

## ASIA AREA LEADER MESSAGE

### “The Correct Name of the Church”

By Elder David P. Homer of the Seventy  
Second Counselor in the Asia Area Presidency

Sister Homer and I have been blessed with six wonderful children. When each was born, we pondered the names that we would give them. Such was the case with our twin daughters who we decided would each carry a name from one of their grandmothers. We did this to honor their grandmothers, hoping that the names would inspire them to

be good, just like their grandmothers had been.

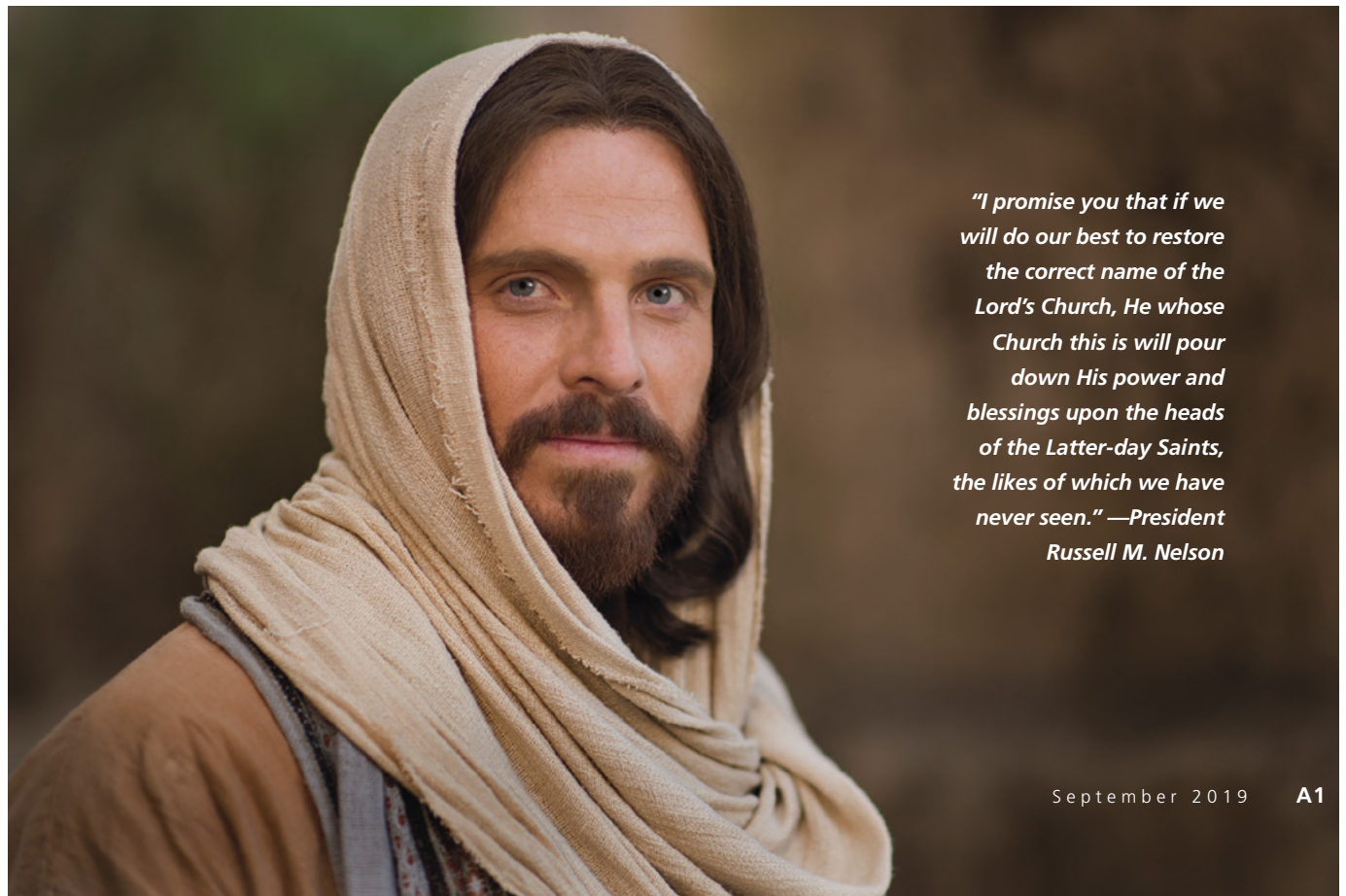
In some ways, we were like the prophet Helaman. He and his wife were blessed with two sons who they named Nephi and Lehi. As the boys grew older, Helaman explained to them, “I have given unto you the names of our first parents who came out of the land of Jerusalem; and this

