

APRIL 2017 CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK

“What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken; . . . whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same” (D&C 1:38).

As you review the April 2017 general conference, you can use these pages (and Conference Notebooks in future issues) to help you study and apply the recent teachings of the living prophets and apostles and other Church leaders.



DOCTRINAL HIGHLIGHT

Be Not Guilty of Persecution

In various countries across the world, I have had small glimpses into the ugliness of prejudice and discrimination suffered by those who are targeted because of their race or ethnicity.

“Persecution comes in many forms: ridicule, harassment, bullying, exclusion and isolation, or hatred toward another. We must guard against bigotry that raises its ugly voice toward those who hold different opinions. Bigotry manifests itself, in part, in unwillingness to grant equal freedom of expression. Everyone, including people of religion, has the right to express his or her opinions in the

public square. But no one has a license to be hateful toward others as those opinions are expressed.

“. . . The Savior taught, ‘Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them’ [Matthew 7:12]. For us to ask for respect, we must be respectful. Furthermore, our genuine conversion brings ‘meekness, and lowliness of heart,’ which invites ‘the Holy Ghost [and fills us with] perfect love’ [Moroni 8:26], an ‘unfeigned love’ [1 Peter 1:22] for others.”

Elder Dale G. Renlund of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Our Good Shepherd,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2017, 31–32.

PROPHETIC PROMISE



GOD TRUSTS US TO SERVE OUR ANCESTORS

“God knew that you would feel drawn to your ancestors in love and that you would have the technology necessary to identify them. . . . And He knew that He could trust you to accomplish this work in behalf of your ancestors. . . .

“This is the work of our generation. . . . You have felt this, as I have, when you have experienced an increase of love as you looked at the picture of an ancestor. You have felt it in the temple when the name on a card seemed like more than a name, and you couldn’t help but sense that this person was aware of you and felt your love.

“I testify that God the Father wants His children home again, in families and in glory. . . . I promise you the inspired help that you seek and need.”

President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency, “Gathering the Family of God,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2017, 21, 22.



Sin-Resistant Means Being Repentant

Being sin-resistant doesn't mean being sinless, but it does imply being continually repentant, vigilant, and valiant.

Perhaps being sin-resistant comes as a blessing from repeatedly resisting sin. . . .

"The stripling warriors 'were exceedingly valiant for courage. . . . They had been taught to keep the commandments of God and to walk uprightly before him' [Alma 53:20–21]. These young men went to war carrying Christlike virtues as weapons against their adversaries. . . .

"Our children don spiritual armor as they establish patterns of personal daily discipleship."

Joy D. Jones, Primary General President, "A Sin-Resistant Generation," *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2017, 88.

ANSWERS FOR YOU



How Can I Know If My Answer Is from the Spirit or Just Me?

"Remember the words of Nephi. 'I was led by the Spirit, not knowing beforehand the thing which I should do. Nevertheless,'

he said, 'I went forth' [1 Nephi 4:6–7].

"And so must we. We must be confident in our first promptings. Sometimes we rationalize; we wonder if we are feeling a spiritual impression or if it is just our own thoughts. When we begin to second-guess, even third-guess, our feelings—and we all have—we are dismissing the Spirit; we are questioning divine counsel. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught that if you will listen to the first promptings, you will get it right nine times out of ten."

Elder Ronald A. Rasband of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, "Let the Holy Spirit Guide," *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2017, 95–96.

To read, watch, or listen to general conference addresses, visit conference.lds.org.

FILL IN THE BLANK

Use the May 2017 issue or visit conference.lds.org to read more of what these speakers said.

1. "Overcoming the world is not one defining moment in a lifetime, but a lifetime of moments that define an _____." —Neil L. Andersen, "Overcoming the World."
2. "An assignment to labor in a specific _____ is essential and important but secondary to a call to the work." —David A. Bednar, "Called to the Work."
3. "In the eyes of God, there is no _____ in the kingdom that is more important than another." —Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "The Greatest among You."
4. "Seeking the _____ is in our spiritual DNA." —Mark A. Bragg, "Brighter and Brighter until the Perfect Day."

Answers: (1) eternity, (2) place, (3) calling, (4) light