Light the World: Ministering One by One

Elder Ming Shun Kuan
Of the Seventy

President Russell M. Nelson previously shared in general conference an experience he once had with an African tribal king. When the king experienced the power of the Savior’s words in 3 Nephi, he stated, “If I am converted and join the Church, I will bring my whole tribe with me.” President Nelson responded, “Oh, King . . . it doesn’t work that way. Conversion is an individual matter. The Savior ministered to the Nephites one by one. Each individual receives a witness and testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

The unique nature of every individual, combined with different upbringings and life experiences, make the children of God uniquely different from each other. Therefore, every individual’s conversion and the support each needs is also quite different. The Lord said, “Neither take ye thought beforehand what ye shall say; but treasure up in your minds continually the words of life, and it shall be given you in the very hour that portion that shall be meted unto every man.” The Holy Ghost is the most critical part in the ministering process to help us meet the innermost needs of others.

The Holy Ghost also helps us identify the ones we need to minister to now. When we ask in prayer, “To whom should I minister?” our Heavenly Father will let us know the person’s name through the Holy Ghost. Once we obtain this name, we can then discuss with our families how to use family and church resources, as well as activities, to begin the ministering process. Remember, in addition to meeting current needs, there is also a more noble purpose. That is, to help others have opportunities to achieve their full potential, to draw closer to God, and to live a happier life.

Our ministry is to help others have opportunities to feel the promptings of the Holy Ghost, thus allowing them to act for themselves and to walk along the covenant path.

How to share our testimony more naturally is outlined in the following principle of ministering: “A testimony doesn’t need to begin with the phrase, ‘I’d like to bear my testimony,’ and it doesn’t need to end with, ‘In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.’ A testimony is an expression of what we believe and know to be true. So, to visit with your neighbor on the street about a problem she is having and to say, ‘I know that God answers prayers,’ can be as powerful as any testimony shared from the pulpit at church. The power doesn’t come from flowery language; it comes from the Holy Ghost confirming truth.”

Another way to share our testimony more naturally is to use various web apps to share “Light the World” messages with friends, punctuated with a simple and sincere testimony.

There are many opportunities and occasions for us to invite people to come and see. In December, we can invite friends to branch, ward and stake Christmas activities, view the First Presidency Christmas Devotional
Ministering one by one is the way of the Savior. During this Christmas time, as we celebrate the Savior’s birth, the best gift we can give Him is to follow His example, learn of His ways, and minister to those family members, friends, and brothers and sisters around us.

A service-minded missionary was assigned to serve in a country with a totally different language and culture than his own. In prayer, he was inspired to go out and serve those he was to teach. By serving others, even without speaking a word, he could convey his testimony of the Atonement of Jesus Christ and of the Restoration of the gospel. The eyes of those he served radiated their understanding and gratitude for the testimony he conveyed.

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NOTES
2. Doctrine and Covenants 84:85.
5. See Matthew 11:29.
I Hope They Call Me on a Mission

Tamanna Bhatti
New Delhi Stake

We have always learnt about the importance of serving a mission and being a missionary even if we have not had an opportunity to labor full time in the mission field. What a great privilege it is to watch our children learn about the Savior and to develop a willing heart to serve in the Lord’s vineyard. “And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children” (Isaiah 54:13). Fulfilling this command, recently, the New Delhi India Stake Primary presidency organized a fun-filled activity for Primary children where they could learn about the process of becoming a missionary.

These beautiful children aged between 4–11 were welcomed to the activity by stake Primary leaders and were given individual missionary name tags and a letter extending a call to serve in the “Vasant Vihar Mission” for four hours. The children then boarded an airplane. They were served a snack and informed that they would be landing at the missionary training center soon. At the MTC the new missionary force was divided into companionships and received instruction which included games emphasizing missionary rules, specifically to stay close to and cooperate with their companions.

After lunch, President and Sister Ramakrishna reviewed the first principles and ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ with the senior Primary
children and practiced their door approaches. Each companionship had the opportunity to knock on a door and share a brief lesson with “investigators.”

Meanwhile, the junior Primary children enjoyed movies and a coloring activity. The activity was wrapped up by making handwritten cards for the missionaries serving in New Delhi.
Jaden John, an eight-year-old Primary child said that this was the best activity he had ever attended. “I learned the four principles of the gospel,” he said, “and how to be a missionary.” Vivek Kumar said he learned, “that we have to follow the principles that God has given us.”

These young minds were nourished and nurtured by good instruction. Every child seemed to be saying, “I hope that I can share the gospel with those who want to know the truth. I want to be a missionary . . . And serve the Lord while I am in my youth.”

Indeed, these children are like the army of Helaman who are being taught in their youth to be the Lord’s missionaries and to bring the world his truth. Let us be comforted to know that there is no better work to be involved in than missionary work.

