

Hastening the Work of Salvation

Ponder the following questions in connection with each of the five areas that are part of the work of salvation:

- How can your efforts in this area of God's work bring others closer to the blessings of salvation?
- What experiences have you had and what blessings have you received as you have participated in this area of the Lord's work of salvation?
- What can you do, regardless of your current Church calling, to contribute in this area of the work of salvation?

Member Missionary Work

Elder Neil L. Andersen of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles taught:



"Brothers and sisters, as surely as the Lord has inspired more missionaries to serve, He is also awakening the minds and opening the hearts of more good and honest people to receive His missionaries. You already know them or will know them. They are in your

family and live in your neighborhood. They walk past you on the street, sit by you in school, and connect with you online. You too are an important part of this unfolding miracle.

"If you're not a full-time missionary with a missionary badge pinned on your coat, now is the time to paint one on your heart—painted, as Paul said, 'not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God' [2 Corinthians 3:3]. . . . All of us have a contribution to make to this miracle" ("It's a Miracle," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2013, 78).

Convert Retention

Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles declared:



"You and I must do everything we can to see that every member of the Church is completely fellowshipped and enjoying all the blessings the gospel has to offer.

"President Gordon B. Hinckley has reminded you and me of our responsibility to be coworkers with the Lord in bringing about His plans for the Church. In a satellite broadcast President Hinckley said:

"The Lord has laid upon us a mandate to teach the gospel to every creature. This will take the very best efforts of every missionary—full-time and stake. It will take the very best efforts of every bishop, of every bishop's counselor, of every member of the ward council. . . .' ('Find the Lambs, Feed the Sheep,' *Ensign*, May 1999, 107). It will take the best efforts of every member" ("Members Are the Key," *Ensign*, Sept. 2000, 10).

Activation of Less-Active Members

"Our role [as members] is to immerse ourselves in loving and serving those around us—comforting a coworker in need, inviting our friends to a baptism, helping an elderly neighbor with his yard work, inviting a less-active member over for a meal, or helping a neighbor with her family history. These are all natural, joyful ways to invite less-active members and those not of our faith into our lives and consequently into the light of the gospel. Sharing with them the fun times and the sacred times of our lives may actually be the most effective way any of us can 'labor in [Jesus Christ's] vineyard for the salvation of the souls of men [and women]' (D&C 138:56)" ("Hastening the Work of Salvation," *Ensign*, Oct. 2013, 36).

Temple and Family History Work

Elder Quentin L. Cook of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles taught:



"The leadership of the Church has issued a clarion call to the rising generation to lead the way in the use of technology to experience the spirit of Elijah, to search out their ancestors, and to perform temple ordinances for them. Much of the heavy lifting in hastening the work of salvation for both the living and the dead will be done by you young people" ("Roots and Branches," *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2014, 46).

Teaching the Gospel

"The responsibility to teach the gospel is not limited to those who have formal callings as teachers. As a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, you have the responsibility to teach the gospel. As a parent, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, Church leader, classroom teacher, home teacher, visiting teacher, coworker, neighbor, or friend, you have opportunities to teach. Sometimes you can teach openly and directly by the things you say and the testimony you bear. And you always teach by example" (*Teaching, No Greater Call: A Resource Guide for Gospel Teaching* [1999], 3–4).

