

The Wind Did Never Cease to Blow

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Of the Seventy

Saan a Pulos a Nagsardeng ti Puyupoy ti Angin

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Ti Pitupulo

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We can help others progress in their journey to receive God's blessings.

In 2015, in the state of Pernambuco, Brazil, 62 members of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society cooperated with the state Prosecutor's Office in investigating the legal challenges of residents in four different nursing homes. For five hours one Saturday, these attorneys interviewed over 200 residents one by one, each of whom had been functionally forgotten by society.

During their interviews, they discovered several crimes that had been committed against the elderly residents, such as abandonment, mistreatment, and misappropriation of funds. A key pillar of this law society is to care for the poor and in need. Just two months later, the prosecutor successfully filed charges against the responsible parties.

Their assistance is a perfect example of King Benjamin's teaching "that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God."

One resident I personally interviewed during the pro bono project was a kindhearted 93-year-old woman named Lúcia. Grateful for our service, she jokingly exclaimed, "Marry me!"

Surprised, I responded: "Look over there at that beautiful young woman! She is my wife and the state prosecutor."

She quickly fired back: "So what? She is

Matulongantayo dagiti dadduma a dumur-as iti panagdaliasatda nga umawat kadagiti bendision ti Dios.

Idi 2015, iti estado ti Pernambuco, Brazil, 62 a miembro ti J. Reuben Clark Law Societyti nakitinnulong iti estado ti Prosecutor's Office iti panag-imbestiga kadagiti legal a parikut dagiti residente iti uppat a nagduduma a nursing home. Iti uneg ti lima nga oras iti maysa a Sabado, ininterbyu dagitoy nga abogado ti nasurok a 200 a residente asaggaysa, a nabaybay-an ken nalipatanen ti kagimongan ti tunggal maysa kadakua-da.

Kabayatan dagiti interbyuda, naduktalanda dagiti krimen a naaramid a maibusor kadagiti nataengan a residente kas iti panangbaybay-an, panagmaltrato, ken panagdispalko kadagiti pondo. Ti maysa a napateg a panggep daytoy a paglintegan ti kagimongan dagiti abogado ket tapno maaywanan dagiti napanglaw ken agkasapulan. Kalpasan ti dua a bulan laeng, sibaballigi a nangidarum ti piskal maibusor kadagiti responsible a partido.

Ti panangtulongda ket maysa a naan-anay a pagarigan ti pannursuro ni Ari Benjamin "a no agserbikayo iti padayo a tao agserserbikayo laeng iti Dios."

Maysa ti personal nga ininterbyuk bayat ti proyekto a pro bono ket maysa a naasi nga agtawen iti 93 a baket nga agnagan iti Lúcia. Gapu ta agyamyaman iti serbisiomi, agang-angaw nga impukkawna, "Ikallaysanak!"

Nasdaawak, insungbatko: "Kitaem ti napintas a balasang sadiay! Isu ti asawak ken piskal ti estado."

Napardas a simmungbat iti: "Ania koma?"

young, pretty, and can easily get married again. All I have is you!”

The wonderful residents did not have all their problems solved that day. They undoubtedly continued to experience hardship from time to time like the Jaredites in their boats on the challenging journey to the promised land, “buried in the depths of the sea, because of the mountain waves which broke upon them.”

But that Saturday, the nursing home residents knew that regardless of their earthly anonymity, they were known personally by a loving Heavenly Father, One who responds to even the simplest of prayers.

The Master of masters caused “a furious wind” to blow the Jaredites toward promised blessings. Similarly, we can decide to serve as a humble gust of wind in the Lord’s hands. Just as “the wind did never cease to blow” the Jaredites toward the promised land, we can help others progress in their journey to receive God’s blessings.

Several years ago, when Chris, my dear wife, and I were interviewed for my calling as bishop, our stake president asked me to prayerfully consider names to recommend as counselors. After hearing the names I recommended, he said I should know a few things about one of the brethren.

First, this brother could not read. Second, he didn’t have a car he could use to visit members. Third, he always—always—used sunglasses at church. Despite the president’s honest concerns, I felt strongly that I should still recommend him as my counselor, and the stake president supported me.

The Sunday my counselors and I were sustained in sacrament meeting, the surprise on the members’ faces was evident. This dear brother slowly made his way up to the stand, where the overhead lights reflected brightly across his sunglasses.

As he sat by my side, I asked him, “Brother, do you have problems with your vision?”

Ubing pay, napintas, ken nalaka a makaasawa manen. Sika ti amin nga adda kaniak!”

