

**President Russell M. Nelson**

President of the Church

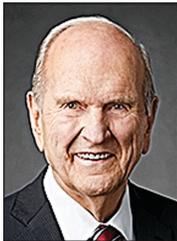
The COVID-19 pandemic has altered church meetings, missionary service and temple work.

The Lord has promised that those who are prepared shall not fear (Doctrine and Covenants 38:30). “Of course, we can store our own reserves of food, water and savings. But equally crucial is our need to fill our personal spiritual storehouses with faith, truth and testimony.”

This year the Church commemorates the 200th anniversary of Joseph Smith’s First Vision, in which Heavenly Father pointed to Jesus Christ and said: “This is my beloved son. Hear Him!” (Joseph Smith — History 1:17).

“We pray that this conference will be memorable and unforgettable because of the messages you will hear, the unique announcements which will be made, and the experiences in which you will be invited to participate.”

At the conclusion of the Sunday morning session, Latter-day Saints convened a worldwide solemn assembly and gave the sacred Hosanna Shout.



**President M. Russell Ballard**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Joseph Smith emerged from the Sacred Grove to begin his preparation to become a prophet of God, with the First Vision followed by the visits of heavenly messengers, the translation and publication of the Book of Mormon, and the organization of the Church.

Joseph and his elder brother Hyrum experienced rejection, opposition and persecution, ultimately ending with their deaths at Carthage Jail, becoming martyrs for Christ’s cause and name.

“As we celebrate this joyous occasion, the 200th anniversary of the First Vision, we should always remember the price Joseph and Hyrum Smith paid, along with so many other faithful men, women and children, to establish the Church so you and I could have and enjoy the many blessings and all these revealed truths we have today.”

As Latter-day Saints listen to the Spirit during the weekend’s 200th anniversary celebration, “consider what offering you will present to the Lord in righteousness.”



**Elder James R. Rasband**

General Authority Seventy

Alma taught that “God himself atoneth for the sins of the world, to bring about the plan of mercy, to appease the demands of justice, that God might be a perfect, just God, and a merciful God also” (Alma 42:15).

Through his atoning sacrifice, Jesus Christ satisfied the demands of justice for all of God’s children. Alma’s experience illustrates the healing power of this knowledge. He was tortured by the reality that he had led many people away from God’s light, but through faith and repentance he received peace.

Christ’s healing was extended not only to Alma for his sins, but also to those whom Alma had harmed through his behavior. Alma’s joy and relief upon receiving forgiveness were not only for himself, but for those he had wronged and could never fully heal despite attempts to make restitution.

Through Christ’s healing power, all of God’s children will have a fair opportunity to choose to follow him. Jesus Christ can right any wrong and heal any hurt in a way that honors both justice and mercy.



**Sister Joy D. Jones**

Primary general president

Every woman’s faithful and unique contributions are vital.

“The Lord loves effort, and effort brings rewards” as individuals keep practicing, progressing and striving to follow the Lord. “He doesn’t expect perfection today,” but, as in times past, “our journey does, indeed, take effort, hard work and study.” Such efforts bring eternal rewards.

“Our continuing role is to receive continuing revelation.” With greater capacity and proficiency to receive revelation, individuals receive more power to accomplish the work of salvation and exaltation.

“There is beautiful unity between women and men in accomplishing God’s work today.” Men and women alike access the power of the priesthood through covenants made with the Lord — beginning with the covenants of baptism and culminating with those covenants made in the temple.

“Sisters, I pray that we will recognize and cherish priesthood power as we ‘cleave unto our covenants,’ embrace the truths of the scriptures and heed the words of our living prophets.”



**Elder Neil L. Andersen**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Joseph Smith knew many “difficult hours” in the decades following the First Vision and the restoration of Christ’s Church. But the Prophet never doubted God’s love for him or his testimony of the things he had witnessed.

Defining reminders of God’s love often come while learning about the gospel or sharing it with others. The Lord’s living prophet, President Russell M. Nelson, has invited Latter-day Saints to ponder the essential question: “How do you hear Him?”

“We hear Him in our prayers, in our homes, in the scriptures, in our hymns, as we worthily partake of the sacrament, as we declare our faith, as we serve others, and as we attend the temple with fellow believers.”

