

NORTH CANYON 5TH WARD SPIRE

When was the last time you experienced a miracle?

Before you answer, it may help to define what a miracle is. I have heard them defined as the manifestations of God's influence in our life. If that be the case, we are surrounded by miracles—most of which we probably don't even recognize. But aren't miracles more than just that?

The Bible Dictionary provides the following insights:

“. . . Miracles should not be regarded as deviations from the ordinary course of nature so much as manifestations of divine or spiritual power. Some lower law was in each case superseded by the action of a higher. . . Miracles were and are a response to faith and its best encouragement. They were never wrought without prayer, felt need, and faith.

It is important to notice the different names by which miracles are described. They are called signs, as being visible tokens of an invisible power; they are powers or mighty works, because they are the acts of One who is almighty; they are simply works, or the natural results of the Messiah's presence among men; they are wonders, marvels, because of the effect produced on those who saw them. . .

Miracles are a part of the gospel of Jesus Christ. If miracles cease it is because faith has ceased.”

Wait, what? If miracles cease, it says, it is because faith has ceased. So faith is critical to bringing about miracles in our lives? This, of course, leads me to look up faith in the Bible Dictionary as well. There it reads, “Where there is true faith there are miracles, visions, dreams, healings, and all the gifts of God that He gives to His saints.”

Does that mean we are not experiencing miracles because we lack faith? Or are we experiencing miracles in response to our faith, but just not recognizing them?

As one who is seeking specific miracles and healings, does the key lie in developing, strengthening and sustaining faith in Jesus Christ? If so, how do we do this? How do we increase our faith in Jesus Christ? Well, if faith is a principle of action, then I assume there are some things we must do. Maybe the small and simple things we strive to do each day, viz., pray sincerely, study the word of God, show kindness to others, serve selflessly, etc. qualify as the actions required to increase our faith in Jesus Christ.

“Now ye may suppose that this is foolishness in me; but behold I say unto you, that by small and simple things are great things brought to pass; and small means in many instances doth confound the wise.” Alma 37:6

Through small and simple acts, applied consistently over time, one can literally move mountains. I know this from experience and share it as my testimony in the name of Jesus Christ.

