Armenia Yerevan Mission Newsletter

March 2009





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE





Dear Elders and Sisters,

Thank you for your great dedication to the work. I am very impressed that such a "young" group of missionaries could be so effective and productive. We are seeing miracles every day in your efforts. Thank you for your preparation and worthiness. Our prayers are being answered and the Lord is blessing you to teach with power, authority, and with the gift of tongues. As you already know your authority as a missionary comes from your call and setting apart and the power comes from your personal worthiness and preparation. Please do not let down. "...[we] must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ..." (2 Nephi 31:20) and we must not become "...weary in well-doing..." (D&C 64:33). We have had a great month. Let's keep our momentum moving in a positive direction and humbly allow our Heavenly Father "...to always lead [us] by the hand, and give [us] answers to [our] prayers" (D&C 112:10). This is the Lord's work and it will not fail.

When Sister Dunn and I first arrived in the mission field we produced a laminated reminder to be placed on the wall in each apartment. You have probably seen it. As many of you are new to the mission I want to reemphasize the principles recorded on it.

I promise you happiness and success as a missionary if you will follow these four simple principles. Study (with a purpose), pray (with faith), work hard (with a plan), and obey mission rules (strictly).

**Study (with a purpose).** "True doctrine, understood, changes attitudes and behavior. The study of the doctrines of the gospel will improve behavior quicker than a study of behavior will improve behavior" (President Boyd K. Packer, Preach My Gospel, page

Pray (with faith). The Lord said, "And the Spirit shall be given unto you by the prayer of faith; and if ye receive not the Spirit ye shall not teach" (D&C 42:14).

Work Hard (with a plan). "I have often said one of the greatest secrets of missionary work is work! If a missionary works, he will get the Spirit; if he gets the Spirit, he will teach by the Spirit; if he teaches by the Spirit, he will touch the hearts of the people and he will be happy. There will be no homesickness, no worrying about families, for all time and t alents and interests are centered on the work of the ministry. Work, work, work---there is no satisfactory substitute, especially in missionary work" (President Ezra Taft Benson, Preach My Gospel, page 121).

**Obey Mission Rules (strictly).** The most important rule is the one you are having the most trouble with. "The discipline contained in daily obedience and clean living and wholesome lives builds an armor around you of protection and safety from temptations that beset you as you proceed through mortality" Elder L. Tom Perry, Preach My Gospel, page 122).

If you do not have the laminated reminder in your apartment, please ask Sister Dutson to give you one. If you have one in your apartment but it is not where you can see it every day, please take corrective action.

We love you and admire you for your goodness. Keep smiling and stay strong.

Sincerely, President Dunn



Sister Sabey Elder Crump Elder Asay

Elder & Sister Smith

A Warm Welcome to:

**Elder & Sister Packard** 

Get well & hurry back to: Sister Davis

Elder Winchester—1 Elder Piercy—26

Sister Sabey-29 Elder Ellison-29

Sister Larson—31 Elder Crump—31



#### SISTER DUNN'S MESSAGE

In our Zone Leader Council this week we discussed what we will be focusing on in Health and Safety for the upcoming transfer cycle beginning March 9, 2009.

Clean out old, unnecessary items, scrub surfaces to a higher level of cleanliness and make Sanitation

repairs to the apartment.

**Nutrition** Look for the cost of fresh fruits and vegetables to go down.

Fruits and vegetables are a valuable part of a balanced diet.

**Safety** Keep away from public, political demonstrations.

If you come upon one, turn and walk away immediately.

"A happy missionary is an obedient missionary." We love you and want you to be happy, safe and healthy.

Sincerely, Sister Dunn















# **Spotlights**

### **Elder Schultz**

Thomas Joseph Schultz was born on 18 January, 1988 in Des Moines, Iowa, the 4<sup>th</sup> of 5 boys. He is known for his type A+ personality. A perfectionist to the extreme. But that only made him excel at school and anything he undertook. He earned his Eagle Scout rank; his project included making improvements at a daycare for children with



disabilities. Elder Schultz was well known for being great at fantasy sports. All of the 'old' guys at church came to him for advice on their team. His parents had people call them last fall wanting to see if he was home yet so he could help them with their team.

