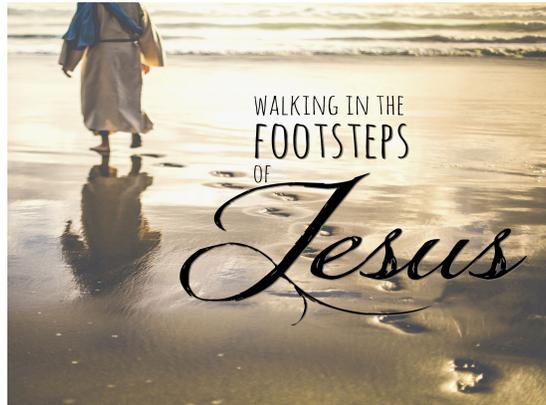


Fall Class October 13, 2020, Handout #1
WALKING IN JESUS' FOOTSTEPS



1 Peter 2:21

For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us,
Leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps.

We Find His Footsteps In The Word of God

Alma 17:78-81 78 And now my son, I would that ye should understand that these things are not without a shadow; for as our fathers were slothful to give heed to this compass, (now these things were temporal), they did not prosper; even so it is with things which are spiritual. **79** For behold, it is as easy to give heed to the word of Christ, which will point to you a straight course to eternal bliss, as it was for our fathers to give heed to this compass, which would point unto them a straight course, to the Promised Land. **80** **And now I say, Is there not a type in this thing? For just as surely as this director did bring our fathers, by following its course, to the promised land, shall the words of Christ, if we follow their course, carry us beyond this vale of sorrow, into a far better land of promise. 81** **O my son, do not let us be slothful because of the easiness of the way; for so was it with our fathers; for so was it prepared for them, that if they would look, they might live; even so it is with us.**

Psalms 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.

Hebrews 5:13-14 13 For everyone that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness; for he is a babe. **14** **But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age,** even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Matthew 4:4 But Jesus answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword.

1 Nephi 3:68 And it came to pass that I beheld that the rod of iron, which my father had seen, was the word of God.

2 Nephi 13:30 Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life.

Nephi 14:4 Wherefore, I said unto you, Feast upon the words of Christ **for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do.**

Isaiah 59:14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

My Personal Testimony of the Power of The Word

JESUS WAS AND IS THE EMBODIMENT OF THE WORD

In Sept. of 2007, I was studying for a class and the scripture in **John 1:1-5** seemed to come alive and even though I had read it many times previously, I understood it in a new way. It is hard for me to express the full concept that was impressed upon my mind concerning the Word of God, but I have developed this handout to try and put it into a more concrete and understandable form.

The word of God is an actual living force. The word lives. It is alive. The word is made alive by the very power of the Holy Spirit, which Holy Spirit is a part of the Godhead and is the mind, strength, force & energy and the will of God. The word of God is light and truth, power and authority. Jesus Christ is a part of the Godhead and is the very embodiment of the word, and He is the word of God. Through the Holy Spirit, the word of God when we read it, hear it, and receive it, actually becomes a living force within us. It has the power to nourish us and strengthen us, guide and direct us and change us etc. etc. That is why we are told to feast upon the word. The words of God not only become a living force within us, but even a part of us. Christ comes and lives in us and dwells in us, through the word.

The following scriptures may help to clarify the above statement:

In **Acts 7:12** we are told that the words of God are lively oracles. In Greek this means that they live and are alive and quick.

1 Peter 1:23-25 tells us being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, **by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.** For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away; **but the word of the Lord endureth for ever.** And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

John 6:63 Jesus said, **The words I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the gospel preached through the Son. And **the gospel was the word, and the word was with the Son, and the Son was with God, and the Son was of God.** The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made which was made. In Him was the gospel, and the gospel was the life, and the life was the light of men; And the light shineth in the world, and the world perceiveth it not.

D&C 90:1d-g And he bore record saying, I saw His glory that he was in the beginning before the world was; therefore, **in the beginning the Word was; for He was the Word, even the messenger of salvation, the light and the Redeemer of the world; the Spirit of truth; who came into the world because the world was made by Him; and in Him was the life of men and the light of men. The worlds were made by Him. Men were made by Him. All things were made by Him, and through Him, and of Him.** And I, John bear record that I beheld His glory, as the glory of the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth; even the Spirit of truth which came and dwelt in the flesh, and dwelt among us. Also see **D&C 85:2.**

In this experience I had the impression that the word is:

1. A Creative Force
2. Love
3. Light
4. Power
5. Life/Bread of Life
6. Truth
7. Faith/Verification of God

If we desire to follow Jesus we must feast upon His words for they will show us the right pathway that leads to eternal life. Just as food is essential for our physical growth the word of God is necessary for our spiritual growth. Through the reading of the word our Faith is given life, strength and substance. When read and meditated upon the word of God becomes a living force in our lives. God's words are a source of light, truth, and knowledge of things as they were, as they are and as they are to come. By the reading of the word Jesus becomes a living presence within us and a powerful force in our lives.

READ THE WORD!!



Fall Class October 13, 2020, Handout #2
WALKING IN JESUS' FOOTSTEPS



Peter Tells Us to be Without Guile
Then He Calls Us to Become LIVELY STONES

1 Peter 2:5-9 **5** Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. . . . **9** But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

To be “Real Followers of Christ” we must become Lively Stones! The lively stones and jewels, and the stones in the Lords crown are all symbols for His saints who are active and willing to serve the Lord. They are the soldiers in the army of the Lord. They are the ones who are going to, with their might, to bring forth the very cause of Zion. They are the Lord’s chosen and peculiar people. Chosen for heavy responsibility, chosen to go forth and work, to sacrifice and establish the Kingdom of God.