Randon Jensen – Bishopric 1st counselor

Come Follow Me

Hebrew Poetry as a New Friend

August

August 1-7

Job 1-3; 12-14; 19; 21-24; 38-40; 42

August 8-14

Psalms 1-2; 8; 19-33; 40; 46

August 15-21

Psalms 49-51; 61-66; 69-72; 77-78; 85-86

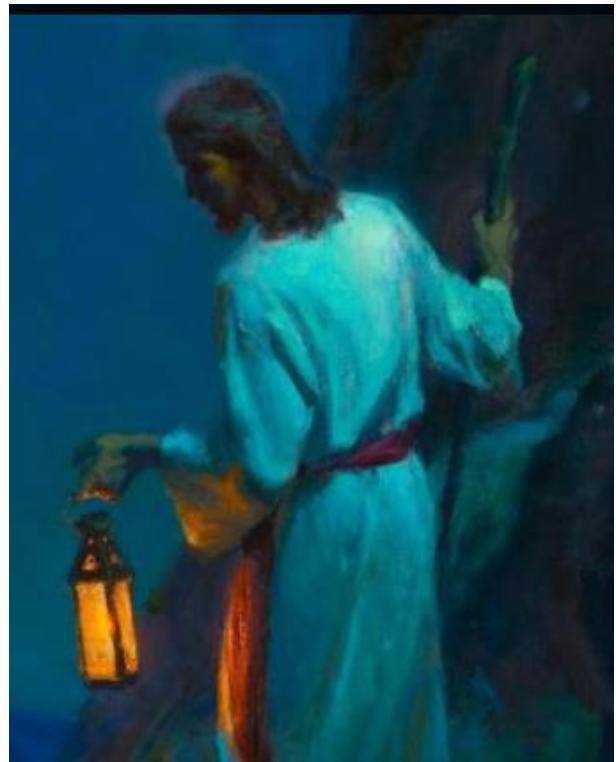
August 22-28

Psalms 102-103; 110; 116-119; 127-128; 135-139; 146-150

It may be helpful for you to compare reading poetry to meeting a new person. For example, you might compare reading Old Testament poetry to meeting someone from a distant country and foreign culture who doesn't speak the same language we do—and who happens to be over two thousand years old. This person will probably say things we don't understand at first, but that doesn't mean he or she has nothing valuable to tell us. With some patience and some compassion, our new acquaintance can eventually become a dear friend. We just need to spend some time together, trying to see things from his or her point of view. We may even find that in our hearts we actually understand each other quite well.



It's natural to wonder why bad things happen to good people—or for that matter, why good things happen to bad people. Why would God, who is just, allow that? Questions like these are explored through the experience of Job, one of those good people to whom bad things happened. Because of Job's trials, his friends wondered if he was really good after all. Job asserted his own righteousness and wondered if God is really just after all. But despite his suffering and wondering, Job maintained his integrity and faith in Jesus Christ. In the book of Job, faith is questioned and tested but never completely abandoned. That doesn't mean that all of the questions are answered. But the book of Job teaches that until they are answered, questions and faith can coexist, and regardless of what happens in the meantime, we can say of our Lord, "Yet will I trust in Him" (Job 13:15).



Relief Society

“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” (James 1:5)

President Nelson asks us: “What wisdom do you lack? What do you feel an urgent need to know or understand? Follow the example of the Prophet Joseph. Find a quiet place where you can regularly go. Humble yourself before God. Pour out your heart to your Heavenly Father. Turn to Him for answers and for comfort . . . Pray in the name of Jesus Christ about your concerns, your fears, your weaknesses—yes, the very longings of your heart. Then listen!” (Daily Joy, p. 245) As a young teen, I decided that I would do what I had been told in seminary, Sunday School, Sacrament Meeting and Young Women’s: that I should pray to know for myself if the Church was true. So, I chose a Fast Day to seek revelation on whether or not the Church was true. After church, but before I went to dinner with my family to break my fast, I went to my room, where I could be totally alone. I knelt down, and prayed to know if the Church was true with all my energy and heart. Many, many minutes went by, and I still didn’t feel that I had an answer to my prayers. Was Heavenly Father there? Couldn’t He hear me? After a little more than 45 minutes (which was a long time for me then), I was called to dinner. I wondered: why didn’t an angel come to advise me? Why didn’t I hear a voice speak to me? Or, at least, why didn’t words come to mind, or why did I not feel peace? I was sad and extremely disappointed. Time went on, even a couple of years. I kept attending my church meetings. During that time, I wondered why I hadn’t received that revelation I so desired. Then, I began to realize: I already had a testimony! It came quietly to my mind and heart, but I hadn’t recognized it. Over the many years, I have been blessed with answers to prayers and personal revelation. Sometimes that revelation comes through another person, through reading the scriptures and conference talks, during a church meeting, through music, through peace that speaks to my heart and mind, and, yes, occasionally, words that come into my mind, clearly and distinctly. Never have I seen a heavenly angel, but I have been ministered to by earthly angels. I know our Heavenly Father loves us, and that, through the gift of the Holy Ghost, we will be blessed with personal revelation that can come to us in many different ways, if we will just open our hearts and minds and LISTEN.

Leslie Hansen

We would like to inform you of some Relief Society and neighborhood events:

*Aarika Leavitt had a baby boy, and she, her husband, and their three children are moving to Nevada! We wish them well.

*Congratulations to Heather Peterson on the birth of her baby girl. Both mom and baby are doing well.

*Relief Society lessons for the month of August:

August 14--Lessons at the Well by Sister Susan Porter

August 28--Our Heartfelt All by Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf

*The Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, August 10 at noon in the Young Women's room.

