



MARCH NEWSLETTER 2012

Armenia Yerevan Mission

MISSION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Elders and Sisters,

President Carter and I have just spent two great days in Zone Conferences with all of you. Our favorite days are when we get to be with the missionaries!!! We are grateful that each one of you are here in Armenia and Georgia.

I want to share a few more thoughts from the Mission Presidents Seminar. You may want to spend some time rereading and thinking about them and see if they touch your heart like they did mine. In his opening address President Schwitzer shared this scripture from Doctrine and Covenants 123:17, "Let us **cheerfully** do all things that lie in our power; and then may we stand, with utmost assurance to see the salvation of God, and for His arm to be revealed." This makes me think of the saying, "Pray as if everything depends on the Lord and then get up and go to work as if everything depends on you!" It also reminds me of the line in the hymn "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go" that says "I'll do Thy will with a heart sincere."

Next President Schwitzer shared the scripture in Mosiah 4:27, "It is expedient that (we) should be diligent, that thereby (we) might win the prize; therefore all things must be done in order." He went on to say, "Diligence is about persistence more than it is about pace. Diligence is more about focused direction of movement than speed. Diligence is more about desire and determination than about pure strength." He closed by saying, "God will provide the resource of strength IF we provide the diligence."

President Galbraith of the Kyiv, Ukraine Temple said, "A mission is a testing ground. We cannot just desire to dwell with the Savior but we must change our nature and become like Him."

In a discussion about Member Missionary Work someone said, "Every member is waiting for the right missionary to introduce to those they love so they can be taught the gospel." Are you striving to become that missionary?

DEPARTING MISSIONARY TESTIMONY

Dear Armenia Yerevan Mission,

Most of you all know me pretty well by now. I love you all so much and want you all to know how much I will miss you. You all have touched my life in ways that I can't even begin to describe. Thank you. I know how important this work is. I also know how hard it is. We all have those days when we really just don't know where to start. But I do know that the Lords hand IS or at least should be in EVERYTHING we do.

I know that the Lord is at the Head of this mission. Every transfer that happens is perfect no matter what you say, and it will always be like that no matter how much you may or may not like it. If you don't like it... get over it and accept that it is the will of the Lord. He knows what is best for us. He knows how he wants us to grow. HE LOVES US! I know that LOVE really can fix everything. Whether it be that you don't know how to GET YOUR INVESTIGATOR to CHURCH or may it be that you really don't like that your companion snores... Love for PEOPLE will change our hearts and help us get over the things that make us frustrated and irritated.

As my mission comes to a close, I literally feel my heart breaking. The Love that comes over me as I think of this amazing people and county brings tears to my eyes and warmth to my heart. The Lord has great things in store for this amazing race. I know it and I pray that we all work hard to help them to be as happy as we all are. I have seen the Tender Mercies of the Lord every day as I look for them. Look for them, and you will be happy. cio.

I know that this work is the most important thing that we can ever do in this life. Don't forget these people. NEVER EVER! This Gospel blesses and changes lives. I Love you all SO SO SO MUCH! In the Name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Elder Davis

We had no contact with a man named Taio for a month, His meetings had been sparse and commitments were always a hard thing for him to follow through on. We had been calling him over and over and there was never any reply. Through a prompting, and really just simple accountability to keep in contact with some of those more recent investigators, we got a meeting with him. In this meeting he expressed how he had been reading and praying everyday and that he had felt like he could not have contacted us. He thought we had "more important work" to do.

In this period of a month of not meeting he had researched the Church on the [lds.org](https://www.lds.org) website and came across the word of wisdom. After failing at giving up smoking before in his life, he committed himself to keep the word of wisdom. Over the last month he has stopped smoking and drinking and had even given up coffee and tea without any work on our part, commitments or lessons taught. Truly angels are preparing the hearts of men for the receiving of the gospel and we do not even know it. Let us work and search with all our spirit and physical zeal to find those of true believing Israelite blood.

