

## Missionary Work

"Years ago a friend, who long since is gone, told this experience. He was seventeen-years-old and with his companion stopped at a cottage in the southern states. It was his first day in the mission field and was his first door. A gray-haired woman stood inside the screen and asked what they wanted. His companion nudged him to proceed. Frightened and somewhat tongue-tied, he finally blurted out, 'As man is God once was, and as God is man may become.'

"Strangely enough, she was interested and asked where he got that. He answered, 'It's in the Bible.' She left the door for a moment, returned with her Bible.

Commenting that she was a minister of a congregation, she handed it to him and said, 'Here, show me.'

"He took the Bible and nervously thumbed back and forth through it. Finally he handed it back saying, 'Here, I can't find it. I'm not even sure that it's in there, and even if it is, I couldn't find it. I'm just a poor farm boy from out in Cache Valley in Utah. I haven't had much training. But I come from a family where we live the gospel of Jesus Christ. And it's done so much for our family that I've accepted a call to come on a mission for two years, at my own expense, to tell people how I feel about it.'

"After half a century, he could not hold back the tears as he told me how she pushed open the door and said, 'Come in, my boy, I'd like to hear what you have to say.'

"There is great power in this work, and the ordinary member of the Church, sustained by the Spirit, can do the work of the Lord."

Boyd K. Packer, "The Candle of the Lord," *Ensign*, Jan. 1983, 56

## Family/Fatherhood

"First, fathers, listen to your sons—really listen to them. . . . A one-on-one relationship should be a routine part of your stewardship with your sons. . . .

"Second, pray with and for your sons. Give them priesthood blessings. . . . One-on-one prayer and the sharing of testimonies can draw you closer to each other as well as closer to the Lord. . . .

"Third, dare to have the 'big talks' with your sons. . . . Your boys need your counsel, guidance, and input on these subjects. As you talk about these very important matters, you will find that the trust between you will flourish."

M. Russell Ballard, "Fathers and Sons: A Remarkable Relationship," *Ensign*, Nov. 2009, 48–49

## Temptation / Satan / Obedience

**"All of us experience temptations. So did the Savior, but He 'gave no heed unto them' (D&C 20:22). Similarly, we do not have to yield simply because a temptation surfaces. We may want to, but we don't have to."**

D. Todd Christofferson, "Moral Discipline," *Ensign*, Nov. 2009, 107

## Adversity/Charity

"One sister asked, 'Why doesn't the Church defend itself more actively when accusations are made against it?' . . .

"In such moments, we may want to respond aggressively—to 'put up our dukes.' But these are important opportunities to step back, pray, and follow the Savior's example. Remember that Jesus himself was despised and rejected by the world. And in Lehi's dream, those coming to the Savior also endured 'mocking and pointing . . . fingers' (1 Nephi 8:27). . . . When we respond to our accusers as the Savior did, we not only become more Christlike, we invite others to feel His love and follow Him as well."

Robert D. Hales, "Christian Courage: The Price of Discipleship," *Ensign*, Nov. 2008, 72

## Book of Mormon

**"I testify that one cannot come to full faith in this latter-day work—and thereby find the fullest measure of peace and comfort in these, our times—until he or she embraces the divinity of the Book of Mormon and the Lord Jesus Christ, of whom it testifies."**

Jeffrey R. Holland, "Safety for the Soul," *Ensign*, Nov. 2009, 89–90

## Standards / Virtue / Morality

**"As servants of the Lord Jesus Christ, it is our sacred responsibility to teach His standard of morality, which is the same for all of His children."**

Quentin L. Cook, "Stewardship—a Sacred Trust," *Ensign*, Nov. 2009, 92