A Treasure of Miracles

Kalaj Mahana
Pitampura Branch, New Delhi

I had planned to go to the temple in December 2017 but ended up postponing the trip. My husband was not ready to go without someone else to go with us. I fasted everyday but after a few months I became sick. All reports were normal, but the doctor recommended complete bedrest. I couldn’t understand what was wrong. I felt that perhaps I was not worthy. I continued to read the scriptures and prayed, but still felt bad. One Sunday I felt especially alone and even left church after taking the sacrament.

At last I met with my stake president and he said, “Sister Mahana you are a strong pillar; you never give up because you have a treasure of miracles.” I realized that he was right, I was fighter and I was a daughter of God. So, I read the scriptures more than before. In October of 2017, I accepted President Nelson’s 85-day challenge to read the Book of Mormon. As soon as I started reading the Book of Mormon, one by one my problems were solved. One month later I received a new calling. I fulfilled that calling faithfully and finished reading the Book of Mormon too. I met with the stake president on 27 January 2018 and we decided that I would go to the temple in April 2019.
It felt so good to hear that I was finally going to the temple. This time I felt I couldn’t wait. I realized that what the stake president said was true, that I did have a treasure of miracles because I am totally changed. I have received many blessings, both spiritual and temporal. On 21 April 2019 we left for the temple. I am grateful for this trial. It has taught me more patience and given me more knowledge of spiritual things.

When I received my endowment on 23 April 2019, it was a lovely and pure feeling. That day I felt like a complete daughter of God. I was sealed with my family. The next day I was baptized for other people and attended another endowment session. I felt the Spirit and understood much more about what the endowment means, how I can live with my Heavenly Father.

It was such a blessing to attend the temple daily. As I did, I felt many changes in my spiritual thoughts, like I was receiving more knowledge and greater wisdom. I could hear the Holy Spirit’s voice both when I was awake and in my dreams. One night I could not sleep. I closed my eyes and saw my stake president talking with me about what I would do after attending the temple, that my children would serve missions and that we would work hard to accomplish good things.

My mind was filled with so many ideas as I listened to the Spirit. For example, while staying in the patron house, I felt very helpless because my children and I were hungry. I didn’t know where to buy food. It was a different country, with different people and a different language. I prayed to Heavenly Father for a friend to help me. I heard a voice say “Go to the temple Kajal” so I went to the temple to attend a second session. After the session, I was changing my clothes when suddenly a senior missionary named Sister Edward asked, “Sister Mahana, how are you? What are you doing about food?” I cried because I was so hungry and I said, “Please help me. Just give me bread because we have no flour and no rice. There are six children with us and all the food is finished.” She gave me a warm hug and said, “Don’t worry. I will go to the market with you after the temple. You are my children so if you have any problem, you talk with me.” I was so happy and suddenly I felt like this country was my country. I thought, “I am not alone here.” Even though all the people there were Chinese, they were also my family. I really enjoyed the last two or three days in the temple and patron housing.

I am grateful for the opportunity I had to attend the temple and be sealed with my family. I learned many things both while preparing to go and while we were there. This experience taught me more patience, more wisdom and more spiritual things. I love my Father.
When I went to the temple to be sealed with my family, it was very nice to see them all dressed in white. It was like they were not my mother, father, sister and brother but like angels who had come to visit me.

Our family was sealed in April in the Hong Kong Temple. We had been waiting to come to the temple for two years. There are five people in my family: my mother, my father, my elder sister (12), me (11) and my younger brother (2). We prayed to God and it was a very beautiful experience. At first, we were afraid how we could go but everything was all right. We arrived safely. When we reached the patron housing, we could not believe that we were there in front of the temple because we had been trying to make it for many years.

My little brother and I, who were too young to enter the temple, stayed in the patron house except for the one day we went for the sealing. My sister went to do baptisms every day for our family and for others. She really felt the Spirit. I sat in the waiting room and read scriptures. I really felt the Spirit too. I like that place. In the patron housing I could feel the Spirit. When we woke up in the patron housing, we could clearly see the temple outside the window. It was very wonderful.

When I went to the temple to be sealed with my family, it was very nice to see them all dressed in white. It was like they were not my mother, father, sister and brother but like angels who had come to visit me. My parents were in the sealing room and a sister came and told us it was time to be sealed so we followed her to the sealing room. They opened the doors and we saw the altar and they asked us to kneel there and put one hand on the altar and we all held our other hands, we made a chain and they sealed us by a prayer.

When we were sealed, we were all crying. They stood us in front of a mirror and showed us the generations of our family in the future then they turned us around and showed us our ancestors who had gone before. In the sealing room it felt like Heavenly Father was present.

Being sealed in the temple means that we will live together in eternal life. When I looked in the mirror behind us, I felt like our ancestors were there with us. When we left the temple, we really felt like Jesus Christ was with us, like our partner.
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