One navigates his or her way through life with constant prayer, keeping covenants and utilizing the gift of the Holy Ghost.

“Embrace your sacred memories. Believe them. ... Share them with your family. Trust that they come to you from your Heavenly Father and His Beloved Son.”



**Brother Douglas D. Holmes**

Young Men general presidency

The Children and Youth initiative remains anchored to principles that help place the gospel of Jesus Christ “deep in the hearts” of children and youths.

“As we come to see these principles more clearly, we will recognize this as more than a program for members ages 8 to 18.”

The initiative’s first principle is relationships. “We are not expected to find or walk the covenant path alone. We need love and support from parents, other family members, friends and leaders who are also walking the path.”

Revelation, agency and repentance also connect Latter-day Saint youths with heaven.

The Children and Youth initiative is defined by a central invitation: Choose to become more like the Savior by seeking the guidance of the Holy Ghost and allowing Christ to “change us into the best version of ourselves.”

Placing the gospel “deep in our hearts” requires engagement and sacrifice.

“The Children and Youth program focuses on empowering the youth.”



**President Henry B. Eyring**

Second counselor, First Presidency

In the restoration of the gospel, each person’s part is vital.

The work of the Lord in the last days is one of vast magnitude and grandeur.

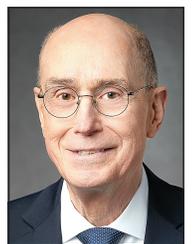
To participate in the work of the Lord, each person has to grow in spiritual power. “When we ... strive to obey and live the commandments, we grow in our power to receive continuing revelation.”

The key to receiving revelation from God, as shown by Joseph Smith, is the prayer of faith. “As we face today’s challenges and those yet to come, we too will need to practice the same pattern.”

Latter-day Saints can turn to words from the sacrament prayers as descriptors of daily life: “Always remember Him” and “keep His commandments.”

A prayer offered with faith in Jesus Christ ushered in this last dispensation. “And it will be at the heart of the part each of us will play in its continuing unfolding.”

Each person’s ability to make a vital contribution to the restoration will increase as faith in Jesus Christ and Heavenly Father grows.



**Elder Ulisses Soares**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Following the First Vision, the publication of the Book of Mormon is the “second fundamental milestone” of the unfolding restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ in the last dispensation.

“As we study the coming forth of this holy book of scripture in these latter days, we come to realize that the entire undertaking was miraculous – from the Prophet Joseph receiving the gold plates from a holy angel, to its translation by the gift and power of God, its preservation and publication by the hand of the Lord.”

The Book of Mormon’s translation marks yet another essential miracle.

“We ought to look at the process more like a ‘revelation’ with the aid of physical instruments provided by the Lord.”

The coming forth of this latter-day scripture was made possible only after acts of great faith and sacrifice.

“The historical facts and the special witnesses of the Book of Mormon testify that its coming forth was indeed miraculous. Nevertheless, the power of this book is not based only in its magnificent history but on its powerful, unparalleled message that has changed countless lives – including mine.”



**Elder John A. McCune**

General Authority Seventy

Even amid pain and struggles, followers of Christ can find joy in Him. Elder McCune learned this when he was serving as a mission president in 2014 and his son suffered a longboarding accident that damaged his brain.

The McCune family felt God’s love and peace as they prayed in the hospital, despite not knowing whether their son would survive his injuries. Over his two months in the hospital and many sessions of physical, speech and occupational therapy, the family stayed focused on Christ and recognized miracles that occurred in the Lord’s way and according to His timing.

When it is difficult to have hope in anything, individuals can find hope and peace in Christ. Church leaders desire all people to experience the comfort and joy that come from a relationship with the Savior, and those who have made sacred covenants have the opportunity to participate in the Lord’s work by inviting others to come unto Christ.

The most important efforts to invite others to come unto the Savior must occur within individuals’ own homes, where they can help family and friends to feel His love.



**Bishop Gérald Caussé**

Presiding Bishop

The central message of the Book of Mormon is to restore knowledge of Jesus Christ’s essential role in mankind’s salvation and exaltation.