Saan a narisut tiamina parikut dagiti nasisingpet nga umili iti dayta nga aldaw. Saan a mapagduaduaan a nagtultuloy a napasaranda ti rigat iti sagpaminsan a kas kadagiti Jaredite kadagiti bilogda iti narigat a panagdaliasat a mapan iti naikari a daga, a “nairareb iti tukot ti baybay, gapu kadagiti kasla bantay a dalluyon a naisapliti kadakuada.”

Ngem iti dayta a Sabado, ammo dagiti residente ti nursing home a nalipatan man ida ti kagimongan, personal nga am-ammo ida ti managayat a Nailangitan nga Ama, Maysa a sumungbat uray dagiti kasimplean a kararag.

Pinataud ti Apo dagiti appo iti “napigsa nga angin” a nangipuyupoy kadagiti Jaredite nga agturong kadagiti naikari a bendision. Kasta met, mabalintayo nga ikeddengti agserbi a kas nanumo nga angin kadagiti ima ti Apo. Kas met laeng iti “saan a nagsardeng iti panagpuyupoy ti angin” kadagiti Jaredite nga agturong iti naikari a daga, makatulongtayo kadagiti dadduma a dumur-as iti panagdaliasatda tapno maawatda dagiti bendision ti Dios.

Sumagmamano a tawen ti napalabas, idi nainterbyukami iti patpatgek nga asawak a ni Chris, para iti calling-ko a kas bishop, kiniddaw kaniak ti stake president-mi a sikakararag a mangpanunotak kadagiti nagan nga irekomendak kas mamagbaga. Kalpasan ti pannakangngagna kadagiti nagan nga inrekomentak, kinunana a nasken a maammuak ti sumagmamano a banag maipapan iti maysa kadagiti kakabsat a lallaki.

Umuna, saan a makabasa daytoy a kabsat a lalaki. Maikadua, awan ti luganna a mabalinna nga usaren a sumarungkar kadagiti miembro. Maikatlo, kanayon—kanayon—nga agusar iti anteohos a de-kolor (sunglasses) iti simbaan. Iti baet dagiti napudno a pakaseknan ti presidente, napigsa ti riknak a nasken latta nga irekomendak isuna a kas mamagbagak, ket sinuportarannak ti stake president.

Iti Domingo a nakanunongannak ken dagiti mamagbagak iti miting ti sakramento, makita ti siddaaw kadagiti rupa dagiti miembro. Nainnayad a nagna a napan iti sango daytoy maipatpateg a kabsat a lalaki, a sadiay a naganninaw kadagiti anteohosna a de-kolor ti raniag dagiti silaw iti ngato.

Bayat ti panagtugawna iti abayko, dinamagko kenkuana, “Kabsat, adda kadi problemam iti

“No,” he said.

“Then why do you use sunglasses at church?” I asked. “My friend, the members need to see your eyes, and you must be able to see them better too.”

In that moment, he took off his sunglasses and never used them at church again.

This beloved brother served at my side until my release as bishop. Today, he continues to serve faithfully in the Church and is an example of dedication and commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. And yet, years ago, he was an unknown sunglass-wearer sitting essentially forgotten in the pews of the chapel. I often wonder, “How many faithful brothers and sisters sit forgotten among us today?”

Whether we are well-known or forgotten, trials will inevitably come to each one of us. As we turn to the Savior, He can “consecrate [our] afflictions for [our] gain” and help us respond to our trials in a way that facilitates our spiritual progression. Whether for nursing home residents, a misjudged Church member, or anyone else, we can be “the wind [that] did never cease to blow,” bringing hope and guiding others to the covenant path.

Our beloved prophet, President Russell M. Nelson, made an exciting and inspiring invitation to the youth: “I reaffirm strongly that the Lord has asked every worthy, able young man to prepare for and serve a mission. For Latter-day Saint young men, missionary service is a priesthood responsibility. ... For you young and able sisters, a mission is also a powerful, but optional, opportunity.”

Every day, thousands of young men and women answer the Lord’s prophetic call by serving as missionaries. You are brilliant, and as President Nelson has said, you can “have more impact on the world than any previous genera-

panagkitam?”

“Awan,” kinunana.

“No kasta apay nga agus-usarka iti anteohos a de-kolor iti simbaan?” Dinamagko. “Gayyem-ko, kasapulan a makita dagiti miembro dagiti matam, ket nasken a nasaysayaat met a makitam ida.”

