

# All Your Might

ARMENIA YEREVAN MISSION NEWSLETTER

May 2009



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Elders and Sisters,

We have had another great month. I am proud of your hard work and dedication. Let's keep pressing forward with faith. We welcome our new missionaries to Armenia and Georgia. We are happy you are here and we look forward to your contributions to this wonderful work. If you will study (with a purpose), pray (with faith), work hard (with a plan), and obey mission rules (strictly) you will have success. We must consistently study the scriptures as well as the words of the living prophets. Doctrine & Covenants 52:14 states, "...I will give unto you a pattern in all things, that ye may not be deceived; for Satan is abroad in the land, and he goeth forth deceiving the nations---" At the last zone conference we discussed one of the **patterns for success** provided in the Old Testament. Let's review and as we do, please try to **liken** this inspired pattern to your individual situation and circumstance. If you will do this I promise you will find a treasure of knowledge that will serve you well throughout your life.

In the first six chapters of Nehemiah we can find an interesting and valuable **pattern** for success. In chapter one, we learn the Jews had been defeated, scattered, and "the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire" (verses 1-2). Nehemiah's response to this desperate situation is interesting and instructive. "And it came to pass, when I heard these words, ... I **sat down** and **wept**, and **mourned** certain days and **fasted**, and **prayed** before the God of Heaven" (verse 4). What is the pattern? After identifying the problem, he sat down and pondered. He wept and mourned because of the gravity of the situation. Then, having done that, he wisely sought for wisdom and guidance through fasting and prayer. Once Nehemiah's prayer and preparation time was over he got up and went to work. By going to work the Lord was able to answer his prayer and the king was inspired to offer needed assistance. Had Nehemiah continued to sit, weep, and mourn and not go to work, I suspect the Lord would not have answered his prayer.

Next we observe another interesting pattern. Of course Satan did not want the wall of Jerusalem to be rebuilt and saw to it that Nehemiah was laughed at, scorned, and despised (Nehemiah 2:19). When those tactics were unsuccessful, the adversary resorted to force and intimidation by conspiring "all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder..." the work (Nehemiah 4:8). Despite the best efforts of the adversary, Nehemiah did not lose his focus. He and his men continued the work to rebuild the wall "everyone with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon" (Nehemiah 4:17). Nehemiah remained focused and resolute in purpose despite other distractions including correspondence and messengers sent to persuade and to tempt him. To all who would have him cease the Lord's work he boldly declared... "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?" (Nehemiah 6:2)

Because of Nehemiah's focus and determination he and his men were able to complete a near impossible task in "fifty and two days" (Nehemiah 6:15). "And when it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, they were much cast down in their own eyes; for they perceived that this work was wrought by God" (Nehemiah 6:16). marvelous story and message. May we look for ways to apply these principles in our own life. By doing so we will enjoy the satisfaction that comes by approaching problems in a systematic and logical way; by involving the Lord in that process; by working our hardest and doing our best; by guarding against the adversary's unrelenting attempts to distract or threaten. If we do these things and follow this pattern, we shall have the privilege of accomplishing many great works "wrought of our God."

Sincerely, *President Dunn*

### A Fond Farewell to:

Elder Schultz &  
Elder Orrock

### A Warm Welcome to:

Elder Stutz      Elder Lucas  
Elder Chaney    Elder Peatross  
Sister Bishop    Elder Coltrin



## Happy Birthday

Eld. King—5    Sis. Fager—12  
Eld. Arslanian—7    Sis. Fuhriman—17  
Eld. Harris—8    Eld. Thylin—18

May

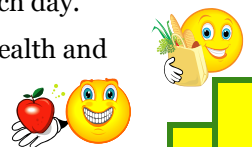
## SISTER DUNN'S MESSAGE

Just a little reminder for all of us to make the best choices possible in our daily food diet:

The proteins we eat are used to manufacture and repair all our body cells. The carbohydrates we eat are what the body uses for energy. And the fats we eat are needed for the many chemical activities taking place in us each day.

Make the best possible choices available to you within your budget. You will be blessed with health and strength. Eat healthy!