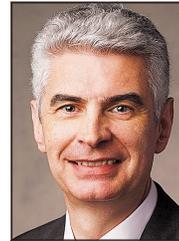
“Plain and precious truths about the Savior’s atonement resound throughout the Book of Mormon.” These truths have changed or can change each person’s life.

The Lord’s Atonement is a personal and intimate gift for each person individually. “Just as Jesus invited each one of the Nephite disciples to feel His wounds, He died for each one of us, personally, as if you or I were the only person on Earth.”

The Book of Mormon also contains the conversion stories of many individuals, showing how hearts and lives can be changed through the Lord’s goodness and mercy.

The Lord’s redeeming power should accompany, motivate and change his disciples every day.

“As you study this book, you will hear the voice of the living Christ inviting you to come unto Him. I promise that if you accept this invitation and pattern your life after His example, His redemptive influence will come into your life.”



**Elder Dale G. Renlund**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Prophets have encouraged their listeners to remember the greatness of God and consider what he has done for individuals, families and people.

Heavenly Father wants His children to recall His and His Beloved Son’s goodness – not for their own gratification, but for the influence such remembrance has on the individual. By considering Their kindness, one’s perspective and understanding are enlarged. By reflecting on Their compassion, one becomes more humble, prayerful and steadfast.

“Every time we use, benefit from, or even think of these gifts, we ought to consider the sacrifice, generosity and compassion of the givers. Reverence for the givers does more than just make us grateful. Reflecting on Their gifts can and should transform us. ...

“I invite you to remember each day the greatness of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and what They have done for you.”

Consider Heavenly Father, referring to His beloved son by saying, “Hear Him.”

“As you act on those words and listen to Him, remember, joyfully and reverently, that the Savior loves to restore what you cannot restore.”



**Elder Benjamin M. Z. Tai**

General Authority Seventy

Jesus Christ is the “master physician” and He has prescribed everything needed “for us to become who we need to be.”

“Through His atonement, He binds up our wounds, takes upon himself our infirmities, and heals our broken hearts.”

One of the greatest tools the Savior has provided to help individuals progress on His path to eternal salvation is the Book of Mormon. “The Book of Mormon provides spiritual nutrition, prescribes a plan of action and connects us with the Holy Spirit.” Along with the Bible, the Book of Mormon testifies of Jesus Christ and teaches everything needed to know the truth of the Lord and become like Him.

By studying the Book of Mormon according to one’s own circumstances, with a sincere desire to learn, every individual can come to a knowledge of “the truth of all things” by the power of the Holy Ghost.

“Conversion requires us to be ‘doers of the word, and not hearers only’” – meaning that by consistently “applying the doctrine of Christ in our lives ... we will receive personal revelation” and the Holy Ghost “will show unto you all things what ye should do.”



**Elder Gary E. Stevenson**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

President Brigham Young said of the Salt Lake Temple, “I want to see (the) temple built in a manner that it will endure through the Millennium. This is not the only temple we shall build; there will be hundreds of them built and dedicated to the Lord.”

Like Brigham Young, prophets today look over the Salt Lake Temple and all others with great care. The Salt Lake Temple is undergoing a four-year renovation, including a seismic upgrade for earthquake protection to ensure a solid foundation.

Latter-day Saints might ask themselves, “How could this extensive renewal of the Salt Lake Temple inspire us to undergo our own spiritual renewal, reconstruction, rebirth, revitalization or restoration?”

The best defense against wrestling with questions or doubt, facing adversity or working through personal offenses with church members or policy lie in one’s spiritual foundation. Principles of gospel living and the first four temple recommend interview questions could serve as “spiritual cornerstones” for reinforcement.



**Elder Gerrit W. Gong**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

The sacred events between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday are the story of hosanna — a plea for God to save — and hallelujah — praise to the Lord for the hope of salvation and exaltation. “In hosanna and hallelujah we recognize the living Jesus Christ as the heart of Easter and latter-day restoration.”



On Easter Sunday, April 3, 1836, the Savior appeared when the Kirtland Temple was dedicated. Following His appearance, Moses, Elias and Elijah also came to restore priesthood keys and authority.

