

## A RIGHTEOUS PRAYER FOR ZION !

Hymns of the Restoration #84:

“We’ll go forward unto Zion, We will pledge our lives to Thee;  
May Thy gentle Spirit’s whisper lead Thy saints to victory.”

**Psalms 15:1-5** Lord, who shall abide in Thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in Thy holy hill of Zion? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor. In whose eyes a vile person is condemned; but he honoreth them that fear the Lord; sweareth not falsely to hurt any man, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

Let us not be selfish, but let us overcome our sins--those things that separate us from God and His righteousness. He will give us the power to overcome, since it is not by our own strength that we can repent. His love conquers all!

**Genesis 7:23** And the Lord called His people, Zion, because they were of one heart and of one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there were no poor among them.

Zion will be built by those who have learned to dwell in righteousness *before* it physically comes.

**Moroni 7:52** Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail; but charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth for ever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with them.

Is it possible to love God and not others?

**1 John 4:20-21** If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar, for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from Him, that he who loveth God loveth his brother also.

Picture someone in your mind that you avoid or just don’t want to be around. Perhaps this person irritates you with their words or actions. The amount of love you feel for that person is how much you love God. Let’s consciously choose to do what is right[eous]!

*We hope you will actually be inspired to re-read the full devotionals from last year. See [www.ogrb.org](http://www.ogrb.org) Resource Page. May we continue to put the actions the Patriarchs recommended into our lives--for the cause of Zion!*

Questions: Contact Pat Chadwick, Women’s Leader, 2010-2016

## Stepping Stones for Spiritual Growth



### Preparation Guide for August Women’s Devotionals:

**2 Nephi 14:12** But behold I say unto you, that ye must pray always, and not faint: that ye must not perform anything unto the Lord, save in the first place ye shall pray unto the Father in the name of Christ, that He will consecrate thy performance unto thee, that thy performance may be for the welfare of thy soul.

Are all of my decisions--my daily choices--pleasing to God and in accordance with His commandments?

- I will respond to God’s guidance/direction, choosing loving righteousness, as I actively succor those who stand in need.
- I will pray daily that He will open my eyes to those around me.
- I will seek ways to share my wealth--my blessings both temporal and spiritual-- with others. For all I have is really not mine anyway--it all belongs to God!

In all areas of my life, I will attempt to be righteous that I might be prepared to meet my God face-to-face.

**1 Nephi 7:62** For he (Satan) hath no power over the hearts of the people, for they dwell in righteousness, and the Holy One of Israel reigneth.

In the guide prepared by the Patriarchs of the church these challenges are given to those who seek to be a part of Zion:

5. We are required to seek out and dwell in righteousness.
6. We are required to impart of our substance.

**Action = “We are required to seek out and dwell in righteousness; and thereby we are compelled to impart of our substance to those that stand in need.”**

**Genesis 7:23-24**

Week #1                      August

Read Hymn #377 (Blue Hymnal)

“Give of your best to the Master; Naught else is worthy His love.”

**Mosiah 2:43** I would that ye should impart of your substance to the poor, every man according to that which he hath, such as feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, and administering to their relief, both spiritually and temporally, according to their wants.

Don't be afraid to ask someone if you can provide for them.

The instruction in D&C 85:38a is that we should LEARN to do this. God desires to teach by His Spirit and His Word. Ask Him where to find those in need and trust that He will point them out, if we truly seek.

- Share items in storage that are no longer needed.
- Give foods we love; and, provide good nutrition.
- Spend less money on frivolous things; instead, consider more how to focus on God and acting in ways that will fulfill His promises.

Putting God's desires first is a self-discipline of our money, our time, and our effort.

Also read Luke 3:15-16  
Also read D&C 85:38a

Week #2                      August

“Charity is the pure love of Christ.”

**Mosiah 2:30-31** Perhaps thou shalt say, The man has brought upon himself his misery; therefore I will stay my hand, and will not give unto him of my food, nor impart unto him of my substance, that he may not suffer, for his punishments are just. But I say unto you, O man, whosoever doeth this, the same hath great cause to repent; and except he repenteth of that which he hath done, he perisheth for ever, and hath no interest in the kingdom of God.

Get rid of judgmental thoughts!

Everyone is different. Let God decide who is deserving of our help--rather, His substance--for it is not our substance nor is it our decision, when we are His.

Pray for the sick. Visit them. Minister to their needs.

God has told us to pray that He will supply us with the LOVE needed to do His will.

Allow Him to flood your heart with that love that only flows from His heart. This is His desire for us!

Let us be TRUE FOLLOWERS of Jesus Christ.

Also read Mosiah 2:36-37  
Also read Alma 16:223-225  
Also read D&C 101:2g

Week #3                      August

“What if I can't?”

It is not only monetary riches that God has commanded that we impart to our brothers and sisters. We are not exempt if we do not own riches.

**Mosiah 9:60-64** And again, Alma commanded that the people of the church should impart of their substance, every one according to that which he had; if he have more abundantly, he should impart more abundantly; and he that had but little, but little should be required; and to him that had not should be given. And thus they should impart of their substance, of their own free will and good desires towards God, and to those priests that stood in need, yea, and to every needy, naked soul. And this he said unto them, having been commanded of God; And they did walk uprightly before God, imparting to one another, both temporally and spiritually, according to their needs and their wants.

Stewardship over gifts & talents: using them for His glory!  
We can do many things to be helpful to others:

- Pray, console, cry with, listen
- Clean, organize
- Mow, garden, repair
- Feed, visit, read to
- Write letter, call, make a gift
- Laundry, dishes
- Massage, care for the sick

Also read Mosiah 2:40

Week #4                      August

And the survey says:

Am I lazy?                      YES  
Do I lack self-discipline?   YES  
Am I selfish?                      VERY

**D&C 102:2b** ...but, behold they have not learned to be obedient to the things which I require at their hands, but are full of all manner of evil, and do not impart of their substance, as becometh Saints, to the poor and afflicted among them, and are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom...

**Imparting of our substance is characteristic of saints and required by the Celestial Law.**

We need to be obedient!

**The highest goal in our life is to walk with Jesus Christ in His wonderful Kingdom.**

There is no greater joy!

- Why then are we slothful and disobedient?
- Why do we procrastinate?

If we want so much to be selected as God's jewels--let us now be inspired.

Let us pray for one another and continue to strive together for the Kingdom of God--ZION!

Also read Luke 12:50-52  
Also read Moroni 7:52-53