Sincerely, *Sister Dunn*



# Spotlights



## Message from the Assistants:

### Elder Arslanian & Elder Wolfley

Elder Arslanian training the new assistant, Elder Wolfley, how to instruct the missionaries.

There is an old Armenian legend by the name of "Akhtamar". According to the tale, an Armenian princess named Tamar lived on the island and was in love with a commoner. This boy would swim from the mainland to the island



each night, guided by a light she lit for him. One night, as she waited for her love to arrive, her light went out, leaving the boy in the middle of the lake without a guide to indicate which direction to swim. They say his dying cries of "Akh, Tamar" (Oh, Tamar) can be heard to this day at night. This old Armenian tale has present day application to us as missionaries. The Savior taught, "Ye are the light of the world" Matt 5:14. We as missionaries are spiritual fire to the people whom we teach. These people are swimming in spiritual darkness and for many, we are the beacons which give them direction and guidance through their journey to conversion. At times we allow our flames to dim through disobedience, pride, or laziness. When our fire is diminished, we have no spiritual light with which to guide our investigators to spiritual safety. Currently, our flames are in desperate need of rekindling. It is time to fuel the fire through diligent studies, heeding the advice of leaders, and powerful personal prayer. We promise if you rekindle your flame, your investigators will follow you to safety and they will become shining beacons to others who may find themselves struggling in the dark waters of the world.

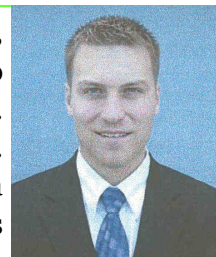


When we laugh together, gratitude comes more easily, companionship thrives, and all praise is sincere.



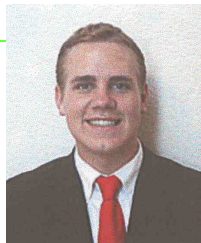
## Elder Sheridan

Jesse Ray Sheridan was born July 27, 1988 in Ogden, Utah. He has two brothers and two sisters that are younger. His youngest sister Ciera, is his ski buddy. Elder Sheridan picked up on things at a young age. At three years of age, he was riding a bicycle. That started a passion for riding two-wheeled objects. At age eight, when most kids are jumping with a jump rope, he was jumping with his motorcycle. He only knows one speed...fast!! He also enjoys skiing and loves to get big air (we assume that means under his skis). In school he liked business classes, math and German. He also took piano lessons for many years. Elder Sheridan had lots of adventures when he went camping and motorcycling. His parents even had to send out a search and rescue for him once. Obviously, they found him. He always excelled in school, and even got his associates degree a year out of high school. As he excelled growing up, so he has excelled in the mission field. He is a super missionary. Bless his little motorcycle lovin' heart.



## Elder Hook

Deron Dalton Hook was born June 14, 1988 in American Fork, Utah but due to his family moving at times, he wound up in McKinney, Texas. He is the second to oldest of 4 children. He earned his Eagle Scout & played baseball in high school, graduating in the top 10% of his class. Elder Hook is very math oriented in his thinking, has no fear of the unknown, and has a dynamic, outgoing personality. Some of his interests are wakeboarding, waterskiing and playing Fantasy Football, especially his father's team. Once, at age 7, while cutting wood with his father, he stopped a monster truck of mountain men that were passing by. The bearded driver looked down at him and asked, "What can we do for you, little man?" He told them his dad was cutting firewood there and that they would need to move to another part of the forest. The strangers exchanged glances with each other and the driver said to the steadfast youngster that he needn't worry about them stealing his father's wood, they would go elsewhere. Elder Hook is still steadfast... with his missionary work. And he's got the greatest smile ever! His family says everybody loves him. We absolutely agree.



### Deep Thoughts — by Sally Spiritual

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show & tell" assignment of bringing something to represent their religion. The first boy got up & said, "My name is Benjamin, I am Jewish & this is the Star of David." The second boy got up & said, "My name is Thomas, I am Catholic & this is the Crucifix." The third boy got up & said, "My name is Ammon, I am Mormon & this is a Casserole."