



By President Russell M. Nelson
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*Confused at the grace that so fully he
 proffers me.
 I tremble to know that for me he was
 crucified,
 That for me, a sinner, he suffered, he
 bled and died.
 Oh, it is wonderful that he should
 care for me
 Enough to die for me!
 Oh, it is wonderful, wonderful to me!¹⁴*

The prophet Moroni invited us:
 “And now, I would commend you to
 seek this Jesus of whom the proph-
 ets and apostles have written.”¹⁵

President Russell M. Nelson prom-
 ised that “if [we] proceed to learn *all*
 [we] can about Jesus Christ, . . . [our]
 ability to turn away from sin will
 increase. [Our] desire to keep the
 commandments will soar.”¹⁶

On this Easter Sunday, just as the
 Savior came forth from His stone
 grave, may we awake from our
 spiritual slumber and rise above
 the clouds of doubt, the clutches of
 fear, the intoxication of pride, and
 the lull of complacency. Jesus Christ
 and Heavenly Father live. I testify
 of Their perfect love for us. In the
 name of Jesus Christ, amen. ■

NOTES

1. Luke 24:5–6.
2. Matthew 22:42.
3. David A. Bednar, “If Ye Had Known Me,”
Ensign or *Liahona*, Nov. 2016, 103.
4. John 17:3.
5. John 14:6.
6. John 8:12.
7. See Alma 32:27.
8. Alma 5:45–46.
9. Moses 1:39.
10. 1 John 2:1.
11. Hebrews 5:8–9.
12. Alma 7:11–13.
13. 2 Nephi 31:3.
14. “I Stand All Amazed,” *Hymns*, no. 193.
15. Ether 12:41.
16. Russell M. Nelson, “Prophets, Leadership,
 and Divine Law” (worldwide devotional
 for young adults, Jan. 8, 2017),
 broadcasts.ChurchofJesusChrist.org.

Christ Is Risen; Faith in Him Will Move Mountains

*Faith in Jesus Christ is the greatest power
 available to us in this life. All things are possible
 to them that believe.*

My dear brothers and sisters, I am
 grateful for the privilege of speaking
 with you on this Easter Sunday.¹ The
 atoning sacrifice and Resurrection of
 Jesus Christ changed each of our lives
 forever. We love Him and gratefully
 worship Him and our Heavenly Father.

During the past six months, we
 have continued to grapple with a
 global pandemic. I marvel at your
 resilience and spiritual strength in

the face of illness, loss, and isolation.
 I pray constantly that, through it all,
 you will feel the Lord’s unfailing love
 for you. If you have responded to
 your trials with a stronger disciple-
 ship, this past year will not have been
 in vain.

This morning, we have heard
 from Church leaders who come from
 every populated continent on earth.
 Truly, the blessings of the gospel are





Puerto Rico

for *every* race, language, and people. The Church of Jesus Christ is a *global* church. Jesus Christ is our leader.

Thankfully, even a pandemic has not been able to slow the onward march of His truth. The gospel of Jesus Christ is exactly what is needed in this confused, contentious, and weary world.

Each of God’s children deserves the opportunity to hear and accept the healing, redeeming message of Jesus Christ. No other message is more vital to our happiness—now and forever.² No other message is

more filled with hope. No other message can eliminate contention in our society.

Faith in Jesus Christ is the foundation of all belief and the conduit of divine power. According to the Apostle Paul, “Without faith it is impossible to please [God]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”³

Everything good in life—every potential blessing of eternal significance—begins with faith. Allowing God to prevail in our lives begins with

faith that He is willing to guide us. True repentance begins with faith that Jesus Christ has the power to cleanse, heal, and strengthen us.⁴

“Deny not the power of God,” the prophet Moroni declared, “for he worketh by power, *according to the faith* of the children of men.”⁵ It is *our* faith that unlocks the power of God in *our* lives.

And yet, exercising faith can seem overwhelming. At times we may wonder if we can possibly muster enough faith to receive the blessings that we so desperately need. However, the Lord put those fears to rest through the words of the Book of Mormon prophet Alma.