*The Relief Society annual end of summer picnic will be held September 1 at 6:30 PM in Sister Joyce Craig's yard.

*Save Saturday, October 8th for the Relief Society Super Saturday at the church. More information will be forthcoming.



Primary

Sarah Goldman was baptized on June 4, 2022. Stevie Hansen and Nora Harker were baptized on July 9, 2022. We are so proud of them for choosing to become members of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.



The primary had an Old Testament activity. The children received passports and Adventure satchels and were able to walk around the church and learn about some Old Testament heroes. They met Moses, Jonah, Ruth and many others. It was a great activity full of fun and adventure!

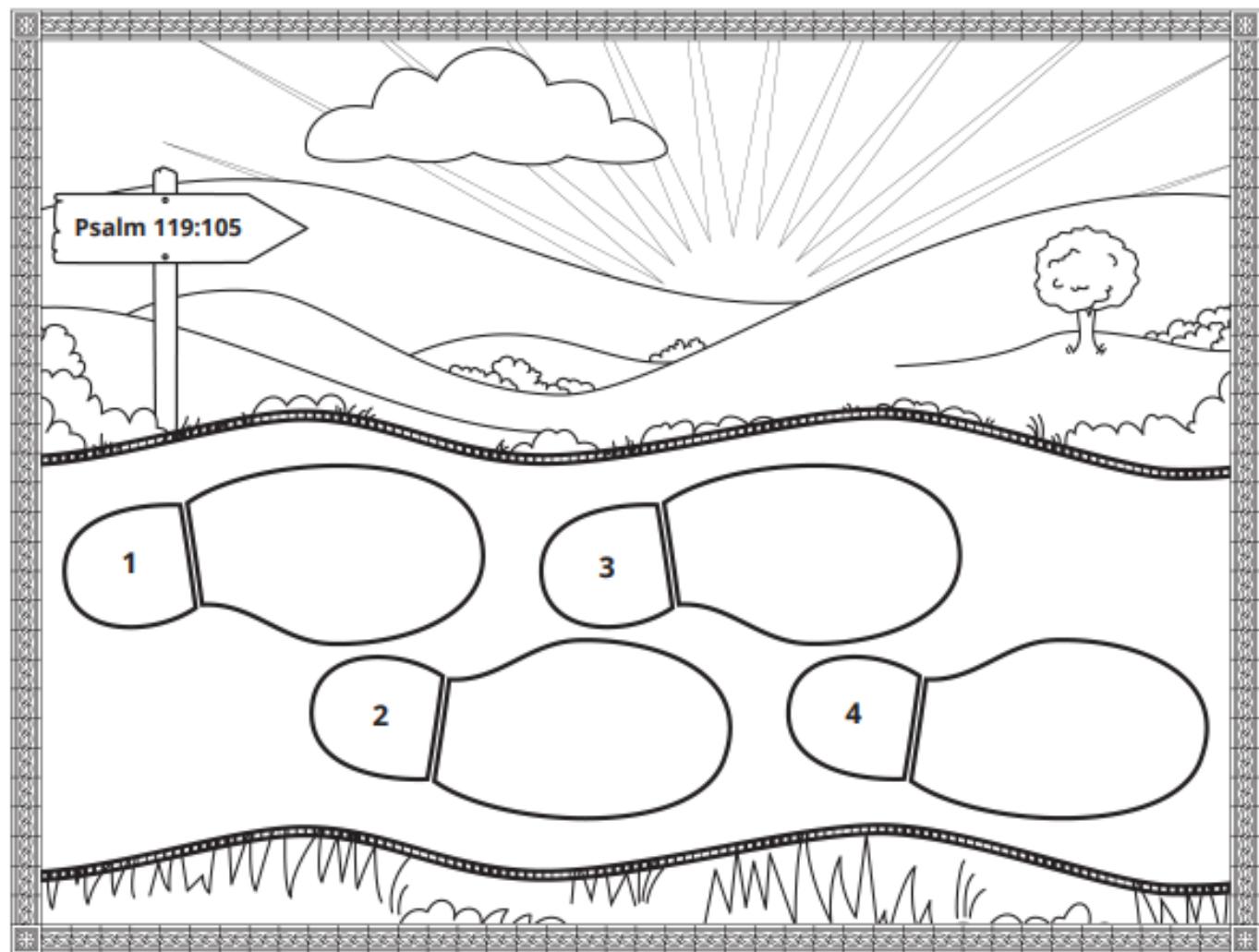




God's word is like a light (Psalm 119:105).

Color the pictures, and cut out the four oval pictures on the dotted lines.

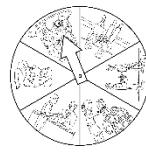
Read Psalm 119:105, and paste the oval pictures into the footsteps
