

ALL YOUR MIGHT

ARMENIA YEREVAN MISSION August 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Elders and Sisters,

Thank you for your warm reception. We have had a great month. It has been very enjoyable getting to know you and we look forward to serving with you in the future.

You probably have figured out your new mission president already. Yes, I am an “obedience and work hard” advocate. I have pretty strong views on these topics. For this issue of the mission news letter, I wanted to take time to reiterate some things I spoke of at the last mission conference.

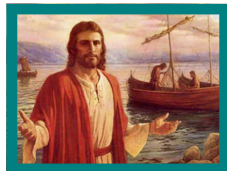
As you will recall, I promised you happiness and success as a missionary if you would follow four simple principles. **Study** (with a purpose), **pray** (with faith), **work hard** (with a plan), and **obey mission rules** (strictly).

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, PMG page 19).



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 talents 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, PMG, 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 the temptations that beset you as you proceed through mortality” Elder L. Tom Perry, PMG, page 122).

We love you and admire you for your goodness.

Sincerely,
President Dunn



SISTER DUNN'S MESSAGE



Sister Marjorie Pay Kinckley said, “We each (must) do the best we can. My best may not be as good as your best, but it's my best. The fact is that we know when we are doing our best and when we are not. If we are not doing our best, it leaves us with a gnawing hunger and frustration. But when we do our level best, we experience peace.”

I hope and pray that all of our missionaries, including myself, will do our “level best” in serving the Lord during this short time that has been allotted to us. As we immerse ourselves in the work, we must not forget to take care of our physical selves and ensure that we maintain good health and energy.

Make sure to enjoy the fresh fruits and vegetables of the season and drink plenty of water each day. If we take care of our bodies properly we will better be able to fulfill our purpose as a missionary which is to “invite others to come unto Christ by helping them receive the restored gospel through faith in Jesus Christ and His Atonement, repentance, baptism, receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, and enduring to the end.” (PMG, page 1)

Sincerely,
Sister Dunn



Spotlights

Elder and Sister Christensen



Sister Liz Christensen is now the oldest in her family with two younger sisters, after losing her only brother in a plane crash. She was born 30 miles from Palmyra, NY, and still marvels that she never heard of Joseph Smith until the family moved North to the Canadian border and the missionaries sought out her father who was known as a leader and historian. He became the first member under the tutelage of Spencer W. Kimball, Thomas S. Monson and S. Dilworth Young. Sister Christensen appreciates her heritage and happy family life. She went to New York State University for two years then transferred to BYU where she received her degree in secondary education with majors in English and French and minors in Latin and Archaeology plus her matrimonial degree, having met Herbert Christensen.

Her parent's love of learning and music had a profound influence on her life. She seriously pursued her studies, the piano and vocal performance and eventually taught piano for many years and became involved performing in and directing many productions. She offers her apologies for her desire to share her uncontrolled interest in all the "ologies", especially archaeology and geology plus the study of ancient history and civilizations.

Her focus is locating research that further supports the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon. She also loves reading and travel.

She has been commissioned to write for Celebration U S A which has produced patriotic manuals and original music for all the school districts in America. And she formed and directed a performing arts group which represents California in Washington, DC. She loves the Armenia mission and missionaries. It's been a great experience and a great life. She credits the Gospel with all her blessings and opportunities.

Elder Christensen was born in Shelley, Idaho. His father was a bishop, stake president, patriarch and mayor of the town so he had an early foundation in church service. He went to BYU and received his masters degree in physics with a minor in mathematics. He met and married Elizabeth while at BYU. Herb worked with H. Tracy Hall in producing diamonds from anything carbon. He has served in the Church in many capacities.

He has invented a process for making "colloidal silver". This is an amazing disinfectant - which kills many bacteria and is being tested as a cure for malaria. He loves all things scientific. He has produced a couple of motion pictures, one of which is "Charly." He developed US Lamco which created and produced window film and he created Port A Pit and Propit which is made of foam filled, vinyl covered products for sports and medical use.

Elder Moss was born and raised in the Long Beach area of Southern California. His family moved to Sandy, Utah when he was in the 7th grade. He loves reading, music, going to movies, animals, playing trumpet and piano and games of all kinds. He also loves snowboarding and all kinds of cookies, especially Oreos. He has his own dog, a Boston Terrier named Bruce (he is getting fat in Elder Moss's absence).

He was a good boy, and if his family forgot to say prayer at night, he would holler from the top of the bunkbed and remind them.

He attended Alta High where he was captain of the debate team and served as president of his seminary class when he was a senior.

Elder Moss has one sister and two brothers, one of whom was killed shortly before Elder Moss's mission. His family feels they have grown closer to each other and have gotten to know the Lord better because of their need.

Elder Moss loves his mission and speaks highly of all his missionary "companions" and "co-missionaries." His mission means the world to him and he is learning so much about the spirit and the effect and change that can happen in people's lives because of its power.

Elder Moss



He also designed and built family homes in California and Utah. He loves the process of problem solving, anything mechanical and inventing. The Gospel and his family are the center of all his efforts.

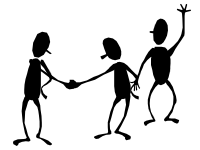
Elder and Sister Christensen have six wonderful children and nineteen grandchildren who are a source of great friendship and joy.



Welcome to Elder Schultz and Sister Woolley whose arrival was delayed!



Farewell to Elders Booth and Brown from Georgia and Elder Duke, Elder Rigby, and Sister Bridges from Armenia.



Happy Birthday
10 Aug Elder C. Smith

Message from the Assistants Elder Duke and Elder Moss

Last month President Dunn gave us four keys to missionary work in Armenia. Let's be obedient to the council of our priesthood leaders by focusing on these keys during the month of August.

1. Study hard with a purpose—The key to spiritual, uplifting person and companion studies is planning them during night planning session. During studies the next morning, ask yourselves: Who will we see? What will we teach? What commitments are we giving them? What are the questions they may ask? Which scriptures apply? Your studies should prepare you to answer these questions.

2. Pray with faith—During nightly prayers, every missionary is to review the events of the day with the Lord. Seek confirmation that you have done His will during the day. We must also confirm our plans for the next day during our nightly prayers and ask Him to "consecrate [our] performance...for the welfare of [our] soul." (2 Nephi 32:9)

3. Work hard with a plan—During nightly planning session, use the "Nightly Planning Session (9 steps) sheet given to you by your leaders. Every missionary is to have a planned destination for every hour of their day. *Utan qal-*ing is our last resort, but if you do find yourself doing it then make sure you tell the Lord where you are going, which path you are taking, what your goals are (talking to everybody on the way, getting five contacts, etc.) and ask Him to place people in your path who are prepared.

4. Obey mission rules strictly—Our leaders have counseled us, saying "if you are not obedient then you will always doubt your worthiness to receive miracles from the Lord when you need it." If you can say with confidence that you have been obedient to every rule that day, you will receive the miracle that you desire (for example: New investigators, gift of tongues, mountains moving). The Lord is anxious to bless missionaries with their righteous desires, and He will if we ask in faith (confidence that we have been obedient.)

If you will pray, plan effectively and be obedient then you will be worthy to receive every blessing that the Lord has in store for you at this time. You will consistently find investigators during the month of August if you follow the counsel given by our priesthood leaders.