The Book of Mormon describes the power of Christ through two restorations: a physical restoration, or a resurrection, and a spiritual restoration through the Lord’s atonement.

As begun 200 years ago, light and revelation continue to come forth through the Lord’s living prophet, His Church called in his name, personal revelation and inspiration from the Holy Ghost.

“Today we celebrate restoration and resurrection.”

**Sister Laudy R. Kaouk**

Youth speaker

Laudy Kaouk, 17, encouraged Church members who do not “already have a testimony about the priesthood” to “pray and to know for yourself of its power, then read the scriptures to hear God’s words.”



Regardless of their circumstances, Church members can always have access to priesthood blessings.

“Don’t hesitate to ask for a blessing when you need extra guidance. It is in our difficult moments that we need the Spirit to help us the most. No one is perfect and we all experience hardships.”

Another way the priesthood blesses God’s children is through patriarchal blessings. “My blessing helps me to see my potential and the specific plan God has for me.”

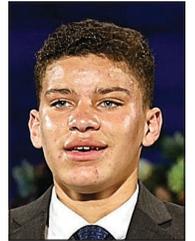
Just like God blessed Joseph Smith with the priesthood so that the blessings of the gospel could be restored, Latter-day Saints can receive the blessings of the gospel in their lives through the priesthood.

“Through the priesthood we can be lifted. The priesthood brings light into our world.”

**Brother Enzo S. Petelo**

Youth speaker

The priesthood is a sacred gift and has marvelous power to bless the youths in this dispensation, said Enzo Serge Petelo, 15.



“The priesthood is the authority to administer the ordinances and covenants of the Savior’s gospel to those who are worthy to receive them. Through these priesthood ordinances and sacred covenants come the full blessings of the Savior’s atonement that helps us achieve our divine destiny.”

Latter-day Saints are given the opportunity to minister like angels, to preach the gospel on all the continents of the Earth, and to help souls come unto Christ. “This service places us in joint labor with John the Baptist, Moroni, Joseph Smith, President Nelson and other diligent servants of the Lord.”

Members cannot sit idly and expect the Lord to use them in His great work.

“We must not wait for those who need our aid to seek us out; it is our duty as priesthood holders to exemplify and stand as witnesses of God.”

**Sister Jean B. Bingham**

Relief Society general president

When Adam and Eve entered mortality, they learned to counsel and work together, teach their children gospel principles and accomplish God’s work for them in partnership.



Over time, Satan has largely succeeded in dividing men and women. This division destroys families and creates confusion about individuals’ divine purpose and identity.

The Restoration of the gospel, which began with Joseph Smith’s First Vision in 1820, has shined light on the truth that women and men are equal partners in God’s plan.

The Relief Society is a unique organization because it operates under the priesthood authority of God, giving women the power necessary to fulfill their responsibilities.

President Russell M. Nelson has cited Lucy and Emma Smith as examples of women who played vital roles in the Restoration.

Both women and men must see each other as true partners in order to experience the joy and unity God intends for his children.

**President Henry B. Eyring**

Second counselor, First Presidency

A “pivotal moment in the Restoration” and the gathering of Israel occurred on April 3, 1836, in the Kirtland Temple.



The veil was “taken from the minds” of Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery, and they saw the Lord standing “upon the breastwork of the pulpit.” The resurrected Christ said He accepted the new temple which had been dedicated in His name.

Blessings, He added, would be given to all who keep His commandments and claim the opportunities promised inside His temple. Subsequent visions of Moses and Elias were followed by an appearance of Elijah, who announced the day had come “to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers.”

The Lord envisioned all of the Restoration’s key moments.

“He planned for it, step by step, as He has done with other changes in His Church. ...

“He is firm in the timing and the sequence of His intentions, yet He ensures that sacrifice often brings continuing blessings that we did not foresee.”

**President Dallin H. Oaks**

First counselor, First Presidency

The priesthood is a divine power and authority, held in trust, to be used for God’s work for the benefit of all His children.



“Priesthood is not those who have been ordained to a priesthood office or those who exercise its authority.”

All blessings of the priesthood — including essential ordinances — are available to men and women alike.