in the order you find them in the verse.



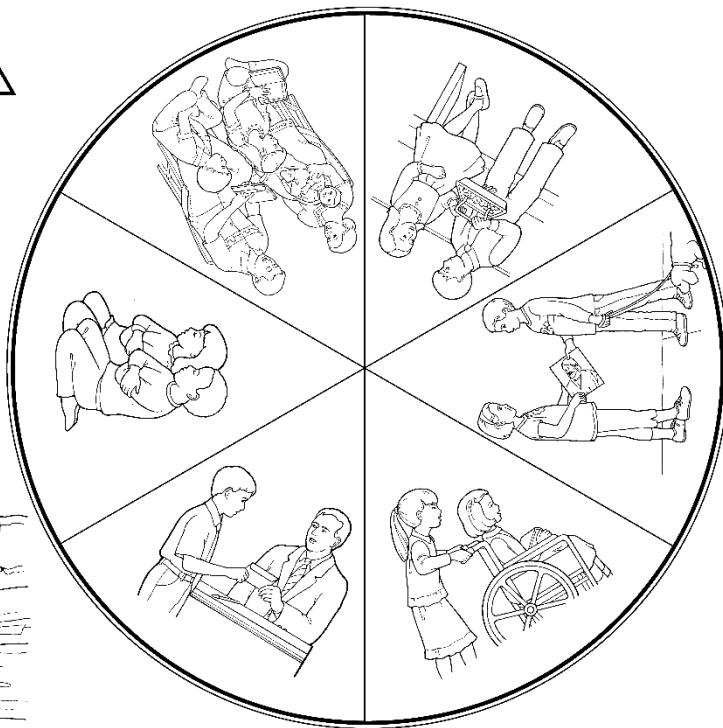
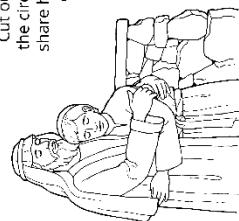
Happy Birthday!



August 1 Melissa Meldrum Matthew Morrill Joseph West	August 9 Elaine Thompson Emily Vedaa	August 16 Jessica Freebairn Darrin Thiriot	August 23 Luke Hansen
August 4 Vivie Jensen	August 11 Curt Hansen Dylan Hansen	August 17 Darryl Brown Jared Gardner	August 24 Ava Gardner
August 5 Julie Hansen	August 12 Kay Gerber	August 18 Rodger Calder	August 25 Aliya Sorenson
August 6 Kaitlyn Meldrum	August 14 Thea Erickson Stacey Steckler	August 19 Saydee Schnebly	August 26 Winston Petersen
August 7 Faye Anderson Ryan Sorenson	August 15 Leo Samuelsen	August 21 Joshua Hansen	August 28 Darrin Applegate Lorenzo Hansen
			August 31 Jasmine Porter



Abraham obeyed the Lord (Genesis 22:1-14).
Cut out the arrow, and attach it to the middle of the circle. Turn the arrow around to a picture, and share how you can obey the Lord by following the commandment shown in the picture.



Thoughts to Sustain us