Word Study

Lively Stones: (Greek 2198) To Live, Quick, Alive, Vibrant, Life-Time, Enduring (to the end)

Jewels: (Hebrew 5459) Peculiar Treasure

Peculiar People: (Greek, wide application 4047 & 4160 & 4238) Work, Band Together, Commit, Journey, Continue, Without Delay, Perform, Raise Up, Accomplish, Use Arts (talents)

Royal Priesthood: (Greek 934 & 935) Foundation of Power

Spiritual House: (Greek 4151 & 4152) Holy Spirit (comes in degrees: breath, breeze, blast)

Chosen Generation: (Greek 1537 & 1586 & 1588) Exceedingly, Abundantly Above, Very Highly

Holy Nation & Holy Priesthood: (Greek 39 & 40) Consecrated, Religious, Pure, Blameless, Holy Place, Sanctuary

Stones of a Crown: (Hebrew 68 & 1129) To Build, To Repair, To Set Up

Zechariah 9:16 And the Lord their God shall save them in that day as the flock of His people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land.



Malachi 3:17-18 **17** And they shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. **18** Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not.

O YE THAT EMBARK IN THE SERVICE OF GOD

D&C 4:1-2:

1a Now behold, a marvelous work is about to come forth among the children of men;

1b therefore, O ye that embark in the service of God, see that ye serve Him with all your heart, might, mind, and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day;

1c therefore, if ye have desires to serve God, ye are called to the work, for, behold, the field is white, already to harvest;

1d and lo, he that thrusteth in his sickle with his might, the same layeth up in store that he perish not but bringeth salvation to his soul;

1e and faith, hope, charity, and love, with an eye single to the glory of God, qualifies him for the work.

2a Remember: faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, brotherly kindness, godliness, charity, humility, diligence.

2b Ask and ye shall receive; knock and it shall be opened unto you. Amen.

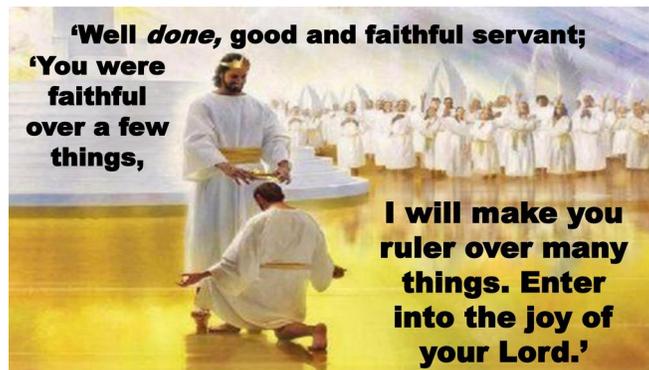
A COMMANDMENT GIVEN

D&C 38:9c And again I say unto you, I give unto you a commandment, that every man, both elder, priest, teacher, and also member, go to with his might, with the labor of his hands, to prepare and accomplish the things which I have commanded.

MEN SHOULD BE ANXIOUSLY ENGAGED

D&C 58:6d 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.

WHO THEN IS A FAITHFUL AND WISE SERVANT?



Matthew 24:50-55:

50 But know this, if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to have been broken up; but would have been ready.

51 Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh.

52 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

53 Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when He cometh shall find so doing;

54 And, verily I say unto you, He shall make him ruler over all his goods.

55 But if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My Lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to smite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; the Lord of the servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for Him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and shall appoint him his portion with the hypocrites; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

A TIME TO MOVE OUT IN FAITH

2 Kings 3:16-20:

16 And he said, Thus saith the Lord, Make this valley full of ditches.

17 For thus saith the Lord, Ye shall not see wind; neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink—both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.

18 And this is but a light thing in the sight of the Lord; . . .

20 And it came to pass in the morning, when the meat offering was offered, that, behold, there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.

Joshua 3:13-17

13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon a heap. . . .

15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest),

16 That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon a heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan; and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed and were cut off; and the people passed over right against Jericho.

17 And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan; and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

My sisters it is time for us to rise up and become the lively stones that God has called us to be. It is time to go to work and, “dig the ditches and put our feet in the water” as it were, and move out of our comfort zones. It is time to have a living faith that believes if we move out in service to Him, He will provide exactly what we need. Indeed, believe and trust that He will fill our ditches with water and even part the waters when needed. Let us not be discouraged, fearful or asleep, but let us awake and go to with all our might in service to our God and our King and assist Him in laying the foundation of Zion. This is our role in the Army of God, in this the last days. Are you ready to go to with all your might? Time is short and the work must hasten. Now is the time. Indeed we are running out of time. We must not delay one moment longer.

--Pat Chadwick

THE HASTENING TIME

D&C 132:4 “1915” Everywhere the demand for great activity exists. . .

D&C 138:3a-e “1940” Let the church...be admonished that the task of establishing Zion presses heavily upon us...To lay securely the foundations for Zion and her buildings, the work should be accomplished in peace and harmony. Unity should prevail. To this end, all the Saints should work together in the rich fraternity which can and will prevail among them when they keep faithfully the commandments. Great blessings are in store for the church if it will in faith and saintly devotion go forward in its tasks.

D&C 140:5c-d “1947” The work of preparation and the perfection of my Saints go forward slowly, and Zion conditions are no further away nor any closer than the spiritual condition of my people justifies; but my word shall not fail, neither will my promises, for the foundation of the Lord standeth sure.

D&C 141:5 & 7-8 “1948” The hastening time is upon us; ... My servants should not become weary of well-doing. The adversary is quick to discourage and thus destroy their effectiveness. The church is admonished again that joint responsibility is laid on all.

Isaiah 52:1-3:

1 Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

2 Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem; loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.

3 For thus saith the Lord, Ye have sold yourselves for naught; and ye shall be redeemed without money.