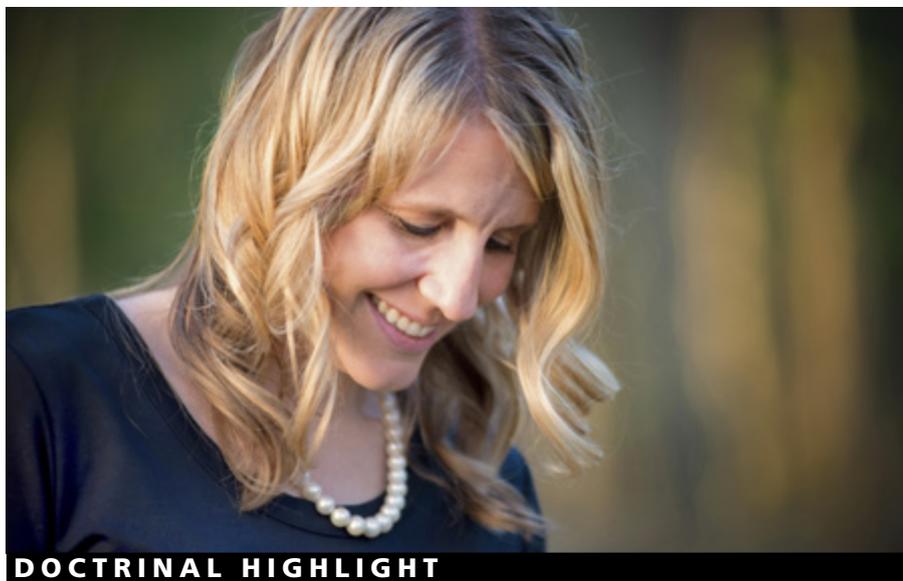


OCTOBER 2016 CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK

“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 October 2016 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.



Joy Is Key to Our Spiritual Survival

When the focus of our lives is on God’s plan of salvation . . . and Jesus Christ and His gospel, we can feel joy regardless of what is happening—or not happening—in our lives. . . .

“ . . . His joy is constant, assuring us that our ‘afflictions shall be but a small moment’ [D&C 121:7] and be consecrated to our gain. . . .

“ . . . As in all things, Jesus Christ is our ultimate exemplar, ‘who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross’ [Hebrews 12:2]. Think of that! In order for Him to endure the most excruciating experience ever endured on earth, our Savior focused on *joy!* . . .

“If we look to the world and follow its formulas for happiness, we will never know joy. . . . Joy is a gift for the faithful.”

President Russell M. Nelson, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Joy and Spiritual Survival,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2016, 82, 83, 84.

PROPHETIC PROMISE



TWO THINGS THAT FAITH CANNOT DO

1. “Our Father in Heaven . . . will not force anyone to choose the path of righteousness. God did not force His own children to follow Him in the premortal world. How much less will He force us now as we journey through this mortal life?

“God will invite, persuade. God will reach out tirelessly with love and inspiration and encouragement. But God will never compel—that would undermine His great plan for our eternal growth. . . .

2. “Faith cannot . . . force our will upon God. We cannot force God to comply with our desires—no matter how right we think we are or how sincerely we pray. . . .

“No, the purpose of faith is not to *change* God’s will but to empower us to *act on* God’s will. Faith is trust—trust that God sees what we cannot and that He knows what we do not.”

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Second Counselor in the First Presidency, “Fourth Floor, Last Door,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2016, 16, 17.



EXTEND CHARITY TO OTHERS

“Jesus Christ is the perfect embodiment of charity. . . .

“ . . . We want to use the light of the gospel to see others as the Savior does—with compassion, hope, and charity. The day will come when we will have a complete understanding of others’ hearts and will be grateful to have mercy extended to us—just as we extend charitable thoughts and words to others. . . .

“Our obligation and privilege is to embrace improvement in *everyone* as we strive to become more like our Savior, Jesus Christ.”

Jean B. Bingham, First Counselor in the Primary General Presidency, “I Will Bring the Light of the Gospel into My Home,” *Ensign*, Nov. 2016, 6, 8.

Becoming a Better Member Missionary

President Thomas S. Monson said in the October 2013 general conference:

“Now is the time for members and missionaries to come together. . . . [The Lord] will assist us in our labors if we will act in faith to fulfill His work.”

Two Apostles encouraged us to become better member missionaries. Use the November 2016 issue or visit conference.lds.org to read what they said.

—See Neil L. Andersen, “A Witness of God,” 35.

—See Dallin H. Oaks, “Sharing the Restored Gospel,” 57.

CONFERENCE STORIES

Turning Points

Use the November 2016 issue or visit conference.lds.org to read what changed these lives.

- What did President Henry B. Eyring learn about the Aaronic Priesthood when he was a priest? —See “That He May Become Strong Also,” 75.
- What did Elder Dale G. Renlund learn about repentance when he was 12? —See “Repentance: A Joyful Choice,” 121.
- How did Elder Gary E. Stevenson gain his testimony of the Book of Mormon? —See “Look to the Book, Look to the Lord,” 44.
- What did Elder Craig C. Christensen do as a seminary student that changed the way he reads the Book of Mormon? —See “A Choice Seer Will I Raise Up,” 27.



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