Alma asks us simply to *experiment* upon the word and “exercise a *particle* of faith, yea, even if [we] can no more than desire to believe.”⁶ The phrase “particle of faith” reminds me of the Lord’s biblical promise that if we “have faith as a *grain of mustard seed*,” we shall be able to “say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and *nothing shall be impossible unto [us]*.”⁷

The Lord understands our mortal weakness. We all falter at times. But He also knows of our great potential. The mustard seed starts small but grows into a tree large enough for birds to nest in its branches. The mustard seed represents a small but *growing* faith.⁸

The Lord does not require *perfect* faith for us to have access to His *perfect* power. But He does ask us to believe.

My dear brothers and sisters, my call to you this Easter morning is to *start today* to increase your faith. Through your faith, Jesus Christ will increase your ability to move the mountains in your life,⁹ even though

your personal challenges may loom as large as Mount Everest.

Your mountains may be loneliness, doubt, illness, or other personal problems. Your mountains will vary, and yet the answer to each of your challenges is to increase your faith. That takes work. Lazy learners and lax disciples will always struggle to muster even a particle of faith.

To do anything well requires effort. Becoming a true disciple of Jesus Christ is no exception. Increasing your faith and trust in Him takes effort. May I offer five suggestions to help you develop that faith and trust.

First, **study**. Become an engaged learner. Immerse yourself in the scriptures to understand better Christ's mission and ministry. Know the doctrine of Christ so that you understand its power for your life. Internalize the truth that the Atonement of Jesus Christ applies to *you*. He took upon Himself *your* misery, *your* mistakes, *your* weakness, and *your* sins. He paid the compensatory price and provided the power for you to move

every mountain you will ever face. You obtain that power with your faith, trust, and willingness to follow Him.

Moving your mountains may require a miracle. Learn about miracles. Miracles come according to your faith in the Lord. Central to that faith is trusting His will and timetable—how and when He will bless you with the miraculous help you desire. Only *your* unbelief will keep God from blessing you with miracles to move the mountains in *your* life.¹⁰

The more you learn about the Savior, the easier it will be to trust in His mercy, His infinite love, and His strengthening, healing, and redeeming power. The Savior is never closer to you than when you are facing or climbing a mountain *with faith*.

Second, choose to **believe** in Jesus Christ. If you have doubts about God the Father and His Beloved Son or the validity of the Restoration or the veracity of Joseph Smith's divine calling as a prophet, *choose* to believe¹¹ and stay faithful. Take your questions to the Lord and

to other faithful sources. Study with the desire to *believe* rather than with the hope that you can find a flaw in the fabric of a prophet's life or a discrepancy in the scriptures. Stop increasing your doubts by rehearsing them with other doubters. Allow the Lord to lead you on your journey of spiritual discovery.

Third, **act** in faith. What would you do if you had *more* faith? Think about it. Write about it. Then *receive more* faith by doing something that *requires more* faith.

Fourth, **partake of sacred ordinances** worthily. Ordinances unlock the power of God for your life.¹²

And fifth, **ask** your Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, for help.

Faith takes work. Receiving revelation takes work. But "every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."¹³ God knows what will help your faith grow. Ask, and then ask again.

A nonbeliever might say that faith is for the weak. But this assertion overlooks the *power* of faith. Would the Savior's Apostles have continued to teach His doctrine after His death,



Brazil



Philippines



England

at the peril of their lives, if they had doubted Him?¹⁴ Would Joseph and Hyrum Smith have suffered martyrs' deaths defending the Restoration of the Lord's Church unless they had a sure witness that it was true? Would nearly 2,000 Saints have died along the pioneer trail¹⁵ if they did not have faith that the gospel of Jesus Christ had been restored? Truly, faith is the power that *enables* the unlikely to accomplish the impossible.

