

Armenia Yerevan Mission All Your Might

March 1, 2011

President's Message

Dear Elders and Sisters,

I have had a difficult time deciding what to write about this month. The topic that keeps coming back to me is unity. In most cases we could describe the lack of unity as contention. The topic of unity is important to us as missionaries and as companions. It is also something that we can help our members to better understand and live. One of my favorite "mother scriptures" is Mosiah 4:14-15. Parts of it reads, "And ye will not suffer your children that they fight and quarrel one with another and serve the devil, who is the master of sin, he being an enemy to all righteousness. But ye will teach them to love one another, and to serve one another." Mosiah 18:21 says, "He commanded them that there should be no contention one with another, but they should look forward with one eye, having one faith, and one baptism, having their hearts knit together in unity and in love one toward another." One of the many reasons that it is so important that we have unity is that contention drives away the Spirit. When contention enters a room, the Spirit will leave.

President Gordon B. Hinckley said, "Unity is the hallmark of the true church of Christ. It is felt among our people throughout the world. As we are one, we are His."

This month and always, let us remember that we need to be united so that we can be His. We need to help and serve one another. We need to all be working together to build His kingdom on the earth. Remember His words, "Be one, and if ye are not one ye are not mine."

President Carter and I love and pray for each one of you. We appreciate your hard work and willingness to serve Heavenly Father's children here in Armenia and Georgia. We pray that your hearts will be filled with the peace that unity brings. Sister Carter

Armenia Yerevan Mission

Happy Birthday!

1st – Elder Johnson 16th – Elder Pincock 20th - Elder Jonas 26th – Elder Cook 31st – Sister Burnham

PARTING TESTIMONIES

God has such an intricate plan for every single one of us. We all have different things to do and different things to learn, we just need to take all those opportunities. I am so grateful for that. But He has one way for us all to get back to Him and that is why we are all here, to help people find that way. And He wants us there so badly. Through reading the Book of Mormon we learn that way. The Book of Mormon has the fullness of the gospel in it and we need that fullness to go back to our Father in Heaven. The word of God is written in that book and it changes lives.

Sister Cornwell

My testimony has really been strengthened in the time that I have had to serve the Lord. I learned that when I get rid of the lines in my life "saying this is as far as I will go and I won't go any farther" When we say things like this we are only stopping our growth. With the Lord we learn to step over the lines and walk further than we ever thought possible! He has helped in the past and he will help us be the missionaries that he knows we can be. I have a testimony of really trusting in the Lord, I know that all that happens is up to Him. We are all here to be tested and to grow. Only the Lord really knows how to use this time to help us grow to our best. There has been many times on my mission that I've looked back and could see the Lord's hand in all that had happened. I really love this Land and the people here. I have learned so much from them and learned so much by serving them. I know that the Lord grants us blessings to our desires and he has certainly answered my prayers and my desires. I know that he has the power to cause great change in the hearts of the people here and in his missionaries here. Expect miracles! And then write them down. Love you all and I'm so glad that I got the chance to meet many of you, have a good mission. Love Sister Fergie

I am grateful for the restoration of the gospel through the prophet Joseph Smith and my membership in the only true church on the earth today. I am grateful for the atonement of Jesus Christ. I am especially thankful for my wife and her support for the past 46 years. I am grateful for 9 wonderful children and 27 grandchildren, two of whom we will soon meet for the first time. Families are forever. Their faith, prayers, and encouragement have been wonderful. I pray we will all meet again in our Heavenly Father's presence. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. Elder LaRell VanDyke

I know that Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ live and watch over me, and I feel so blessed to be a part of their wondrous latter-day work. In each of our assignments here, my husband and I have learned much and gotten to know wonderful people. I have gained a new understanding of faith: because

we probably will not know, in this life, many of the results of our efforts, trusting Heavenly Father is the means by which we know that those efforts were good and right. The scriptures teach that it is possible to have that kind of patience and faith, and I'm trying to make it a consistent part of my life. Sister Margaret VanDyke

Georgia has opened our eyes and hearts. We feel blessed to have been a small part of the Lord's work in this part of the world. We know the Savior loves unconditionally and bids all to come unto Him. We have loved these people and pray daily that they will come unto Him with a desire to follow, so they may be blessed. We know that Christ has shown us the way to true happiness and there is much joy in service. We know He lives, loves, hears, and answers. We leave knowing that Georgia is in good hands, His hands.

Love to all, Elder and Sister Southwick

Welcome! Elders Peterson, Steggell, Poulsen, Peterson, Offutt, Hatch, Strader, Sisters Bailey, Smith, Burnham



Also Welcome Elder & Sister Reese!



MISSIONARY MIRACLES!

The other day we met with an investigator. I was mainly just listening because I'm still learning the language, but when the lesson was about over I was able to bare my testimony. I could feel the Spirit and I know that's because the Spirit touches people in every language! :)

- Elder Jeff Peterson

Elder Lowe and I were out heading to an appointment and we stopped to talk to this older man. We got an appointment with him. It was really interesting to see that happen. The Lord is blessing us greatly.

Elder Hatch

Well, this month, we had a few really cool "led by the spirit, not knowing beforehand what we should do." We were walking back to the apartment to finish our last dinner, but as we were headed back, we decided to take a different route. The long way... And as we walked back and around, we bumped into a whole car full of people who had a lot of questions about the church. Elder Crook talked to a guy who asked him, "Well, how can I know what's true?" and when he told me that, I was like, "YES!" It was truly amazing that the Lord took us to this potential investigator. And on the streets in Ararat? Yes, with the Lords help, it is very likely to happen. Also, we had planned to go out to be but and see a less active named A. When we got there, they had a friend over who had heard of us and wanted to listen. So we taught her and set a return date. We had been praying for another investigator that week and the Lord provided. The church is true!

The church is true:

Yerets Peterson and Crook

We were out walking and were having no success in that corpus. The spirit at two different times told us to go to a floor that we weren't going to go to, and both times we found a family that is really interested in the gospel.

Elder Offutt

The Ashtarak Branch had a Branch Fast for Missionary Work. Two men walked into the church building 15 minutes after Fast and Testimony Meeting started. After Sacrament Meeting we found out that one of these men was not active and the other was his friend. Then near the end of Gospel Doctrine Class (2nd hour) an older man walked in. He is 73 years old, he walked almost an hour to get to Ashtarak. He said, "God told me to come to this church today". We met with him after Church. He knew the Bible very well and was excited to read the Book of Mormon. Then during the third hour a 20 year old man walked into Priesthood Meeting. He said he was an investigator. He is on a short break from the Army. He said that when he returns from the Army in a few months he wants to listen. Fasting opens the windows of heaven. Fasting gives God the ability to bless us. It has amazing, irrevocable blessings attached to it. Elder Cook

New Members in Armenia! Davit, Zorik, Hamo, Malarvizhi



MISSION COMPLETED

Elders Chaney, Larson, Thylin, Coltrin, Lucas, Peatross