I have done that when you remember your names you may remember them; and when you remember them ye may remember their works; and when ye remember their works ye may know how that it is said, and also written, that they were good.”<sup>1</sup>

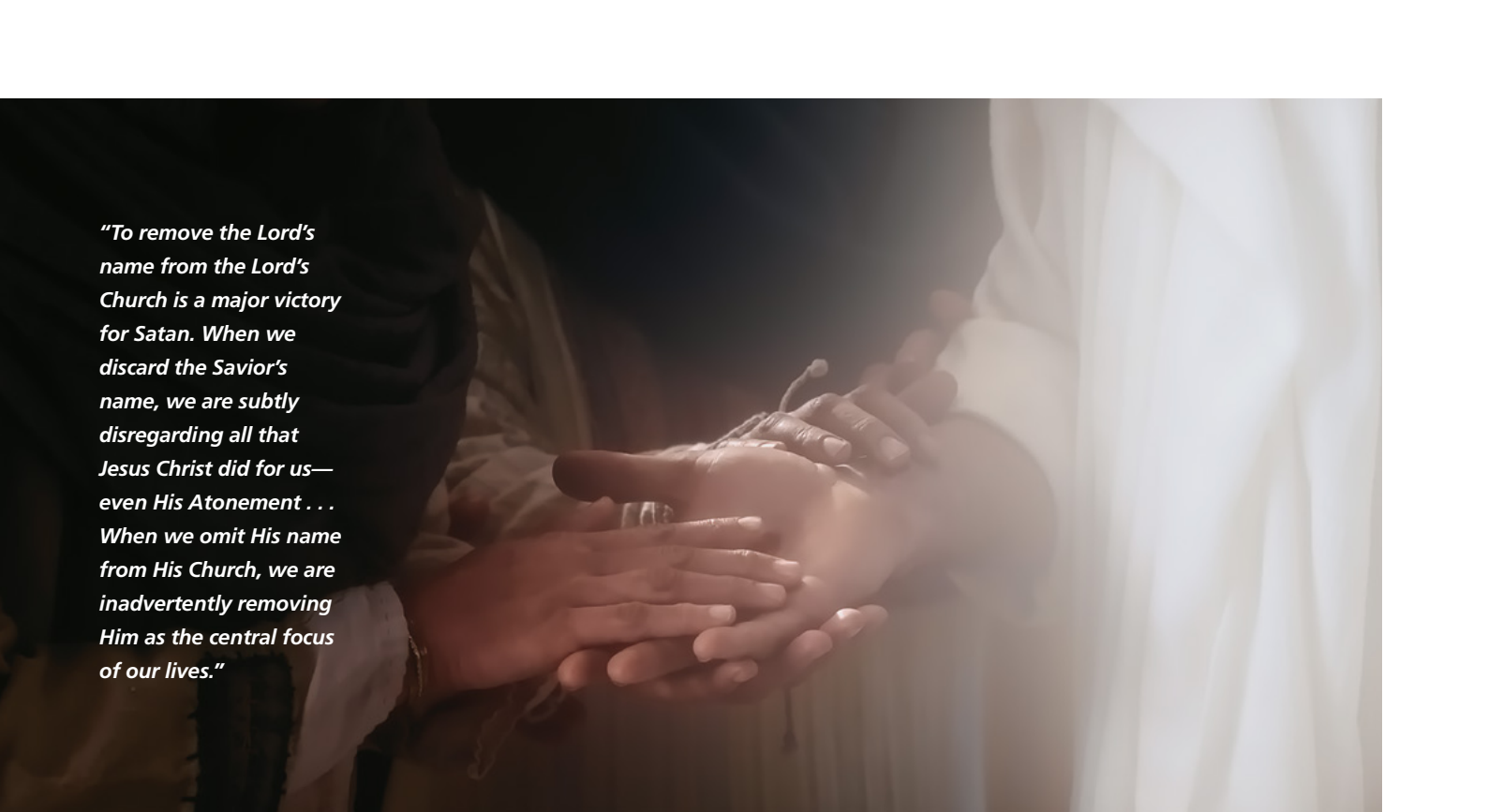
Helaman understood that names can be powerful. They remind us of who we are and inspire what we want



