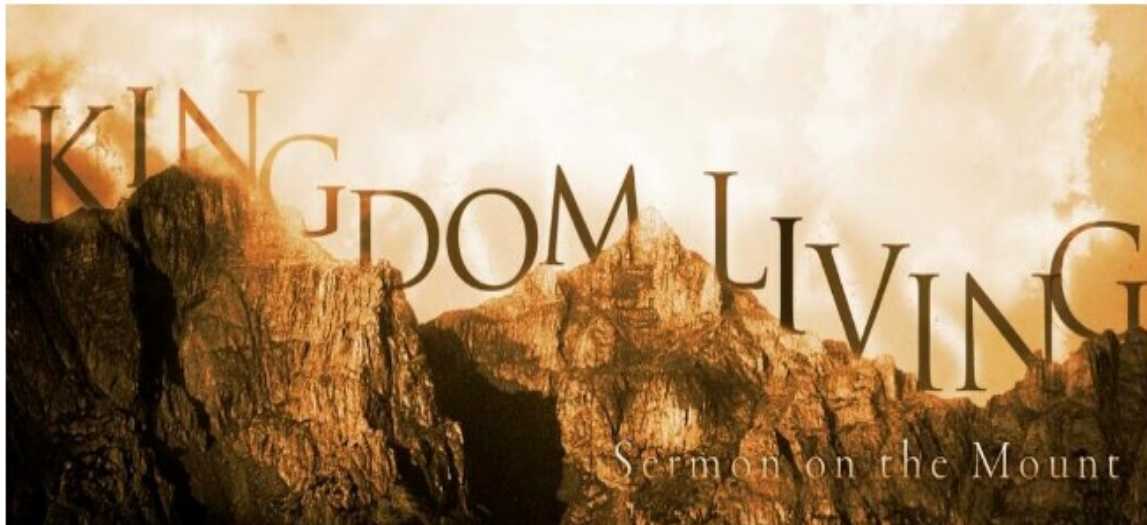


## DAILY LIVING OUT THE KINGDOM AGENDA IN OUR LIVES

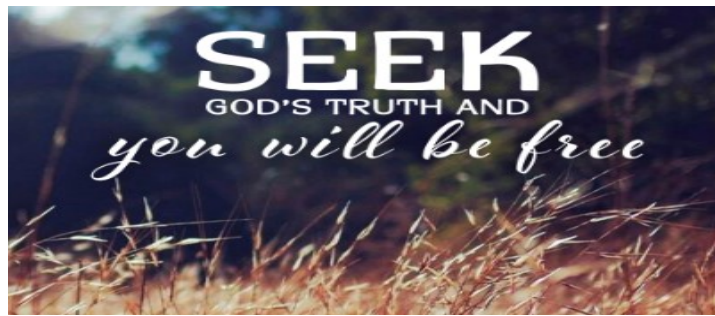


### PEACE & TRUTH

I picked up my daily devotional book and I came across a devotion that I know God directed me to. “Pause and take some time – if only a minute to pray, ponder and hope for peace. That silent minute could be just what you need to renew your intent to pursue peace of mind, peace of conscience, peace in your relationships and peace in the world around you.”

At that moment I felt that advice was needed not just for me but for everyone. Peace seems to be a rare commodity in the world we live in. I believe the mainstream media is definitely at fault for that. Their objective is definitely not designed to bring us peace, but fear and chaos. There are alternative news sources that will tell you the truth about what is really going on if you truly want to search out the truth.

Truth should never be subject to the whims of public opinion. It endures across the centuries and around the world. With the lack of it, ideals like integrity and decency become rarer. With its virtues like kindness and compassion, it has the power to touch human hearts at any age. Everlasting truths remain true throughout the ages.



**John 8:31-32** “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him: If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

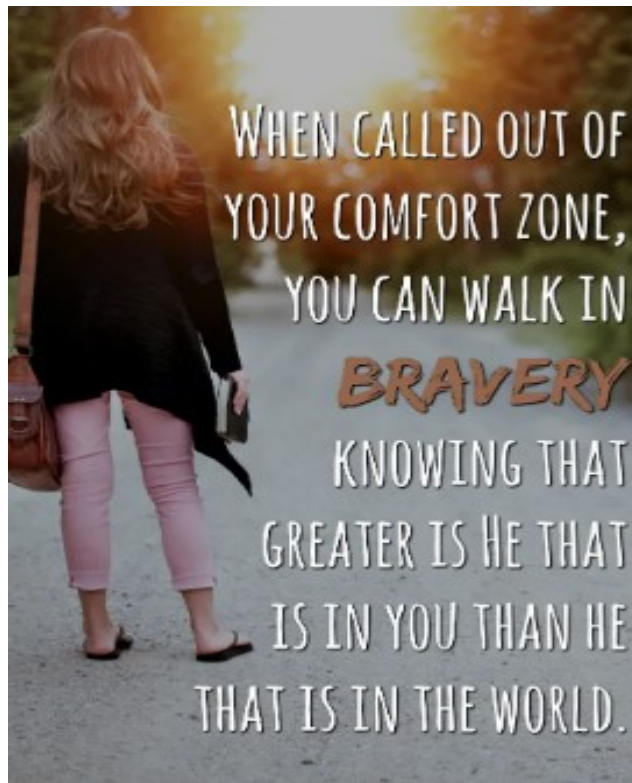
Truth is a rare commodity in the world we live in. It is something we need to actively seek. If we are unsure of the validity of something go to His Word. God will never lead us astray.

