



President
Thomas S. Monson

STAYING WORTHY, MAKING CORRECT CHOICES

A Sacred Trust

“A common thread binds us together. We have been entrusted to bear the priesthood of God and to act in His name. We are the recipients of a sacred trust. Much is expected of us.

“. . . What a wonderful gift we have been given. Ours is the responsibility to guard and protect that priesthood and to be worthy of all the glorious blessings our Father in Heaven has in store for us—and for others through us.

“Wherever you go, your priesthood goes with you. Are you standing in holy places? Before you put yourself and your priesthood

in jeopardy by venturing into places or participating in activities which are not worthy of you or of that priesthood, pause to consider the consequences. Remember who you are and what God expects you to become. You are a child of promise. You are a man of might. You are a son of God.

“This precious gift of priesthood power brings with it not only solemn responsibilities but also special blessings for ourselves and for others. May we, in whatever place we may find ourselves, always be worthy to call upon its power, for we never know when our need and our opportunity to do so may come. . . .

“May we determine, here and now, ever to be prepared for our time of need, our time of service, our time of blessing.

“. . . You ‘are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood’ (1 Peter 2:9). May we ever be worthy of these divine accolades.”

Choices

“I have been thinking recently about choices. It has been said that the door of history turns on small hinges, and so do people’s lives. The choices we make determine our destiny.

“When we left our premortal existence and entered mortality, we brought with us the gift of agency. Our goal is to obtain celestial glory, and the choices we make will, in large part, determine whether or not we reach our goal. . . .

“. . . We know where we want to go, and it *does* matter which way we go, for the path we follow in this life leads to our destination in the next life.

“May we choose to build up within ourselves a great and powerful faith which will be our most effective defense against



the designs of the adversary—a real faith, the kind of faith which will sustain us and will bolster our desire to choose the right. Without such faith, we go nowhere. With it, we can accomplish our goals.

“Although it is imperative that we choose wisely, there are times when we will make foolish choices. The gift of repentance, provided by our Savior, enables us to correct our course settings, that we might return to the path which will lead us to that celestial glory we seek.

“May we maintain the courage to defy the consensus. May we ever choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong.

“As we contemplate the decisions we make in our lives each day—whether to make this choice or that choice—if we choose Christ, we will have made the correct choice.

“That this may ever be so is my heartfelt and humble prayer.”

“President Thomas S. Monson told us to ‘choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong.’ No words could be truer.

“I was impressed to make changes in many facets of my life, which will bring the smile of Heavenly Father’s approval.

“I know now more than ever that I’m not alone, and I thank my Redeemer for the work that charts a safer course that leads me back to Him.

“Nobody should miss conference, for in this special gathering the heavens are opened and the voice of God is heard as in times of old.”

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