

November Week #1 Devotionals and Consideration



The
Bride
of CHRIST
Preparing for
His return

Revelation 19:8-9

And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Wow ladies, we must ask ourselves this question “Are our garments clean and white?” Can you imagine going to a wedding and seeing the bride come down the aisle wearing a dirty wedding dress. What would we think? She might try to explain it away by saying, “Well, I had so much to do that I just did not have time to shop. I borrowed this dress from a friend. I know it’s a little used and dirty, but, there again, you know the time factor we all deal with. I did not look at the dress until this morning and by then it was too late. I had no time left to send it to the cleaners.” I imagine that every one of us would wonder why she did not give more time, thought and preparation for her wedding. Even more importantly, what would her groom think, as he realized she did not care enough about him to prepare herself properly for her wedding day?

Are not we the same in many ways as we put off getting ready for the return of Christ,

our Bridegroom? Will we be caught unprepared, wearing a dirty wedding dress? When are we going to put on the fine linen of righteousness? How can we start to do that? Repentance is a good place to begin.

D&C 1:5f For I the Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance; nevertheless, he that repents and does the commandments of the Lord shall be forgiven;

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

This very week ask God to help you see the dirty spots—sin—in your life. Ask Him to help you in removing sin from your life and to change those things that are displeasing to Him. Let’s get those white wedding dresses on.

Alma 3:39-72 I say unto you, Ye will know at that day, that ye can not be saved: for there can no man be saved except his garments are washed white:

40 Yea, his garments must be purified until they are cleansed from all stain, through the blood of him of whom it has been spoken by our fathers who should come to redeem his people from their sins.

41 And now I ask of you, my brethren, How will any of you feel, if ye shall stand before the bar of God, having your garments stained with blood, and all manner of filthiness?

42 Behold, what will these things testify against you?

43 Behold, will they not testify that ye are murderers, yea, and also that ye are guilty of all manner of wickedness?

44 Behold, my brethren, do ye suppose that such an one can have a place to sit down in the kingdom of God, with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob, and also all the holy prophets, whose garments are cleansed, and are spotless, pure, and white? Read on to verse 72

Also See: D&C 108:2, 58:9c, 5:3g, 6:3-4, 17:6a, I Nephi 3:210-216, 7:64-70, II Nephi 12:72-100, and Alma 16:228-237

November Week #2 Devotionals and Consideration



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Hymn: "Admonition"

Unto Honor I have called you, Honor great as angels know, heed ye then, a father's counsel and by deeds your purpose show."

Do our deeds and the way we live our daily lives show forth the plan and purpose of God? Are we about building up His Kingdom?

D&C 38:9c And again I say unto you, I give unto you a commandment, that every man, both elder, priest, teacher, and also member, go to with his might, with the labor of his hands, to prepare and accomplish the things which I have commanded.

Are you involved in some kind of service to God? In the scriptures, we are reminded that love equals some kind of action or service. If we truly love God we will be about serving Him through our daily deeds and actions.

1 John 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue only; but in deed and in truth.

Jesus is returning to the earth soon. The signs of His return are all around us. The spoken word and ministry that has been given in our congregation is calling us to prepare, to change, to be more committed to God's cause.

When He comes again will our daily lives reflect our love and service to Him?

**Matthew 24:49 And what I say unto one, I say unto all men; Watch, therefore, for ye know not at what hour our Lord doth come.....
51 Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh.**

52 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

53 Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing;

What changes do you need to make in your life so that the deeds of your daily life will magnify God and be a testament of your love for Him? How much time do you give in service to God? Let us ask ourselves if God is getting a good portion of our time. Are we fully committed to His Cause? Do we give our Time and Talents in His Service or do we give him just leftovers? Let us honestly evaluate ourselves!

John 12:26 If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am there shall also my servant be; if any man serve me, him will my Father honor.