If we search for the truth we will find peace and that will reflect in the way we see the world and the way the world sees us. Remember, there is nothing we encounter in life that we, with God's help, can't handle.

**Philippians 4:6-7** “Be afflicted for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

We should pray and ask God for grace, discernment, wisdom and courage. With these vital attributes we can deal with the inevitable changes in the wind that accompany our life's journey.

Are we willing to adjust our lives and do whatever is necessary to reach our goal? Most of us live very comfortable lives. Are we willing to burst the bubble that we live in and try and make our world a better place? We live in a world of ups and downs, light and dark, good and bad. Much of life is unpredictable, but we can always count on the God of the universe to notice us, to care about us, and to be willing to guide us along the winding pathway of life.



**Remember, the way we grow spiritually is to get out of our comfort zone. If you feel God is calling you to do something, but even the thought of it sends chills down your spine, take hold of God's hand and do it.**

**Mosiah 9:40 "Stand as witnesses of God at all times, and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life."**

**Philippians 4:8-9 "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just; whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace shall be with you."**

## PRAYER



**Hymn - "BE WITH ME, LORD" - "Be with me, Lord, wherever I go; teach me what thou wouldest have me do; suggest whatever I think or say; direct me in the narrow way. Prevent me lest I harbor pride, lest I in mine own strength confide; show me my weakness, let me see I have my power, my all from Thee."**

**LAST VERSE "Oh, may I ever do Thy will, and Thine and only Thine fulfill; let all my time and all my ways be spent and ended to Thy praise. Amen"**

**I believe this song says it all. God loves us so much and He is always here for us to guide and direct us, give us clarity of thought, patience, strength and, most importantly, His love. He will never forsake us. He watches over us 24/7. No matter our status or history, no matter our past or present, no matter our social standing, or net worth, we each have infinite worth to God.**

**Even when no one else knows what we're going through, He knows; and even when we feel invisible, He sees us. Aren't we glad we have a God that never forsakes us and helps us through all the ups and downs of life?**

**1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 "Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."**

## STRENGTH



Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengthneth me."

Recently I saw a show about some pioneers going out west. They had a vision to make the world a better place for their families and the generations to come. Despite hardships, they persisted and pushed forward to an unseen future, visible only with the eye of faith. If they didn't have that vision firmly fixed in their minds and hearts they would probably never have started on that journey as they knew there were many hardships ahead of them.

Zion is our vision and our goal. We know there will be many trials ahead of us – do we really want to achieve that goal despite hardships, or, not even try? We need to know without a shadow of a doubt that no matter what stumbling blocks are placed in our lives that God will see us through and enable us to reach our goal. That doesn't mean it's going to be easy; but, with God by our side, we will be able to see our vision come to fruition.

1 Chronicles 16:11 "Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his face continually."

Matthew 11:29-30 "Then spake Jesus, saying, Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls; for my yoke is easy and my burden is light."



**St. Augustine once said “Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.”**

**With God by our side no task is too great. When we go about our daily lives we should always ask God to go with us to guide and direct us, strengthen us, give us discernment and help us to see ourselves and others as He sees us. No matter what we are faced with, His word will give us guidance, peace and comfort.**

### **RIGHTEOUSNESS**



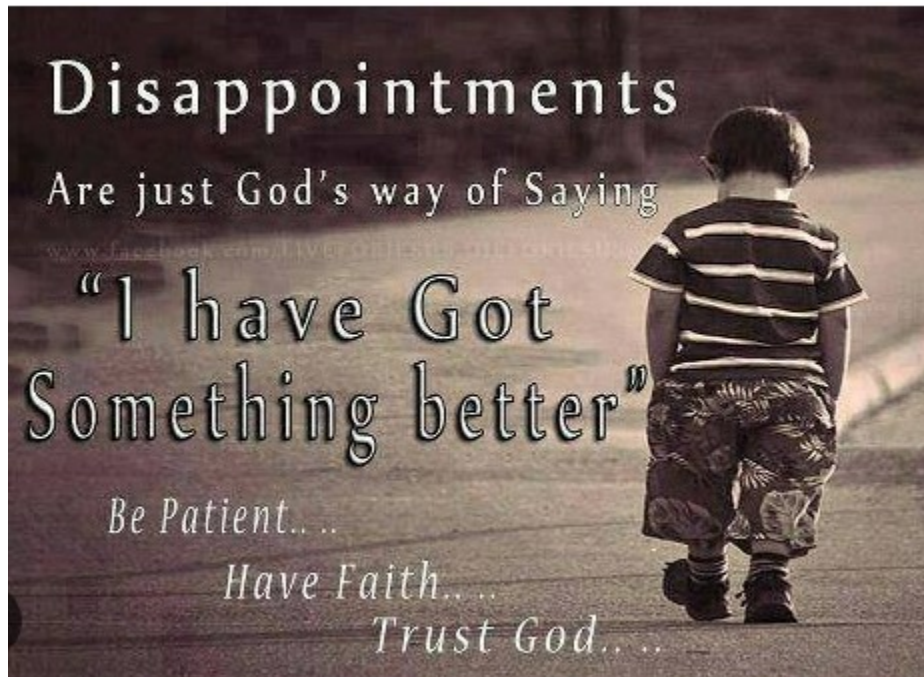
**We need to become a righteous people. Righteousness is based on God's moral standard. When a person puts God first in his life, he is considered righteous.**

