

January Week #2 Devotionals and Consideration



Hymn: "Admonition"

**Love ye Me and love all people, Love as I have loved you:
This your calling this My purpose, thus be My disciples true.
Then in this exalted station, your companion I will be;
Every promise of My Scriptures will be verified in thee.**

**Get ye up then to your mountain, Zion of this closing day!
For the glory of My coming, waits to break upon your way!
Forth from hence your testimony, shall to trembling nations go,
And the world confess that with you God has residence below.**

The first sentence, in the first verse, counsels us, "Love ye me and love all people. Love as I have loved you."

If we are going to build Zion and be a part of God's Kingdom we must learn to love one another. The scriptures are very clear on this.

Remember, love is an "Action" word, not a "Feeling" word. Too often we think we have to feel loving to act loving and that is not true. If we act lovingly our feelings will come in line with our actions.

We must learn to love or we will not be allowed to be in God's Kingdom.

Moroni 10:15-18 Wherefore, there must be faith; and if there must be faith, there must also be hope; and if there must be hope, there must also be charity; and except ye have charity, ye can in no wise be saved in the kingdom of God.

Our ability to love demonstrates that we are a disciple of Christ.

John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

We are commanded to Love One Another.

John 15:12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

We are told to pray unto the Father that we might be filled with love and if we have love it will be well with us in the last days.

Moroni 7:52-53 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.

53 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love which He hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of His Son Jesus Christ.

There is much yet to say about love but we cannot cover the whole subject here. If we are going to be in God's Kingdom we must grow in love. May we follow Moroni's counsel and truly pray, with all energy of heart, that we can become the loving people God has commanded us to be. We must learn to be loving before we can climb higher.

The second verse sounds the call to "get ye up then to your mountain, Zion of this closing day." This statement calls us to grow Spiritually—to Sanctify Ourselves and Be Prepared for the Bridegroom.

Also see: D&C 45:12-14, D&C 56:4c-6, D&C 58:1b-3 and 6d-i, D&C 76:1-2d, D&C 83:16-17c, D&C 85:18-25, Genesis 7:67-75, 9:21-23

Our Spiritual Condition Matters—
it is time to grow spiritually and get up to the Mountain!

DC 140:5c The work of preparation and the perfection of My Saints go forward slowly, and Zionic conditions are no further away nor any closer than the spiritual condition of My people justifies.

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore not leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection.

The statement, "For the glory of My coming Waits to break upon your way!", is also very important and worthy of our consideration. There is a great blessing awaiting those who have prepared themselves, for He has promised that His Glory, will break forth and shine upon them.

D&C 45:10b And at that day when I shall come in My glory, shall the parable be fulfilled which I spake concerning the ten virgins; for they that are wise and have received the truth, and have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide, and have not been deceived, verily I say unto you,

10c They shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire, but shall abide the day, and the earth shall be given unto them for an inheritance;

10d And they shall multiply and wax strong, and their children shall grow up without sin unto salvation, for the Lord shall be in their midst, and His glory shall be upon them, and He will be their King and their lawgiver.

January Week #3 Devotionals and Consideration



Hymn: “Let Us Pray for One Another”

**It is waning on t’ward midnight; Soon we’ll hear the watchman say,
‘See the Son of God is coming; Go and meet Him on the way!’
That our lamps may then be burning, Bright enough to guide our way,
And that we may share His glory, For each other let us pray.**

The concept, “**it is waning on toward midnight,**” is an important part of this song, for the author is, I believe, through the power of inspiration, telling us we are very close to the coming of the Lord.

[Matthew 25:5](#) *And at midnight there was a cry made. Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him.*

We are so very close to hearing that cry: “Behold [the bridegroom cometh](#)” we haven’t a minute left to procrastinate in our preparation.

In a message given at the CMRB Reunion at Odessa Hills in 2013 through Elder Rob Bird, the Lord said to us: **“Use the tools I’ve provided for each of My covenant People, so you won’t be as one of the five virgins—left out of the wedding feast because of lack of obedience and preparation.**

Don’t ever underestimate the value of the gift of My Holy Spirit, or the power of a fervent prayer, or fail to treasure up and feast upon the promises found in My Word, or the strength found in obedience to My two greatest commandments.”

To refresh you as to the two Great Commandments as found in the New Testament:

[Matthew 22:34](#) Then one of them, a lawyer, tempting Him, asked, saying,
35 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?

36 Jesus said unto him, [Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.](#)

37 [This is the first and great commandment.](#)

38 [And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.](#)

39 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

James calls it the Royal Law:

James 2:8 If ye fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well.

If we would try with all our might to use these tools and keep these two Great Commandments in the coming year, I believe Zion would start to flourish among us!! Let's do it, starting today!!

Another important concept in this song is: "That our lamps may then be burning bright enough to guide our way."

Ladies, the above list of tools will help us keep our lights brightly burning. I don't know about you but it helps me to see this list. To know the Lord has given me the tools I need to accomplish what he has called me to do.