Elder David P. Homer



*“I promise you that if we will do our best to restore the correct name of the Lord’s Church, He whose Church this is will pour down His power and blessings upon the heads of the Latter-day Saints, the likes of which we have never seen.” —President Russell M. Nelson*



*"To remove the Lord's name from the Lord's Church is a major victory for Satan. When we discard the Savior's name, we are subtly disregarding all that Jesus Christ did for us—even His Atonement . . . When we omit His name from His Church, we are inadvertently removing Him as the central focus of our lives."*

to become. Perhaps that is one reason why we have been encouraged to take upon us the name of Jesus Christ<sup>2</sup> and why President Nelson has recently asked us to use the correct name of the Church.

In the October 2018 General Conference of the Church, President Nelson noted that he had "released a statement regarding a course correction for the name of the Church. [He] did this because the Lord impressed upon [his] mind the importance of the name He decreed for His Church, even The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints."<sup>3</sup> President Nelson said that this effort is not a name change, it is not rebranding, it is not cosmetic, it is not a whim and it is not inconsequential . . . Instead, it is a correction. It is the command of the Lord.<sup>4</sup>

As a result, we should do all we can to help ourselves, and others, refer to the Church using the name given by the Lord himself. President Nelson

noted, "To remove the Lord's name from the Lord's Church is a major victory for Satan. When we discard the Savior's name, we are subtly disregarding all that Jesus Christ did for us—even His Atonement . . . When we omit His name from His Church, we are inadvertently removing Him as the central focus of our lives."<sup>5</sup>

I have felt the power of this course correction in my own life. As websites, email addresses, and other communication elements have adopted the correct name of the Church, I have been reminded that this is His Church and that I seek to follow him. I have also been reminded that President Nelson promised blessings if we would do our part.

President Nelson said, "My dear brothers and sisters, I promise you that if we will do our best to restore the correct name of the Lord's Church, He whose Church this is will pour down His power and blessings upon

the heads of the Latter-day Saints, the likes of which we have never seen. We will have the knowledge and power of God to help us take the blessings of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people and to prepare the world for the Second Coming of the Lord."<sup>6</sup>

It seems to me that not only will this help prepare the world for the Savior's return, but it will help prepare our hearts for that day as well. It is my prayer that each of us will remember to use the correct name of the Church and my testimony that, as we do so, the blessings promised by President Nelson will come. ■

#### NOTES

1. Helaman 5:6.
2. See 2 Nephi 31:13; Mosiah 5:8; 3 Nephi 27:5; Doctrine & Covenants 18:21.
3. Russell M. Nelson, "The Correct Name of the Church," *Liahona*, Nov. 2018, 87.
4. See Russell M. Nelson, "The Correct Name of the Church," 87.
5. Russell M. Nelson, "The Correct Name of the Church," 87.
6. Russell M. Nelson, "The Correct Name of the Church," 87.

## LOCAL PAGES

## Seek Diligently and Ye Shall Find

By Bagyavathi Anthony

Munirka Ward, India New Delhi Stake

My husband and I have two children: our daughter, Florence, and son, Frederick Monson. My father-in-law has lived with us for the past eight years. His name is Anthony and he is 88 years old. He is humble, patient, kind, and loving. He is a very faithful Roman Catholic who never misses his prayers or going to church. Be it winter, summer, or raining, attending church is important for him. He gets around by himself and besides church, he likes to go out to the park or to buy candy because he likes sweets.

Both my husband and I work so he is home alone for part of the day. On December 5, 2017, my husband and I were at our office. Around 3 p.m. I called my children to check up on their grandfather. When they told me that he had not yet returned from the sweet shop I felt that he may have become lost. I immediately informed my husband and he and his sister began searching for their father. I joined in the search after work. We searched all the first day and night, but we could not find him. The next morning, we went to the police station



and filed a missing person report. The second day we posted his picture on Facebook and WhatsApp. We kept searching until Saturday, December 9. We were very worried. Our friends said that they would pray for his safe

return. Some said they would put his name on the prayer roll at the temple. Others searched with us. We really felt the love of God through them.