Iti dayta a kanito, inikkatna ti anteohosna a de-kolor ket saannan nga inusar manen daytoy iti simbaan.

Nagserbi daytoy ay-ayaten a kabsat a lalaki iti sibayko agingga iti pannaka-release-ko kas bishop. Ita, agtultuloy nga agserbi a sipupud-no iti Simbaan ken isu ti maysa a pagwadan ti kinaanep ken panagkumit ken ni Apo Jesucristo. Ngem, sumagmamano a tawen ti napalabas, isu ket maysa a saan nga am-ammo a nakasuot iti anteohos a de-kolor (sunglasses) a nalipatanen ken nakatugaw kadagiti bangko ti chapel. Masansan a mapanunotko, “Mano kadi dagiti napudno a kakabsat a lallaki ken babbai a nalipatanen a kaduatayo ita?”

Datayo man dagiti am-ammo unay wenno nalipatanen, saan a maliklikan a sumangbay dagiti pannubok iti tunggal maysa kadatayo. No umasidegtayo iti Mangisalakana, mabalinna nga “ikonsagrar dagiti rigat[tayo] para iti pagimbagan[tayo]” ken matulongannatayo nga agresponde kadagiti pannuboktayo iti wagas a makatulong iti naespirituan a panagdur-astayo. No para man kadagiti residente ti nursing home, iti maysa a miembro ti Simbaan a saan a husto a nakedngan, wenno iti siasinoman, makapagbalintayo nga “angin [a] saan nga agsardeng nga agpuyupoy,” a mangmangyeg iti namnama ken pangiwanwan kadagiti dadduma a mapan iti dana ti katulagan.

Nangaramid ti ay-ayatentayo a propeta, ni Presidente Russell M. Nelson, iti makapagagar ken makaparegta nga awis kadagiti agtutubo: “Patalgedak manen a sititibker ti kiniddaw ti Apo ititunggalmaikari, makabael a barito nga agsagana ken agserbi iti mision. Para kadagiti babbarito a Santo iti Ud-udina nga Aldaw, pagrebbengan iti priesthood ti panagserbi kas misionario. ... Para kadakayo nga agtutubo ken makabael a babbal-asitang, napintas met ti mision, ngemopsional, a gundaway.”

Inaldaw, rinibu a babbarito ken babbal-asitang ti sumungbat iti awag ti propeta ti Apo babaen ti panagserbida kas misionario. Nalalaing kayo, ket kas iti kinuna ni Presidente Nelson, makapagbalinkayo a “nasamsamay iti

tion!”Of course, that does not mean you will be the best version of yourself the moment you step foot in the missionary training center.

Instead, you might feel like Nephi, “led by the Spirit, not knowing beforehand the things which [you] should do. Nevertheless [you] went forth.”

Perhaps you feel insecure like Jeremiah did and want to say, “I cannot speak: for I am a child.”

You might even see your personal shortcomings and want to cry out like Moses did: “O my Lord, I am not eloquent ... : but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.”

If any of you beloved and mighty young men and women is having a thought like this right now, remember that the Lord has answered, “Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee.” And He promises, “Therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.”

Your transformation from your natural to spiritual self will occur “line upon line, precept upon precept” as you earnestly strive to serve Jesus Christ in the mission field through daily repentance, faith, exact obedience, and hard work to “find constantly, teach repentance, and baptize converts.”

Though you wear a name tag, sometimes you may feel unrecognized or forgotten. However, you must know that you have a perfect Heavenly Father, who knows you personally, and a Savior, who loves you. You will have mission leaders who, despite their imperfections, will serve you as “the wind [that] did never cease to blow” in guiding you along your journey of personal conversion.

In the “land that floweth with milk and honey” you will serve in on your mission, you will be spiritually reborn and become a lifelong disciple of Jesus Christ as you draw near to Him. You can come to know that you are never forgotten.

lubong ngem iti asinoman nga immun-una a kaputotan!” Siempre, saanna a kayat a sawen a dakayo ti agbalin a kalalaingan a bersion tibagiyoiti kanito a pumaddakkayo iti missionary training center.

Ngem ketdi, mabalin a mariknayo kas iti narikna ni Nephi, “inturong ti Espiritu, nga idi damo saanyo pay nga ammo dagiti banag a nasken nga aramiden [yo]. Nupay kasta napan [kayo].”

Nalabit a mariknayo ti pagkurangan iti bagiyo kas ken ni Jeremias ket kayatyo nga ibaga, “Diak ammo ti agsarita: ta ubingak pay.”