The principle that priesthood authority can be exercised only under the direction of the one “who holds the keys for that function” is fundamental in the Church — but does not apply to families.

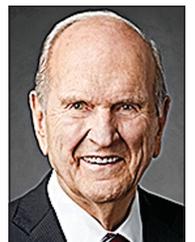
“A father presides and exercises the priesthood in his family by the authority of the priesthood he holds. He has no need to have the direction or approval of one holding priesthood keys in order to perform his various family functions.”

The same principle applies when a father is absent and a mother is the family leader. She presides in her home and “is instrumental in bringing the power and blessings of the priesthood into her family through her endowment and sealing in the temple.”

**President Russell M. Nelson**

President of the Church

The prime purpose of the restored Church is to help people follow the Lord Jesus Christ, keep His commandments and qualify for the greatest of all blessings — that of eternal life with God and one’s loved ones.



To better remember Him, the church is introducing a symbol that will signify the central place of Jesus Christ in His church.

At the center of the symbol is a representation of Thorvaldsen’s marble statue, the “Christus.” It portrays the resurrected, living Lord reaching out to embrace all who will come unto Him.

“The symbol will ... remind all that this is the Savior’s church and that all we do, as members of His church, centers on Jesus Christ and his gospel.”

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has put the world in commotion. Now is the time to put one’s faith in Jesus Christ into action.

“So tonight ... I am calling for another worldwide fast (on Good Friday, April 10). For all whose health may permit, let us fast, pray and unite our faith once again.”

**Elder Ronald A. Rasband**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Ancient prophets prophesied of the restoration and what was to come in the last dispensation and fullness of times. Many of these prophecies have been fulfilled already.



Daniel prophesied the Lord's church "would rise in the last days as a small stone cut out of the mountain without hands"

and increase until it fills the whole earth.

The apostle Peter described times of restitution of all things. The Church is a living example of that restitution.

Joseph of Egypt prophesied a seer that the Lord would raise up. Joseph Smith was that seer. John the Revelator prophesied of an angel bringing together important elements of the restoration. Moroni was that angel.

Malachi spoke of the return of Elijah, who did come, and now there are 168 temples dotting the earth.

Church members are to gather God's children and share the gospel. "The doctrine of Jesus Christ unites all of us – around the world – as sons and daughters of God, as brothers and sisters in the gospel."

Isaiah prophesied that "the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains ... and all nations shall flow unto it" (Isaiah 2:2).

With millions of church members and friends connected through television, internet and other means, "We are sitting down as if together in the top of the mountains."

"We do not know when the Savior will return, but this we do know: We must be prepared in heart and mind, worthy to receive Him, and honored to be part of all that was prophesied so long ago."

**Sister Bonnie H. Cordon**

Young Women general president

Jesus Christ has called upon His disciples to "let your light so shine before this people, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." This invitation from the Lord is an earnest invitation to "be more intentional about helping others see the path and, thereby, come unto Christ."



But the Lord's invitation is about more than just making the world a generally brighter place. "It is about focusing our light so others may see the way to Christ." His invitation is about gathering Israel on this side of the veil and helping others to see their next steps forward in making and keeping sacred covenants with God.

Despite the seeming weakness of one's own light at times, the Lord "reminds us that he will bring the light if we will just point others to Him." He is the light; His disciples need only help point others to Him.

The Lord has said "there are many yet on the earth ... who are only kept from the truth because they know not where to find it." As disciples of Christ, "We can help. We can intentionally shine our light so others may see. We can extend an invitation. We can walk the journey with those who are taking a step toward the Savior, no matter how halting."

Every effort one makes can be magnified by the Lord. "The Holy Ghost will prompt us to know what to say and do." And at times, "such attempts may require us to step out of our comfort zone, but we can be assured that the Lord will help our light shine."

**Elder Jeffrey R. Holland**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

Looking back at the majesty of God's hand in restoring the gospel of Jesus Christ, what would one living in the 1800s have hoped for?



Perhaps one would have hoped for the restoration of a truer concept of a caring Father in Heaven, who spoke as openly in the present as He did in the past, whose every action would be for the "benefit of the world." Other hopes include scriptural evidence of the Savior's life and resurrection, priesthood authority, temples and sealing families for time and all eternity.