Can we set our hearts and minds on this list of tools God has provided for us, that we might be counted among those five wise virgins? That we might be about building His Kingdom in this the Last Days? Let's be using these tools daily in our lives.

I used Doctrine & Covenants, Section 45 in week two, but I use it here again because of the beautiful promise it gives to us. I want you to catch the vision.

D&C 45:10b And at that day when I shall come in My glory, shall the parable be fulfilled which I spake concerning the ten virgins; for they that are wise and have received the truth, and have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide, and have

not been deceived, verily I say unto you,

10c They shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire, but shall abide the day, and the earth shall be given unto them for an inheritance;

10d And they shall multiply and wax strong, and their children shall grow up without sin unto salvation, for the Lord shall be in their midst, and His glory shall be upon them, and He will be their King and their lawgiver.

Listen to that wonderful promise in 10b. Do we not all long for that? Even for our children to grow up without sin unto salvation, for the Lord's Glory to rest upon our children and grandchildren. Oh how wonderful that would be!

Ladies we can do this thing with God's help! We must do this thing! That wonderful Gift/Tool of the Holy Spirit will assist us if we ask.

Doctrine & Covenants, Section 65 is called a revelation on prayer and was given to the church. In it the Lord instructs us to be praying for His Kingdom.

Sec.65:1c Yea, a voice crying, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, prepare ye the supper of the Lamb, make ready for the Bridegroom;

65:1d Pray unto the Lord; call upon His holy name; make known His wonderful works among the people, call upon the Lord, that His kingdom may go forth upon the earth.

God has promised to help us, so let us fervently be praying for each other as the song tells us to and let us also be fervently praying for God's Kingdom to come forth.

Also See: D&C 18:6a, D&C 63:9a-e, D&C 64:5a-b, Philippians 4:13 and 19, Alma 14:92, Psalms 18:2 and 33, Isaiah 2:3, Isaiah 35

January Week # 4 Devotionals and Consideration



D&C 85:38a-c

See that ye love one another; cease to be covetous; learn to impart one to another as the gospel requires; cease to be idle; cease to be unclean; cease to find fault one with another; cease to sleep longer than is needful; retire to thy bed early, that ye may not be weary; arise early, that your bodies and your minds may be invigorated; and above all things, clothe yourselves with the bonds of charity, as with a mantle, which is a bond of perfectness and peace; pray always, that you may not faint until I come; behold, and lo, I will come quickly, and receive you unto Myself. Amen.

Ladies, do you see the theme of Love that is in these devotionals starting the New Year? I believe this is by the hand of our Father in Heaven, who is calling us to be more loving; for it is a prerequisite to be a part of His Kingdom. We must be about clothing ourselves with his love, even charity.

1 Corinthians 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

13:2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

13:4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

13:5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

13:6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

13:7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

13:8 Charity never faileth;

13:13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three: but the greatest of these is charity.

Do you see the importance of having charity? It is the greatest of all. How do we get it? Well, Moroni tells us to pray for it, ask God to help you have charity.

Moroni 7:53 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love which He hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of His Son Jesus Christ.

I testify that praying for love works. One time I was soooooo angry at a teenage nephew who was in my care and who was misbehaving that I was past angry, I was infuriated. I was infuriated and determined to give him a powerful dressing down. Then I realized that I was so angry I was shaking, so I prayed for God to help me calm down and to renew a right spirit within me. Immediately I was filled with love for my nephew and the Lord's Spirit rested upon me and allowed me to see my nephew as God does. Wow, what a revelation! My heart was suddenly full of love and instead of an angry talk I had a loving and kind talk with my nephew and guess what, he responded. Love made the difference! Love is life-changing when we bestow it upon others.

Matthew 5:46 But I say unto you, love your enemies; bless them that curse you; do good to them that hate you; and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you.

I know that is a tall order but through prayer and with God's help we can achieve it. Now my nephew was not

my enemy, but Corey Ten Boom faced a German guard who had been a cruel enemy to her and her sister in the concentration camp. She prayed for help to forgive and through the power of the Holy Spirit she was able to forgive him and feel Christian love for him. We are all called to forgive and love one another.

My sisters, let us have charity for one another in the coming year. Let us grow in Love and may it abound in our hearts. Love qualifies us for the work of building up God's Kingdom.

DC 4:1e And faith, hope, charity, and love, with an eye single to the glory of God, qualifies him for the work.

The Lord would have us be kind and tenderhearted to each other and not gossiping or saying hurtful things about each other. Let us speak words that will edify all those around us. Let us love one another in word and deed.

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

30 And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice;

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Also See: D&C 11:4-5, Matthew 5:45-50, John 15:9-17, I John 3 & 4, I Thessalonians 3:12-13, 4:9, 5:8, Romans 13:8-14, 12:10-20, I Nephi 3:63-65, II Nephi 13:29-32, Mosiah 9:39-42, 54, Alma 14:118-122, Genesis 7:40