

Searching the Scriptures

Read the following scenario and discuss the question that follows:

Each night a young man reads the Book of Mormon. He tries to get through as many verses as he can before falling asleep. He has heard others speak of blessings they have received from reading the scriptures daily, but he doesn't feel like doing so has brought him many blessings.

- Why do you think this young man hasn't fully experienced the blessings of searching the scriptures?

Read the following statement by Elder D. Todd Christofferson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, looking for what he teaches about what it means to search, or study, the scriptures:



“When I say ‘study,’ I mean something more than reading. It is a good thing sometimes to read a book of scripture within a set period of time to get an overall sense of its message, but for conversion, you should care more about the amount of time you spend in the scriptures than about the amount you read in that time. I see you sometimes reading a few verses, stopping to ponder them, carefully reading the verses again, and as you think about what they mean, praying for understanding, asking questions in your mind, waiting for spiritual impressions, and writing down the impressions and insights that come so you can remember and learn more. Studying in this way, you may not read a lot of chapters or verses in a half hour, but you will be giving place in your heart for the word of God, and He will be speaking to you” (D. Todd Christofferson, “When Thou Art Converted,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2004, 11).

- In your own words, how would you explain to the young man what it means to search the scriptures?
- When have you felt the companionship of the Holy Ghost or received revelation as a result of searching and studying the scriptures? How was this a blessing to you?