"Beginning in the Sacred Grove and continuing to this day, these desires began to be clothed in reality and became, as the apostle Paul and others taught, true anchors to the soul, sure and steadfast."

As the world battles an "all hands on deck war" with COVID-19, many still have hopes that have not yet been fulfilled.

"When we have conquered it – and we will – may we be equally committed to freeing the world from the virus of hunger and freeing neighborhoods and nations from the virus of poverty," and hope for safer schools and the gift of personal dignity for every child.

Many have deeply personal hopes in addition to these global desires, including marriage, overcoming an addiction, help for a wayward child, or for physical or emotional pain to stop.

"Because the restoration reaffirmed the foundational truth that God does work in this world, we can hope, we should hope, even when facing the most insurmountable odds."

**Elder David A. Bednar**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

The restoration of the sealing authority by Elijah in 1836 was necessary to prepare the world for the Savior's second coming and initiated a greatly increased and worldwide interest in family history research.

The essence of the Lord's work is changing, turning and purifying hearts through gospel covenants and priesthood ordinances. The most sacred covenants and priesthood ordinances are received only in a temple.

"We do not build or enter holy temples solely to have a memorable individual or family experience. Rather, the covenants received and the ordinances performed in temples are essential to the sanctifying of our hearts and for the ultimate exaltation of God's sons and daughters."

Covenants and priesthood ordinances are central in the ongoing process of spiritual rebirth and transformation – they are the means whereby the Lord works with people from the inside out.

"We do not come to the temple to hide from or escape the evils of the world. Rather, we come to the temple to conquer the world of evil."

During a period of prolific temple building, the announcement of each new temple is a source of great joy. But one's primary focus should be on the covenants and ordinances that "can change our hearts and deepen our devotion to the Savior" – not simply on the location or beauty of the building.

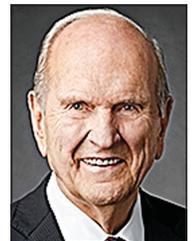
Joseph Smith taught that the building up of Zion brings about the renovation of earth and the salvation of the human. "I witness that this latter-day work will destroy the powers of darkness and bring about the salvation of the human family."



**President Russell M. Nelson**

President of the Church

The three instances of God the Father introducing his Beloved Son, Jesus Christ – on the Mount of Transfiguration, to the Nephites in ancient Bountiful, and to Joseph Smith in the Sacred Grove – included the invitation to "hear Him."



"What will happen as you more intentionally hear, hearken and heed what the Savior has said, and what he is saying now through his prophets? I promise you that you will be blessed with additional power to deal with temptation, struggles and weakness. I promise miracles in your marriage, family relationships and daily work. And I promise that your capacity to feel joy will increase, even if turbulence increases in your life."

Church leaders considered erecting a monument to commemorate the First Vision's bicentennial. "We felt impressed to create a monument – not of granite or stone, but of words – words of solemn and sacred proclamation – written not to be carved in 'tables of stone,' but rather to be etched in the 'fleshy tables' of our hearts."

The reading of the proclamation was recorded in the Sacred Grove and is available immediately.

"Study it privately and with your family members and friends. Ponder the truths and think of the impact those truths will have on your life if you will hear them, hearken to them, and heed the commandments and covenants that accompany them."

As a benediction to the message and the proclamation, President Nelson invited those watching to join in the Hosanna Shout and singing "The Spirit of God."

**President Dallin H. Oaks**

First counselor, First Presidency

God's divine plan of happiness allows all to rely on the Savior. His resurrection redeems all from physical death, and His atoning sacrifice pays the price for the repentant to be cleansed from sin.

"This atonement of Jesus Christ is central to the Father's plan."

Through that atonement, God's plan provides four great assurances: His suffering and one's repentance allows sins to be forgiven and remembered no more, He took upon himself all mortal infirmities, His resurrection revokes the finality of physical death, and one's progress need not conclude with the end of mortality.