**Psalm 64:10 “The righteous shall be glad in the Lord, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.”**

**Psalm 51:10 “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”**

**Isaiah 32:17 “The work of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.”**

## FAITH



Satan is the great deceiver. If we don't have faith in God, and know He wants the best for us, we could be deceived.

Isaiah 5:20 "Woe to them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.

John 8:31-32 "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, if ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Hebrews 1:1 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Joshua 1:9 "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

## SERVICE



We are truly blessed to know God and how much He loves us. Think what it is like for the many people in our world who don't know Him. When darkness descends upon them they don't know there's a light at the end of the dark tunnel, and that the light is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. We might be the only person who shares that light with them.

**Mark 12:35-36** “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first commandment. And the second is like this, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.”

It's not a coincidence that we have been placed here at this particular time and place for He has a design for each of our lives. Each of us are special and unique—with different gifts, talents and personality traits.

**Psalms 119:73** “Thy hands have made me and fashioned me . . .”

**Genesis 1:27** “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and it was so.”

**Psalms 139:14** “I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are thy works.”





That means we have been created to love ourselves and others, but what if we don't love ourselves. Something in our life may have made us feel less of a person or perhaps we feel our sins are so great that God could never use us to bring good.

**2 Corinthians 12:9-10** "My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

If we turn to God and repent we can start our lives anew. So, will we go back to our sinful lives, or create a new one where the love of the Lord radiates from us and speaks of His great love to others?

Each one of us were brought into this world to fulfill a purpose and to be of service. If you are not sure of that purpose, then pray this prayer:

"Father, I'm tired of going through life with no real purpose because it brings no glory to you . . . You created every living thing, including me, that they may bring You pleasure. I know that You have a specific job for me to do. Your Word says You formed me in the womb to be Your servant. I'm getting lots of input from other people, but I need to know the path You have chosen for me. Help me to stop ignoring and minimizing the gifts and talents You have invested in me; acting like they are of no significance. I know we are called to serve and I need Your help to discern who, where, when and how I should serve. I want to

do what You have destined me to do and not be sidetracked by wrong priorities, busy work or other people's desires and demands. At the end of my life I want to be able to look back and say like Jesus, "I brought glory to You here on earth by doing everything You told me to do."

There is so much joy that comes from being of service to others.



1 Corinthians 13:3-8 "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind, charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up; doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth..."

This says to me that we are to love and be charitable to all people and to not be a respecter of persons. We need to stop being judgmental and see others through God's eyes.

Mosiah 2:37 "And if ye judge the man who putteth up his petition to you for your substance that he perish not, and condemn him, how much more just will be your condemnation for withholding your substance, which doth not belong to you, but to God to whom also, your life belongeth."

Hebrews 13:2 "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unaware."

**D&C 58:6d-f “Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness; for the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves. And inasmuch as men do good, they shall in nowise lose their reward. But he that doeth not anything until he is commanded, and receiveth a commandment with doubtful heart, and keepeth it with slothfulness, the same is damned.”**

**D&C 23:4a “For thou shalt devote all thy service in Zion. And in this thou shalt have strength.”**

**D&C 142:5b “It is yet day when all can work. The night will come when for many of my people opportunity to assist will have passed.”**

**3 Nephi 5:63 “Therefore let your light so shine before this people, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”**

**Mosiah 2:28-31 “And also, ye yourselves will succor those that stand in need of your succor; ye will administer of your substance unto him that standeth in need; and ye will not suffer that the beggar putteth up his petition to you in vain, and turn him out to perish. Perhaps thou shalt say the man has brought upon himself his misery; therefore I will stay my hand and will not give unto him of my food, nor impart unto him of my substance, that he may not suffer, for his punishments are just. But I say unto you, O man, whosoever doeth this, the same hath great cause to repent and except he repenteth of that which he hath done, he perisheth for ever; and hath no interest in the Kingdom of God.”**