

Six Love Actions to work on for January

1. **Schedule** = Are you giving God the first part of your day? Do you schedule your day around spending time with God? Are you reading his words & seeking him in prayer first thing in the morning to guide you through your daily activities?
2. **Relationships** = Do you put God first in your family, marriage, friendships etc.
3. **Finances** = Is God first in your money considerations & work = Are you tithing?
4. **Interests** = Are you considering God in your recreation, your hobbies & free time etc.
5. **Troubles** = When trouble hits do you go to God first? Are you praying over your troubles and asking God to help you? Too often we try to figure it out on our own. **Go to God first.**
6. **Obedience** = Do you daily seek to obey God's Commandments and seek to remove those things from your Life that separate you from God? **We must repent and seek to love and obey God daily!**



January Bulletin Insert - 2020

The Condition of Our Hearts



Matthew 22:36-39 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.

This year our theme for the Women's Department is all about the condition of our hearts and each month we will address a different condition of the heart. In the Old Testament the word "Heart" is use more than 800 times and more than 200 times it deals with one's thought life, emotions, the wellspring of life, those things that motivate us and mold us. The Bible calls that the heart.

In 1Samuel 16:7 it says: *But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him; for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.* This tells us something about the importance of our hearts. The Lord looks at our hearts and evaluates us by the very condition of our hearts.

In our physical bodies the heart is the center of life. We can lose a kidney or even a lung or gall bladder etc. but if the heart stops working all other organs cease to function and death ensues. So, it is spiritually that the function /condition of our hearts determines our spiritual health and life.

Our theme for the congregation this year is "Becoming More Like Jesus". The two themes blend well together. We cannot become like Jesus unless our hearts are right. Jesus told us that our hearts must be centered on God. *Matthew 22:36-39 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. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*

To start the New Year we want to focus on: (A Heart That Loves God)

January's Theme = A Heart That Loves God

Do you love God? If so, how much do you love him? The answer to that question may be found by evaluating if you actually put God first in your life. Note in Matthew 22:39 Jesus tells us that everything else hangs on that first two commandments *“love God with all thy heart and thy soul and with all thy mind...love thy neighbor as thyself”*. If we truly love God, we will love our neighbors also.

Is Your Heart Set Upon God? Is He First in Your Life?

Is God Your Treasure?

**Do You Treasure Your Time and Your Relationship with
God Above All Others?**

What Is Your Heart's Treasure?



Matthew 6:19-21 Lay not up for yourselves treasure upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Arthur Oakman says this about our loving God and building Zion: **“We love God that is not our problem. Our problem is that in loving him we do not love him enough. What impedes the kingdom? The thing**

When people have heart transplants, they speak of the new life they have been given. They are renewed and become new men and women. So it is when we give Christ the proper place in our hearts and lives, we become new spiritually. *Ephesians 4:22-24 And now I speak unto you concerning the former conversation, by exhortation, that ye put off the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the mind of the Spirit; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*



*Our Love for God Must Have
an Action Attached to It!!*

True Love is not just a feeling it is **ACTION = (Love Actions)** are the changes we make in our lives because we love God . Do your Actions show God you love Him? If you desire fulfillment and true happiness in your life you must love God and seek him first. Everything hinges on our love for God. Our actions demonstrate to God that we are putting him first. We must consider what those love actions entail, and starting into the New Year, implement them into our daily lives.

that impedes the kingdom is the fact that we have not learned the truth of the first commandment. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, might, mind, and strength. And if you love him with all your heart, might, mind and strength then your “self”, which is you, will be cleaned and purified and made white and clean, and with such a self you can be left safely to love your fellow men.” (Oakman, Seminar on the Zionitic Community)

We Are in = A Day of Choosing:

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Will You Choose to Cleave Unto God = Put God First?

Jacob gave us this plea from the Book of Mormon: *Jacob 4:8-10 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, I beseech of you in words of soberness, that ye would repent, and come with full purpose of heart, and cleave unto God as he cleaveth unto you. And while his arm of mercy is extended towards you in the light of the day, harden not your hearts. Yea, to-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts: for why will ye die?*

If we will truly love God and seek him first in our lives, I believe that we would be richly rewarded. God has blessings to give us that he cannot give to us when our hearts are not ready to receive them, one being his kingdom. **He promises to bless us with all we need if we will seek him and his kingdom first in our lives.** *Matthew 6:38-39 Wherefore, seek not the things of this world but seek ye first to build up the kingdom of God, and to establish his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.*

All things added unto us = What a Wonderful

Promise!!!

Why do we hesitate?

that impedes the kingdom is the fact that we have not learned the truth of the first commandment. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, might, mind, and strength. And if you love him with all your heart, might, mind and strength then your “self”, which is you, will be cleaned and purified and made white and clean, and with such a self you can be left safely to love your fellow men.” (Oakman, Seminar on the Zionitic Community)

We Are in = A Day of Choosing:

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Will You Choose to Cleave Unto God = Put God First?

Jacob gave us this plea from the Book of Mormon: *Jacob 4:8-10 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, I beseech of you in words of soberness, that ye would repent, and come with full purpose of heart, and cleave unto God as he cleaveth unto you. And while his arm of mercy is extended towards you in the light of the day, harden not your hearts. Yea, to-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts: for why will ye die?*

If we will truly love God and seek him first in our lives, I believe that we would be richly rewarded. God has blessings to give us that he cannot give to us when our hearts are not ready to receive them, one being his kingdom. **He promises to bless us with all we need if we will seek him and his kingdom first in our lives.** *Matthew 6:38-39 Wherefore, seek not the things of this world but seek ye first to build up the kingdom of God, and to establish his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.*

All things added unto us = What a Wonderful

Promise!!!

Why do we hesitate?

Action Section

In the Pamphlet put out by the Patriarchs there was an Action Section, for each consideration presented, which is why we added an action section in the bulletin inserts. In the coming year we plan to keep the Action Section, in hopes that it will help us to grow spiritually and become more Christ like. If we don't change and grow, we will not be able to assist in the building up of God's Kingdom. *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.*

Will you choose to change and grow this coming year? You will not be able to do it alone. Ask God to help you in changing and growing, for with his help all things are possible!!



Ephesians 3:17-19 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

Action Section

In the Pamphlet put out by the Patriarchs there was an Action Section, for each consideration presented, which is why we added an action section in the bulletin inserts. In the coming year we plan to keep the Action Section, in hopes that it will help us to grow spiritually and become more Christ like. If we don't change and grow, we will not be able to assist in the building up of God's Kingdom. *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.*

Will you choose to change and grow this coming year? You will not be able to do it alone. Ask God to help you in changing and growing, for with his help all things are possible!!



Ephesians 3:17-19 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.