During the 200th anniversary of the First Vision and the Restoration's initiation, "we know the Lord's plan, and we are encouraged by two centuries of its blessings through his restored Church. In this year of 2020, we have what is popularly called 20/20 vision for the events of the past. As we look to the future, however, our vision is far less sure."

With "more mortally experienced workers" in the spirit world and more temples to perform the ordinances of eternity, "all of this furthers our Heavenly Father's plan. God's love is so great that ... He has provided a destiny of glory for all of His children."

Many Latter-day Saints do not fully understand this plan, which answers most questions about doctrine and inspired policies. "We who know God's plan and who have covenanted to participate, have a clear responsibility to teach these truths and do all that we can to further them for others and in our own circumstances in mortality."



**Elder Quentin L. Cook**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

The restored Church of Jesus Christ is "founded upon the rock of revelation," as President Spencer W. Kimball taught. The Prophet Joseph Smith received revelation after revelation. President Russell M. Nelson receives revelation for the Church today. The new proclamation he read this morning is evidence the Lord communicates with His children.

The First Presidency and Quorum of the Twelve Apostles desire to be reunited with those who have left the Church. "We need you! The Church needs you! The Lord needs you! Our heartfelt prayer is that you will join with us in worshipping the Savior of the world."

Personal revelation is as important as prophetic revelation and is available to all who humbly seek the Lord's guidance. Some principles to prepare for receiving revelation include praying for spiritual guidance, preparing for inspiration, and worthily partaking of the sacrament.

"Our spiritual preparation is greatly enhanced when we regularly study the scriptures and truths of the gospel and ponder in our minds the guidance we seek. But remember to be patient and trust in the Lord's timing."

The Holy Ghost will also provide revelation in callings and assignments. "In my experience, significant spiritual guidance most often comes when we are trying to bless others in fulfilling our responsibilities."

"Most of our guidance comes from the Holy Ghost. Sometimes and for some purposes it comes directly from the Lord. I personally testify that this is true. Guidance for the church, as a whole, comes to the president and prophet of the Church."



**Elder Ricardo P. Giménez**

General Authority Seventy

Every person will experience storms in life that challenge their capacity to endure. Fear and despair are natural human responses to such difficulties, but President Russell M. Nelson has taught that faith in Jesus Christ is the antidote to fear.

Those who are suffering can choose to seek refuge in Jesus Christ, and He will make their burdens light. "However, we have limited understanding of the things that happen here on earth, and often we do not have answers to the question of why."

"When answers evade us, that is when the words expressed by our Savior to the Prophet Joseph Smith in Liberty Jail are completely applicable: 'My son, peace be unto thy soul; thine adversity and thine afflictions shall be but a small moment; And then, if thou endure it well, God shall exalt thee on high' " (Doctrine and Covenants 121:7-8).

Through his atoning sacrifice, Jesus Christ understands perfectly the pain of every human being and can succor them according to their needs. As President Nelson has taught, when Latter-day Saints focus on the Savior, they can feel joy in any circumstance.

"Of course, it is easier to say these things when we are not in the midst of a storm than to live and apply them during the storm. But as your brother, I hope you can feel that I sincerely want to share with you how valuable it is to know that Jesus Christ and his atonement are the refuge that we all need, regardless of the storms that are battering our lives."



**Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

The Lord's church is structured to provide opportunities to practice the fundamentals of discipleship. "Actively participating in the Church of Jesus Christ and its great variety of opportunities will help us to be better prepared for life's changing circumstances, whatever and how serious they may be."

All of God's children are invited to join in this great endeavor. Everyone is invited to come and see, come and serve, and to come and belong.

Everyone is invited to read the Book of Mormon, visit ComeUntoChrist.org and meet with missionaries. "In the Church of Jesus Christ, you will find a family of people who are not so different from you."

The Savior's embrace extends to all; He cares deeply about every one of God's children, no matter their circumstances and even if they reject Him. "There is no threshold of perfection you must attain in order to qualify for God's grace."

Heavenly Father doesn't micromanage His children. Instead, He allows them to learn from their mistakes. "Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died so that our mistakes might not condemn us and forever halt our progress."

God uses imperfect people to bring about His purposes. "This truth stands as a testimony that it is God's power, not man's, that accomplishes His work on the earth."