My family kept praying and I continued my prayer and scripture study. All



the scriptures I read were really uplifting and gave me more strength, confidence, faith, and hope that he would be back. An especially meaningful one was Doctrine & Covenants 90:24:

“Seek ye diligently, pray always, and be believing, and all things shall work together for your good, if ye walk uprightly and remember the covenant wherewith ye have covenanted one with another.”

We kept searching all the hospitals and drainage ditches from 6 a.m. until midnight. We did not think about food and the children were even left alone. Our only focus was to find my father-in-law. We printed a notice and posted it everywhere.

On Saturday, December 9, my husband went to search again, and I started to wash my father-in-law’s clothes and arrange his bed to prepare

everything for him to come home and sleep comfortably. That evening, fasting, we started our search again. Satan was working very hard to discourage us, but we did not give up.

Following leads we received from other people, our search that night took us to a dark and dangerous place. Around 11:30 p.m., while we were searching in this area, showing my father-in-law’s picture to the people, a person approached and after enquiring asked us to leave immediately. He was the Inspector of Police of Nehru Place. We obeyed and left that place and, following another lead, started to walk towards the Kalka Mandir, another dark and dangerous area. We felt uncomfortable there, so we immediately left, reaching home around 1:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 10.

At 1:30 a.m. we knelt down and prayed with tears in our eyes. We decided that we would not search as it was Sunday. Our Heavenly Father wanted us to go to church and partake of the sacrament peacefully. He answered our prayer as we felt peace in our heart. Just as we finished our prayer, we received a call from one of my former classmates, telling me that she had seen an old man. She asked me to confirm that it was he through a video call. It was amazing that the person she had on the video

was my father-in-law! We were astonished and once again we thanked our Heavenly Father, for He understood our intention and answered our prayer. My friend brought him to my home on the same night. It was truly a miracle that in a city of over 18 million people, my friend was able to find him.

We have seen miracles happen in our family through prayer, following the scriptures, and searching with faith. Though we have experienced many temptations, discouragements, and disappointments, we hold fast to God's promise: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (3 Nephi 14:7-8; Matthew 7:7-8). I know that we found my father-in-law through the love of our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ with the help of his angels, our friends.

I know that our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ live and love us so much and that they listen to our prayers. I know that this Restored Gospel is true. I know the Prophet's words are true. I know that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and its teachings are true. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen. ■

## After the trial of your faith

By **Bagyavathi Anthony**

Munirka Ward, India New Delhi Stake

As I was growing up, I watched my family become strong in the gospel through their solid faith. I followed them, wanting to be strong in the gospel, and learned to live their teachings and work hard to develop faith in God. When I grew up, the time came for me to prove my faith in God. I applied for my passport and sent in my papers to serve a mission. I received my mission call within a month but not the passport. I waited more than 45 days but no result.

I served a mini mission while waiting for the passport. My mission president, President Karl E. Nelson, called me every morning and asked me for my passport status. I kept praying for my passport. I thought that Heavenly Father needed me to put in more effort, so I fasted and prayed. Then I felt inspired to meet the district collector even though I didn't know who he was. With my mission president's permission, I went to meet the district collector with my companion and submitted a petition for my passport, as my mission president had instructed. One thing

I noticed was that the other officers were expecting a bribe, but I decided not to give even a single penny. I was going to serve God, and I knew that the prophet's words were true and that what needed to happen would happen.