Elder Lee Rednath and Elder Conrad

All of our appointments fell through. We did a lot of walking and at the end of the day we were coming back from our only meeting when we felt the need to enter a little neighborhood called "Moosh". We were walking into an apartment building to contact a potential investigator. As we were walking into the entrance, a man walked out of the stairwell entrance. We had met him before, (we will say his name was Albert). We talked to him again and invited him to watch Finding Faith in Christ. We walked up the stairs to the top floor. As we were about to knock on the door of our potential investigator we heard Albert call for us. We walked down to the second floor. He said, "Come in I want you to

We went and made a surprise visit to Levon because we bought him some new shoes for his birthday. And Gevorg his friends just happened to be there. We taught HTBT to him and he came to Church the next day.

Yet another miracle. Looking back on these past few weeks I noticed that because we were being blessed with so much success we got complacent in our work.

So the lord decided to take some of the success away from us by causing things to not work out with many of our investigators and us having to drop them. But this last week and a half we came to realize that what we were doing was not in accordance with the Lord's will and we got back in gear. And now the lord is blessing us again.

The lord really has humbled us his servants and now He's blessing us again for doing our part.

Elder Hatch

During these last two weeks, Elder Smith & I have been calling back through all of our old potential investigators that are in our area book. One of them called us back & said he wanted to meet us, so we went & met him on Sunday next to a statue of Stalin, & talked with him about what we believe. As we were talking with him, a man came up & started listening to us. I continued to talk to Tatun (the first guy) & Elder Smith started talking to the other man whose name was Sedrik. He started to speak to Elder Smith in perfect English! He was born in America & lived there until 2008ish, when he came back here to start a new life. He lost his wife & kid in 9/11 when the towers went down. He is a American through & through. It was really cool to be the Lord's instrument to cheer up one of his children.

-Elder Hall

MISSIONARY EXPERIENCES

A Miracle

We have come to more fully understand that the Lord will guide us only after we have exhausted our reservoirs of knowledge or when we don't have any reservoirs. He will also take a good idea and inspire it so that it becomes more efficient/productive.

This week we tried to use everything that we knew about the area and when that wasn't enough the Lord made up the rest. We went to a place called "Moosh" (having remembered a few investigators and less-actives that live there). None of them worked out. This was when we saw God's hand so clearly and powerfully.

While we were sitting down with an old investigator, her friend walked in. We invited her to watch "Finding Faith in Christ". She only knew Russian, and our DVD only worked in Russian! Not only that, but Yerevand (our member) knew Russian as well.

She watched it and she cried. She was sensitive to the Spirit. We were able to use the mission training plan with her.

She had to walk an hour to get to the second meeting at the church. It is amazing to see what the Lord will do when we plan with Him.

-Elder Connor & Elder Cook

I felt like it was time for an exchange, so I prayed about who to go with. Common since told me to go with Elder Fullmer, because both he and my companion are green. But as I prayed about it I felt a prompting to put the two of them together. I was unsure if it was a prompting or not.

Later I prayed again and had another wonderful confirmation that it was right. So I trusted it. I was still nervous and worried about them but throughout the exchange. miracle after miracle happened. First, the Spirit was with both companions stronger than normal; second, as we followed promptings we were led to go places and did things that we wouldn't have thought of on our own, but it led to success; third, Elder Fullmer and Elder Orme were supported by the Lord. Despite not knowing a lot of the language they were able to find three new investigators and teach many lessons.

We ran into another companionship just before institute, who said they had just run into two people that asked to meet with missionaries and had been searching for the church, and they needed us to teach one of them. The spirit was poured out on us! Praise be to God! -Elder Offutt

Elder Hatch's and My Miracle for the month is about revelation. We have really found that the Lord speaks through the Book of Mormon. Now we each carry around a little copy. We pray and every time we open it, the Lord answers our prayers as to what we should do. It's happened too many times this month to be considered a coincidence... And it's super great to see how it always uplifts and brings others to Christ. It's truly God's word. - Elder Peterson and Elder Hatch

BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

9TH Elder Olsen

19TH Elder Stone

26TH Elder Cook

31ST Sister Burnham

