



# ELDER GARY E. STEVENSON

OF THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES



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**IDENTIFY THE LOST SHEEP,**

**SEARCH AFTER THEM,**

**BRING THEM HOME,**

**AND THEN SURROUND THEM WITH FRIENDS.**

## SHEPHERDING SOULS

Heavenly Father can take our simple, daily efforts and turn them into something miraculous. It has been only six months since President Russell M. Nelson announced that “the Lord has made important adjustments in the way we care for each other” [“Let Us All Press On,” Apr. 2018 general conference], explaining, “We will implement a newer, holier approach to caring for and ministering to others. We will refer to these efforts simply as ‘ministering’” [“Ministering,” Apr. 2018 general conference]. . . .

We might ask, “How do we know we are ministering in the Lord’s way? Are we assisting the Good Shepherd in the way He intends?”

In a recent discussion, President Henry B. Eyring commended the Saints in adjusting to these notable changes but also expressed his sincere hope that members recognize that ministering is more than “just being nice.” That is not to say that being nice is inconsequential, but those who understand the true spirit of ministering realize that it goes far beyond merely being nice. Done in the Lord’s way, ministering can

have a far-reaching influence for good that ripples throughout all eternity. . . .

As children of a loving Heavenly Father and as sheep in His flock, we enjoy the blessing of being individually ministered to by Jesus Christ. Simultaneously, we have a responsibility to provide ministering assistance to others around us as shepherds ourselves. We heed the words of the Lord to “serve me and go forth in my name, and . . . gather together my sheep” [Mosiah 26:20]. . . .

Every soul is precious to our Heavenly Father. His personal invitation to minister is of greatest value and importance to Him, for it is His work and glory. It is quite literally the work of eternity. Each one of His children has immeasurable potential in His sight. He loves *you* with a love you cannot even begin to comprehend. Like the devoted sheepdog, the Lord will stay on the mountain to protect *you* through the wind, rainstorms, snow, and *more*.

→ See the full address at [conference.lds.org](https://www.lds.org/conference)