Mabalin a makitayo pay ketdi dagiti personal a pagkuranganyo ket kayatyo ti umararaw a kas ken ni Moises: “O Apok, saanak a nalaing nga agsao ... : ngem nabuntogak nga agsarita, ken nabeddal ti dilak.”

No asino man kadakayo a maipatpateg ken makabael nga agtutubo a lallaki ken babbai ti agpampanunot iti kastoy ita, laglagipenyo a simmungbat ti Apo, “Dimo kunaen, nga ubingka unay: inka ketdi kadagiti tao a pangibaonak kenka” Ket ikarina, “Ala, inkan, tulongankanto nga agsao, ket isuroka no anianto ti sawem.”

Mapasamakto ti panagbalbaliwyo, manipud iti nailubongan a kinataoyo nga agbalin iti naespirituan a kinataoyo “iti tunggal bina-tog, iti tunggal pammilin” bayat ti sipapasnek a panangikagumaanyo nga agserbi ken ni Jesucristo iti tay-ak ti mision babaen ti inaldaw a panagbabawi, pammati, awan duadua a panagtulnog, ken napinget a panagtrabahotapno “kanayon nga agsapsapul, mangisuro iti panagbabawi, ken mangbuniag kadagiti mapasurot.”

Nupay nakasuotkayo iti name tag, no daduma mabalin a mariknayo a dikayo nabigbig wenno nalipatanen. Nupay kasta, nasken nga ammoyo nga addaankayo iti naan-anay a Nailangitan nga Ama, a personal nga am-ammonakayo, ken maysa a Mangisalak, a mangipatpateg kadakayo. Maaddaankayto kadagiti mission leader nga, iti baet ti saanda a panagbalin a perpekto, agserbidanto kadakayo a kas “ti angin [a] saan a pulos a nagsardeng nga agpuyupoy” iti panangituron kadakayo iti panagdaliasatyo iti personal a pannakapasurotyo.

Iti “daga a pagayusan ti gatas ken diro ti uyokan” agserbikayonto iti misionyo, mayanakkayto manen a naespirituan ken agbalinkayo a disipulo ni Jesucristo iti tungpal biag no umasidegkayo Kenkuana. Maammuanyonto a saankayo a mali-

Though some may wait “a long time” for relief, for they “have no man” that can yet help, the Lord Jesus Christ has taught us that no one is ever forgotten by Him. On the contrary, He was a perfect example of seeking out the one in every moment of His mortal ministry.

Each of us—and those around us—faces our own storms of opposition and waves of trials that submerge us daily. But “the wind [will not] cease to blow towards the promised land ... ; and thus [we shall be] driven forth before the wind.”

Each of us can be a part of this wind—the same wind that blessed the Jaredites in their journey and the same wind that, with our help, will bless the unrecognized and forgotten to reach their own promised lands.

I testify that Jesus Christ is our Advocate with the Father. He is a living God and acts as a strong wind that will always guide us along the covenant path. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

patan iti kaano man.

Nupay mabalin nga aguray dagiti dadduma iti “nabayag a panawen ” iti gin-awa, gapu ta “awan ti tao” a makatulong pay kadakuada, insuro kadatayo ni Apo Jesucristo nga awan ti asino man a nalipatanna. Maisupadi iti daytoy, Isu ti naan-anay a pagwadan ti panagsapsapul iti maysa a tao iti tunggal kanito ti mortal a panag-ministrana.

Tunggal maysa kadatayo—ken dagidiay adda iti aglawlawtayo—ket maipasango kadagiti bukodtayo a bagyo ti pagsusupadian ken dagiti daluyon ti pannubok a mangilumlom kadatayo iti inaldaw. Ngem “ti angin [saanto] nga agsardeng nga agpuyupoy nga agturong iti naikari a daga ... ; ket iti kasta [mayabognatayonto] ti angin.”

Mabalin a paset ti tunggal maysa kadatayo daytoy nga angin—ti isu met la nga angin a nangbendision kadagiti Jaredite iti panagdaliasatda ken ti isu met nga angin a, babaen ti tulongtayo, ket mangted iti bendision kadagiti saan a mabigbig ken nalipatantapno makadanon iti bukodda a naikari a daga.

Paneknekak a ni Jesucristo ti Mangibabaet kadatayo iti Ama. Isu ti sibibiag a Dios ken agtignay a kas napigsa nga angin a kanayonto a mangiwanwan kadatayo iti dana ti katulagan. Iti nagan ni Jesucristo, amen.