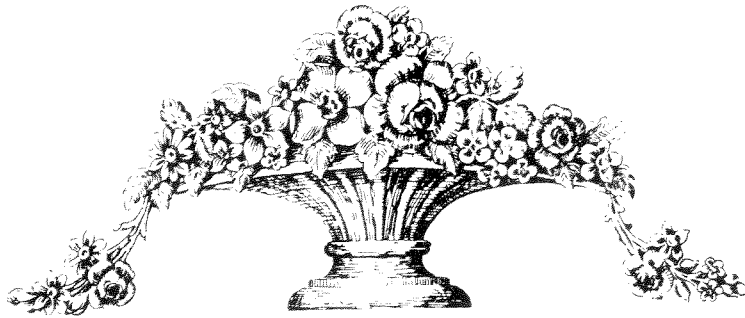
FOR REGISTRATION FORM AND MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CAMP DIRECTORS

Buzz and Sue Brickhouse
5713 Logan Road
Kansas City, MO 64136
(816) 356-9214

Ruth Mae Randall

April 17, 1904----April 22, 1995



Ruth Mae Randall passed from this life on April 22, 1995, at the age of 91 years. She had been in ill health and spent several weeks at the Independence Regional Health Center where she passed away.

Sister Randall was born April 17, 1904, at Ludington, Michigan. She was married to John L. Randall on October 17, 1921. They had been affiliated with The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints before coming into the Church of Christ in their

later years. He served as pastor of the East Local Branch of the Church in Independence, Missouri, for several years before his passing in 1970.

Surviving are three sons, Richard L. Randall, Calvin C. Randall, both of Independence, and Daniel T. Randall, Grain Valley, Missouri; four daughters, Eloise Testerman, Gower, Missouri, Lorena Wilcox, Sedalia, Missouri, Karen E. Johnson and Cynthia Lamberty, both of Independence, Missouri; 23 grandchildren,

28 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Mound Grove Cemetery in Independence, Missouri.

Apostle William Sheldon and Elder Herbert Saunders officiated.

My Mother's Apron

Many years have come and gone
And many stories we like to tell,
But the very best of all of them,
The one we love so well,
Is My Mother's Apron.

It has covered up her pretty dresses
To keep them nice and clean,
Were made in many colors,
Pink, blue and lettuce green,
My Mother's Apron.

And it has so many uses
Was used for this and that,
To fan a brow so tired
As on the porch she sat,
My Mother's Apron.

It made many a trip to the garden
Bringing good things to eat,
Filled to the brim with vegetables
A taste that couldn't be beat,
In My Mother's Apron.

It went with her to the orchard
To bring back an apple or two,
Oh, we forgot the basket,
Oh well, this apron will do,
My Mother's Apron.

Her apron saved many footsteps
When a basket was forgotten
again,
But those memories still linger
Tho' the years are past and gone,
My Mother's Apron.

I can see her yet as she trods
Down through the garden gate,
Gathering the fruit that was growing
there
Seems I could hardly wait,
To see in My Mother's
Apron.

Now Mother has laid aside her apron
For the Lord has called her home,
It is hanging there in silence
Never to be used by her again,
My Mother's Apron.

I like to tell those stories
Of the memories that come to me,
But the one that is most precious
You can plainly see,
Is My Mother's Apron.

—*Ruth Mae Randall*



CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1995 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 2. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M., Monday, April 3. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, March 31 & April 1. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1995 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 16 through 18, 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
Non-Members	4.00
Foreign	4.50
Book of Commandments (hard bound)	9.00
Book of Commandments (plastic bound)	5.00
Book of Commandments Controversy Reviewed	4.00
Book of Mormon (1908 Authorized Edition — Leather)	20.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition — Cloth)	18.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition — Leather)	24.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition — Missionary)	7.00
Book of Mormon Companion, A (hardbound)	12.00
Book of Mormon Companion, A (softbound)	5.00
Book of Mormon Concordance	8.00
Changing of the Revelations50
Comprehensive Comparison of Changes to the Revelations	1.30
Historical Facts Concerning the Temple Lot	1.30
Marvelous Work and a Wonder, A — by Daniel MacGregor	3.50
Outline History of the Church of Christ	4.00
Temple Lot Deed30
What the Restoration Teaches Concerning God	2.50
Zion's Hymnal	12.00

The balance of these General Church Publications are free of charge.*

- Ancient Prophecies Fulfilled in 1830
- Articles of Faith & Practice of the Church of Christ
- Articles of Faith & Practice (Spanish)
- Baptism for the Dead? - A Fallacy
- Book of Mormon, The (tract)
- Brief History of the Church of Christ, A
- Cost of Salvation, The
- Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?
- First Presidency or First Apostles?
- God's Purpose in America
- Great Plan of Redemption, The
- Latter Day Restoration, The
- Marriage for Time and Eternity? — A Fallacy
- Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)
- Priesthood — Divine Authority
- Principles of the Gospel, The — Baptism
- Principles of the Gospel, The — Faith & Repentance
- Principles of the Gospel, The — Laying on of Hands
- Resurrection and Eternal Judgement
- Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
- Synopsis, A (Compares beliefs of 3 Restoration churches)
- What about the Book of Mormon
- What the Church teaches about Matrimony (Spanish)
- Why? (Amplifies absence of a "First Presidency" in Scripture)
- Zion and the Temple of the Lord

*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 Debbie Vogel, 403 Colonel Drive, Indep., MO 64050. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ except as noted. Donations will be accepted to cover postage.

- Bible Stories to Grow By — 52 Lessons about God and Jesus for ages 5-7
- Book in the Stone Box, The — About the Book of Mormon
- Church History for Juniors — Includes a Teachers Guide
- Jesus' Life and Teachings — 4 Quarterlies for Ages 8-10
- Who Am I? — Bible game on cards; free to Sunday Schools/\$1.30 individuals.

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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.

- LAMP UNTO MY FEET, A** (32 minutes) — Directed specifically toward American Indian viewers, compiled from three other programs.
- 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.
- OUT OF THE DUST** (45 minutes) — Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon.
- RETURN, THE** (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 previously dedicated Temple Lot.

HOLY SCRIPTURES ON AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES
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.

SERMONS ON AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES
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 addresses are listed on the inside front cover.