He has lots of collections, but his sports cards one is very extensive and expensive. He lettered in Varsity wrestling. When he was in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, he was Mayor of the town for a day & conducted a city council meeting. Bet he turned that city on it's head! Elder Schultz will miss seeing his younger missionary brother by two months, but what a great reunion his family will have in a couple of years! He grew up eating Armenian food, as his step-grandfather is Armenian.

Having a definite interest in politics, he has campaigned for his brother. He traveled to Tennessee before his mission to do some campaigning. Elder Schultz is going to be a great politician, and someday, we are all going to get the chance to vote for him for president.

#### ${\bf Deep\ Thoughts-by\ Polly\ Perfect}$

A Catholic priest went into a barber shop for a haircut. When he finished, the barber refused to take payment saying, "You are a man of the cloth..this is a free service that I offer to you." The priest thanked the barber and went on his way. The next morning the barber found seven fishes and seven loaves of bread on his doorstep in gratitude from the priest. The next week, a Jewish Rabbi went into the same shop for a cut. Again, the barber refused payment. He was rewarded with a wonderful gift from the Rabbi. The following week, two LDS missionaries went in for haircuts. Again, the barber refused payment. The next morning when the barber arrived, he found 12 LDS missionaries on his doorstep.

# **Elder Shipp**

Kory Charles Shipp was born 13 December, 1987 in Cedar City, Utah, the 4<sup>th</sup> of 7 children. He was quite the mischievous child when young, throwing a dozen eggs on the kitchen floor, scattering ashes from the fireplace all over the family room including the in VCR,



stuffing all of his clothes into the toilet. Tsk, tsk, tsk. But he made up for it when he asked questions of a man who was building a fence on their property, like "Why do you smoke?" "Do you go to church?" "Why not?" He made the man think, decided to take the discussions and wound up joining the church. On the day of his baptism, the man came to the house and told Elder Shipp's parents that it was because of him that he sought out the church.

In middle school, he started drum lessons and became a talented drummer. He received "outstanding soloist" at state music competition. He attended "Junior Statesmen Summer School" at Stanford U. where he took Constitutional Law and Public Speaking & the Law. Elder Shipp's favorite pastime is studying math and economics. He is planning to complete a double major of Math & Economics. Before leaving on his mission, he was awarded "Outstanding Jr." in the Economics Dept. at SUU. He also received the President's Scholarship from SUU.

Elder Shipp puts his whole heart and soul into everything he does. One of these days, we expect that he will fix all of the economic woe's in America. Perhaps when he is Economic Adviser to President Schultz.

# Message from the Assistants: Elder Orrock & Elder Arslanian

Getting some MUCH needed rest

HAVE TO VS. WANT TO

Can you pick out a true servant of the Lord? A true servant of the Lord is the missionary who works because he wants to, not because he has to. Having the desire to do missionary work is what qualifies us for the Lord's



support in all that we do. The Lord knows the desires of our hearts, as do the people here whom we are called to serve. Because God knows the desires of our hearts and the intentions behind our actions, He will bless us not only in return for what we DO, rather, for what we WANT AND DO. In Alma 29:4 we read, "..for I know that [God] granteth unto men according to their desire, whether it be unto death or unto life.." there is a big difference between someone who does something because he wants to, and someone who does the same thing because he has to. What is the advantage of those people who are more successful than their peers who share their same experience? The advantage is that they want to do what they do rather than having to do what they do. If you HAVE to do something you will only do it till you think you can't, but if your motivation is WANT TO, you'll never quit, even when the circumstances are difficult...you will not quit. "For behold, God hath said a man being evil cannot do that which is good; for if he offereth a gift, or prayeth unto God, except he shall do it with real intent it profiteth him nothing" (Moroni 7:6). Now is the time for you to evaluate yourself. Are you getting 10 conversations because you have to, or because you want to? Are you waking up, doing studies, and getting outside on time because you want to, or because you have to? Do you SYL and learn 10 words a day because you want to, or because you have to? We promise that as you develop a want for doing missionary work, you will see greater change in the people you serve and greater success as a servant of the Lord. We love you all- The Assistants



It was a hot afternoon when the air conditioning went out in the Tabernacle during General Conference. President Hinckley stood up to address the sweating congregation and said, "It's warm. We're sorry. But it's not as warm as it's going to get if you don't repent!"