Do not minimize the faith you already have. It takes faith to join the Church and remain faithful. It takes faith to follow prophets rather than pundits and popular opinion. It takes faith to serve a mission during a pandemic. It takes faith to live a chaste life when the world shouts that God's law of chastity is now outmoded. It takes faith to teach the gospel to children in a secular world. It takes faith to plead for the life of a loved one and even more faith to accept a disappointing answer.

Two years ago, Sister Nelson and I visited Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, and Tahiti. Each of those island nations had experienced heavy rains for days. Members had fasted and prayed that their outdoor meetings would be protected from the rain.

In Samoa, Fiji, and Tahiti, *just* as the meetings began, the rain stopped. But in Tonga, the rain did *not* stop. Yet 13,000 faithful Saints came hours early to get a seat, waited patiently through a steady downpour, and then sat through a very wet two-hour meeting.

We saw vibrant faith at work among each of those islanders—faith sufficient to stop the rain and faith to persevere when the rain did not stop.

The mountains in our lives do not always move how or when we would like. But our faith will *always* propel us forward. Faith *always* increases our access to godly power.

Please know this: if everything and everyone else in the world whom you trust should fail, Jesus Christ and His Church will *never* fail you. The Lord never slumbers, nor does He sleep.¹⁶ He “is the same yesterday, today, and [tomorrow].”¹⁷ He will not forsake His covenants,¹⁸ His promises, or His love for His people. He works miracles today, and He will work miracles tomorrow.¹⁹

Faith in Jesus Christ is the *greatest power* available to us in this life. All things are possible to them that believe.²⁰

Your *growing* faith in Him will move mountains—not the mountains of rock that beautify the earth but the mountains of misery in your lives. Your *flourishing* faith will help you turn challenges into unparalleled growth and opportunity.

On this Easter Sunday, with my deep feelings of love and gratitude, I declare my witness that Jesus Christ is indeed risen. He is risen to lead His Church. He is risen to bless the lives of all of God's children, wherever they live. With faith in Him, we can move the mountains in our lives. I so testify in the sacred name of Jesus Christ, amen. ■

NOTES

1. In some parts of the world, people use a unique and special way of exchanging greetings on Easter morning. In their local language, the greeter will say, “Christ is risen!” The greeted person then responds, “Truly! He is risen!” For example, the exchange of Easter greetings by Russian speakers begins with “Христос воскрес” (Christ is risen [resurrected!]), answered by “Воистину! воскрес!” (Truly! He is risen!).
2. See Mosiah 2:41.
3. Hebrews 11:6. *Lectures on Faith* states that faith “is the first great governing principle which has power, dominion, and authority over all things” ([1985], 5).
4. See Matthew 11:28–30; Alma 7:12–13; Ether 12:27.
5. Moroni 10:7; emphasis added.
6. Alma 32:27; emphasis added.
7. Matthew 17:20, emphasis added; see also Helaman 12:9, 13.
8. See Doctrine and Covenants 78:17–18. The reward for putting off the natural man is to become “a saint through the atonement of Christ the Lord” (Mosiah 3:19).
9. See 1 Nephi 7:12.
10. See Mormon 9:19–21; Ether 12:30.
11. See 2 Nephi 33:10–11.
12. See Doctrine and Covenants 84:20.
13. Matthew 7:8.
14. Without the power of faith, would Abinadi have suffered death by fire for refusing to deny what he knew to be true? (see Mosiah 17:7–20). Without that power, would Ether have hidden in the cavity of a rock (see Ether 13:13–14) and Moroni endured years of loneliness (see Moroni 1:1–3) when their lives could have been much more comfortable if they had only denounced what they believed?
15. See Melvin L. Bashore, H. Dennis Tolley, and the BYU Pioneer Mortality Team, “Mortality on the Mormon Trail, 1847–1868,” *BYU Studies*, vol. 53, no. 4 (2014), 115.
16. See Psalm 121:4.
17. Mormon 9:9.
18. See Isaiah 54:10; 3 Nephi 22:10.
19. See Mormon 9:10–11, 15.
20. See Mark 9:23.