D&C 17:7c and are willing to take upon them the name of Jesus Christ, having a determination to serve him to the end,

Also See: D&C 6:2a, 19:2-3a, 42:8a-b and 12a, Ephesians 2:10, Mosiah 1:43-59

November Week #3 Devotionals and Consideration



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Hymn: “Let Us Pray For One Another”

We are walking down times’ vista; We are very near the end; Let us pray that God the Father, will His guiding Spirit send. Now the foe becomes more daring, Knowing well the latter day; Tis the strength of his despairing; For each other let us pray.”

We do live in a day when Satan has much power and strength. The world around us does grow ever darker and I think we all see this in the current events that are taking place.

Remember, Satan is afraid of our prayers--that is why he tries so hard to keep us from praying.

D&C 3:1e but be diligent unto the end; pray always, that you may come off conqueror; yea, that you may conquer Satan, and that you may escape the hands of the servants of Satan, that do uphold his work.

Prayer is a powerful force and if we will be faithful in praying for each other, we can, through prayer, see our loved ones and ourselves delivered.

2 Nephi 11:83 ...and the prayers of the faithful shall be heard, and all those who have dwindled in unbelief, shall not be forgotten;

When we seek God out in prayer He sends His Spirit to be with us and then we are not walking down times’ vista by ourselves, but walk in the power of His Holy Spirit.

D&C 63:16a ...ye receive the Spirit through prayer;

Ladies, let’s become mighty prayer warriors and stand in the gap for each other. Many battles are won when we are on our knees.

Look at the power in prayer in this section of the Book of Mormon when Alma and the church members were praying for Alma’s son.

Mosiah 11:167 And again, the angel said, Behold, the Lord hath heard the prayers of his people, and also the prayers of his servant Alma, who is thy father:

168 For he has prayed with much faith concerning thee, that thou mightest be brought to the knowledge of the truth;

169 Therefore for this purpose have I come to convince thee of the power and authority of God, that the prayers of his servants might be answered according to their faith.

170 And now behold, can ye dispute the power of God?

Also See: II Nephi 14:11, II Nephi 15:4, Alma 10:28, Alma 16:238, Alma 4:6, D&C: 18:6a-c, 28:1-2, Mat. 6:6, Mat. 21:19-20

November Week #4 Devotionals and Consideration



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D&C 85:36b

Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing, and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God;

We are called here to be organized in preparing every needful thing. Webster's Dictionary says, **To Organize: "to establish and systematize; to arrange so as to be ready for service."** Hopefully, what we organize and plan in our daily lives and activities will assist us and prepare us to be ready for service to God. This should be true in the church and in our individual lives and homes.

Proverbs 3:9 Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase;

We need to honor God in every area of our lives and give to Him the first fruits of all our increase, our time and our talents. Let us put God's cause first in our lives and organize ourselves around His plan, and His purpose. To "Organize His Purpose" within our lives and make ourselves ready for service it requires that

we give Him the needful things He has listed, even our First Fruits:

1. Fruit of daily prayer = A house of prayer.
2. Fruit of fasting often = A house of fasting.
3. Fruit of growing faith = A house of faith.
4. Fruit of daily study/learning about Him = A house of learning.
5. Fruit of living a life where your activities glorify Him = A house of glory.
6. Fruit of a life sacrificed/lived out for God = A house of order, a house of God.

So ask yourself, how are your daily activities organized? Are your daily activities centered in Him? Does God have priority in your life? What do you need to change to give God a central place, even first place, in your life?

Matthew 6:31-38: Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin. 6:33 And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these. 6:34 Therefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven, how much more will he not provide for you, if ye are not of little faith.

6:35 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

6:36 Why is it that ye murmur among yourselves, saying, We cannot obey thy word because ye have not all these things, and seek to excuse yourselves, saying that, After all these things do the Gentiles seek.

6:37 Behold, I say unto you, that your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 6:38 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.

Also See: Exodus 35:21-29, 1st Chronicles 28:9, 2 Chronicles 31:5-8, II Thess. 3:11-13, II Timothy 2:20-21