

Preparation Guide for June's Devotionals



Genesis 17:21 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant, which I made unto thy father Enoch; that, when men should keep all my commandments, Zion should again come on the earth, the city of Enoch which I have caught up unto myself. And this is mine everlasting covenant, that when thy posterity shall embrace the truth, and look upward, then shall Zion look downward, and all the heavens shall shake with gladness, and the earth shall tremble with joy; And the general assembly of the church of the firstborn shall come down out of heaven, and possess the earth, and shall have place until the end come. And this is mine everlasting covenant, which I made with thy father Enoch.

In the guide prepared by the Patriarchs of the church, on the last page, this guidance is given to those who seek to be a part of Zion:

- 1) We are required to keep all the commandments.
- 2) We are required to embrace the truth.

In Genesis, the 17th chapter, a covenant is made with Noah called the Everlasting Covenant.

We must take note that the main requirements for Zion are “to keep all the commandments and to embrace the truth.” Sherrie Smith has done a wonderful job of addressing the keeping of commandments for your consideration this month.

The patriarchs gave “Keeping the Commandments and Embracing the Truth,” as the first two steps, and there is good reason. We can’t do one without the other.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth and will always point us in the direction of the way, and the truth, and the life.

Jesus told His disciples:

John 14:16-17 And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

It is through the person and work of Jesus Christ that we know the truth and are set free:

John 14:6 Jesus declared, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me."

D&C 90:4d And John bore record of me, saying, He received a fullness of truth; yea, even of all truth, and no man receiveth a fullness unless he keepeth his commandments.

D&C 90:1g And I, John, bear record that I beheld his glory, as the glory of the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth; even the Spirit of truth which came and dwelt in the flesh, and dwelt among us.

D&C 83:7b For the word of the Lord is truth, and whatsoever is truth is light, and whatsoever is light is Spirit, even the Spirit of Jesus Christ;

D&C 83:17c Glory, and honor, and power, and might, Be ascribed to our God, for he is full of mercy, Justice, grace and truth, and peace, For ever and ever, Amen.

The "Spirit of truth" opens our blind eyes; he un-fogs the cloudy mind so that it can understand the truth. He prods the stubborn will so that it

responds in full commitment to the truth. He softens the hearts of men so they will desire to keep the commandments of God and embrace the truth.

We are in rebellion against God and His Truth, when we refuse to "Keep the Commandments." We don't like to think of our little sins or our lack of commitment which expresses itself in "sins of omission" as rebellion and turning away from the truth and light, but it is. The hardness of our hearts causes us to turn from the truth. We go into darkness and if we do not repent and turn from sin we can lose our souls.

Alma 16:57 And now it came to pass that Alma said unto him, Behold, I am grieved because of the hardness of your heart; yea, that ye will still resist the spirit of the truth, that thy soul may be destroyed.

In latter days the Lord has given to the church, which is us, this sobering message:

D&C 56:4c Behold, thus saith the Lord unto my people, You have many things to do, and to repent of; for, behold, your sins have come up unto me, and are not pardoned, because you seek to counsel in your own ways. And your hearts are not satisfied. And ye obey not the truth, but have pleasure in unrighteousness.

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men; who love not the truth, but remain in unrighteousness.

Do we love God? If so, we will embrace the truth, by going forth and keeping all of His Commandments!

Challenges in the guide prepared by the Patriarchs of the church:

- 1. We are required to keep all the commandments.**
- 2. We are required to embrace the truth.**

Then shall Zion look downward, and all the heavens shall shake with gladness, and the earth shall tremble with joy; And the general assembly of the church of the firstborn shall come down out of heaven, and possess the earth, and shall have place until the end come. Genesis 17:22

Action: We are required to keep the commandments and we are required to embrace the truth.

This Month I will seek to keep all the Commandments of God and embrace the truth. I know this is impossible of and by myself, so I will pray often, asking God to assist me by the power of His Holy Spirit, even the Spirit of Truth.

My Plan to Accomplish this Discipline:

Week #1

Week #2

Week #3

Week #4

My Partner to Assist Me & Help Me Be Accountable Is: _____

Self Evaluation:

How Am I Doing & What Do I Need to Do to Be More Successful:
