



Elder Robert C.  
Gay  
*Of the Seventy*

In his Church assignments, Elder Robert Christopher Gay often speaks of the message of Jesus Christ as “a gospel of deliverance.”

“That’s what we’ve seen and experienced all our lives,” Elder Gay said, referring to himself and his wife, Lynette Nielsen Gay. “We worship the God of deliverance: spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional. Through the Atonement of Christ, all our burdens may be lifted. Through Him, we find the strength, peace, and grace needed to endure life’s trials and return to our Heavenly Father.”

Elder Gay derives his greatest satisfaction from the humanitarian service he and Sister Gay have been blessed to render, both abroad and closer to home. For example, before and after serving as president of the Accra Ghana Mission from 2004 to 2007, he and Sister Gay worked in African villages and elsewhere to build schools and medical clinics and help develop literacy and micro-loan programs. Organizations they cofounded with other associates have helped lift millions of the poor around the globe.

Born in September 1951 in Los Angeles, California, USA, to Bill and Mary Gay, he was introduced to his future wife by a mutual high school friend whom they later helped into the Church. They married in the Los Angeles California Temple in April 1974 and have seven children.

Elder Gay earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Utah and a doctorate from Harvard University, where he also taught economics.

Involved in the private equity industry for over 25 years, Elder Gay has worked internationally to invest in and grow businesses.

At the time of his call to the First Quorum of the Seventy, he was serving as an Area Seventy in the North America Southeast Area. In addition to serving a full-time mission to Spain from 1971 to 1973, Elder Gay has served as a bishop’s counselor, high counselor, high priests group leader, Gospel Doctrine teacher, ward mission leader, and ward Young Men president. ■



Elder Scott D.  
Whiting  
*Of the Seventy*

Elder Scott Duane Whiting believes that his opportunities in life to be of service to God were based on a few major decision points.

Born in April 1961 to Duane and Beverly Whiting, Elder Whiting grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. He feels his first major decision was to serve a mission, followed closely by the decision of how long to serve. Due to circumstances of the time, Elder Whiting had the choice of serving 18 months or two years. “My decision to serve an extra 6 months was profound in preparing me for later service in the Church,” he said.

After completing his service in the Japan Tokyo North Mission, he met his future wife, Jeri Olson, through a mutual friend. The choice to marry her was another crucial decision. They were sealed in the Salt Lake Temple in April 1984.

After completing a bachelor’s degree in Japanese at Brigham Young University, Elder Whiting later earned a juris doctorate from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Another major decision Elder Whiting made was when he accepted a call, extended by Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, to serve as a bishop. Elder Ballard asked him if he would see his responsibilities through. He gave the Apostle his word, and though more lucrative job opportunities arose that would have required a move, Elder Whiting honored his promise.

His service helped him develop a passion for “going into the homes of less-active members and helping them renew or make covenants with God.”

The Whitings have five children. Prior to his call to the First Quorum of the Seventy, he worked for a real estate investment company in Hawaii. Elder Whiting has served as elders quorum president, bishop, high counselor, stake Young Men president, stake president, and Area Seventy. ■