Everyone has a crucial part to play in the restoration, which is to love and serve God and His children. "As you do so, God will encircle you with His love, joy and certain guidance through this life, even under the most serious circumstances and even beyond."



**Elder L. Whitney Clayton**

Presidency of the Seventy

After seeing a billboard advertising furniture that read, "Serving the Finest Homes in Salt Lake City," Elder Clayton pondered the home in which he and his wife raised their children, the homes in which their children are raising children and the homes of Church members around the world.

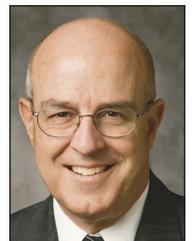
"What is a 'finest home'?" A fine home depends on the spiritual qualities of its residents, and the best possible attribute for a home is that the image of Christ be reflected in the countenances of those who live there.

"What matters is the interior design of the souls of the inhabitants, not the structure itself. The attributes of Christ are acquired in the 'process of time' by intentional progress along the covenant path. Christlike attributes adorn the lives of those who strive to live with goodness."

Residents can transform their homes into the finest homes by studying the scriptures and the words of living prophets every day. The scriptures tell stories of families, showing how righteous living results in blessings.

The finest homes are patterned after the temple. Keeping commandments and practicing steady discipleship transforms individuals and the homes they live in. "As we continue in faith, the Lord gradually changes us. We receive His image in our countenance and begin to reflect the love and beauty of His character."

The finest homes offer a refuge from the storms of mortality. "The Lord has promised that those who keep the commandments of God 'prosper in the land.' God's prosperity is the power to press forward despite the problems of life."



**Elder D. Todd Christofferson**

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

The Restoration is not only for those who rejoice in it today. The revelations of the First Vision are offered as light and truth for any who “lack wisdom,” and the Book of Mormon is the property of all mankind. “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and its blessings are intended for all who want them.”

The urgent message of the Restoration belongs to the world and is increasingly important in these last days.

Disciples of Christ have a responsibility to invite others to come unto Christ, but “our invitations cannot be a matter of self-interest; rather, they must be an expression of selfless love.”

In addition to showing love, disciples can serve as examples of living the principles of the restored gospel. “What you are lends authenticity to your invitation to come experience the joy of the fulness of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Lastly, the Lord designed the Book of Mormon as an instrument of conversion for this last dispensation. As such, it can be used liberally as convincing evidence of Joseph Smith’s prophetic calling and of the divinity and resurrection of Jesus Christ. “Its exposition of our Heavenly Father’s plan of redemption is unequalled.”

Everyone is worthy of an invitation to learn of the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and “the Lord is pleased with every effort we make, no matter the outcome.”

Redemption through Jesus Christ is the ultimate promise of the restoration. Because of His resurrection, “the restoration has meaning, our mortal lives have meaning, and ultimately our very existence has meaning.”



**President Russell M. Nelson**

President of the Church

The 190th Annual General Conference — falling on the bicentennial of the First Vision — has been rich with highlights:

- The restoration was commemorated with the Hosanna Shout.
- A new symbol “signifying our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ” was unveiled.
- A call for a “global day of fasting and prayer” for divine assistance in response to the ongoing pandemic, on Good Friday, April 10.
- Eight new temples announced in: Bahía Blanca, Argentina; Tallahassee, Florida; Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of the Congo; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Benin City, Nigeria; Syracuse, Utah; Dubai, United Arab Emirates; and Shanghai, People’s Republic of China.

Easter Sunday (April 12) once again celebrates the atonement and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

“Because of His Atonement, His gift of resurrection will come to all who have ever lived. And His gift of eternal life will come to all who qualify by fidelity to ordinances and covenants made in His holy temples.”

Focus on Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. Truly hear, hearken to and heed the words of the Savior. Continue to make homes “true sanctuaries of faith” and seek blessings through the Church’s study curriculum, “Come, Follow Me.”

“We will be strengthened as we become even more valiant disciples of the Lord, standing up and speaking up for Him, wherever we are.”

Even at a moment when temples are closed, draw upon the power of one’s temple covenants.

As the restoration continues, God will continue to reveal many great and important things.