Now the time scheduled for me to go to the MTC and start my mission was close. There was only one week left. My faith was tested, whether I would be persistent in my decision or whether I would give up. I never gave up. After much discouragement and many trials and temptations,



**Bagyavathi Anthony**

I remembered the words of God: “Faith without works is dead”<sup>1</sup> and “ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith”<sup>2</sup>. Finally, Heavenly Father blessed me to receive my passport and visa within four days and I was on my way to the MTC in Manila, the very

day fixed by the prophet. Many times since, I have had trials of my faith, but I have tried to remain true to God and to what I was taught in my youth. ■

#### NOTES

1. See James 2:20.
2. See Ether 12:6.

## The Blessings of the Savior’s Mercy and Grace in My Life

By Elder Shekar Ravi

India New Delhi Mission

A few weeks ago, my mission president asked all the missionaries to prepare a four-minute talk on the blessings of the Savior’s mercy and grace in their life. It took a while for me just to understand what the topic really meant. I was little confused, and I needed help. Knowing exactly what to do when I need help, I knelt down, prayed, and asked our Father in Heaven to help me to understand this topic and prepare the talk for the zone conference.

The Spirit of the Lord began to guide me. With the help of the Spirit, I searched the scriptures diligently to learn more about what the mercy and grace of the Atonement of Jesus Christ does for me and all those who

have faith in him. After studying several scriptures, I paused and read the topic again. The last three words of the topic struck out to me: IN MY LIFE.

When I started to think about the blessings of mercy and grace because of the Atonement in my life, the following three questions came to my mind. First, what are the blessings you have received in the past? Second, what are the blessings which you are receiving now? Third, what are the blessings which you’re going to receive in the future because of his mercy and grace?

My dear brothers, sisters, and friends, I testify that it was because of the great mercy and grace of His

infinite Atonement that my family was blessed with the restored gospel when I was 15 years old. And because of His mercy and love I was forgiven of all my sins when I took Christ’s name upon myself through the ordinance of baptism.

Though I was one of the weakest of the weak, because of His grace, I received strength to do more than what was expected of me in my callings from the day I joined the Church. As it says in Ether 12:27, His grace was and will be sufficient for me and you to overcome all our weaknesses. Jesus Christ made my weaknesses into strengths, little by little, because of His grace.

It was very painful to face failures in my life, especially in my studies. In twelfth standard, I failed in my subjects again and again and again. It was too hard for me to bear. I almost gave up. But the Savior indeed helped me to stay strong and showed His bounteous mercy and grace to me, which helped me not to give up. Having a great hope in my heart, I took a different course and chose to do a diploma in mining engineering in which I was able to succeed. In fact, I was one of the toppers of my college in all six semesters of my 3-year course. It may sound magical, but it was a miracle. How did this happen?



Elder Shekar Ravi

I testify that it was because of Christ's grace that I received light in my life which helped me to have success in my education.

Today, my family has been blessed with peace, love, joy, and unity. Though my dad is not with us, I know that he is resting in paradise because I was able to do baptism for him in the temple and we were sealed as a family to live together in eternity. This was made possible only through the grace of the Lord by His atoning sacrifice for all God's children. Because of His tender mercy and grace, I'm able to be a full-time missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. My heart and soul rejoice greatly to share the gospel.

I know for a surety that I'm going to receive many, many, many other blessings from our loving Heavenly Father through the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ.

Each time I have received a blessing in my life, I had to do something on my part. I would like to suggest three things you can do to access mercy and grace in your life and receive blessings. First, exercise your faith in the Atonement of Jesus Christ by learning more than you know now about His grace and mercy from the scriptures and from

the church magazines. Second, seek His help by praying more often and third, follow Him to the end and never give up.

I promise you that as you do these three things in your life, you will definitely see blessings and miracles. As President Gordon B. Hinckley said, "May we go with determination to try a little harder to be a little better" (Gordon B. Hinckley, "We Have a Work to Do," *Ensign*, May 1995, 87; see also [www.ChurchofJesusChrist.org/study/general-conference/1995/04/we-have-a-work-to-do?lang=eng](http://www.ChurchofJesusChrist.org/study/general-conference/1995/04/we-have-a-work-to-do?lang=eng)).

I bear my witness that Jesus is the Christ who came down from heaven, lived a sinless life, and died to save you and me. I also testify that this is His church and He directs it through prophets and apostles. I know for myself that Joseph Smith was blessed to see Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ face-to-face and received divine help and strength to restore the fullness of the gospel. I know that the Book of Mormon is the word of God. The Atonement of Jesus Christ is real and the only way for our salvation and exaltation. I know that families can live together forever in the celestial kingdom of God. In the name of the Lord and Savior, even Jesus Christ, amen. ■

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