

Days Never to Be Forgotten

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Siku Ambazo Kamwe Hazitasahaulika

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Upcoming moments will provide members of the Church everywhere with increased opportunities to share the glad tidings of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Nyakati zijazo zitawapa waumini wa Kanisa kila mahali ongezeko la fursa za kushiriki habari nje-ma za injili ya Yesu Kristo.

Introduction

My dear brothers and sisters, the history of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in this dispensation is resplendent with divine experiences that demonstrate how the Lord has guided His Church. There is one decade in our history, however, that stands strikingly supreme above any other—the decade from 1820 to 1830. Beginning with the Prophet Joseph Smith’s experience in the Sacred Grove in the spring of 1820, when he saw God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, and continuing until April 6, 1830, that decade is unlike any other.

Consider these remarkable events! The young prophet conversed with the angel Moroni, translated the gold plates, and published the Book of Mormon! He was the instrument through whom the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthoods were restored, and then he organized the Church! Oliver Cowdery described that era well: “These were days never to be forgotten.” Miraculous events have continued to this very day.

May I be so bold as to suggest that this year we have commenced a decade that may prove to be as momentous as any that has followed that unparalleled founding decade almost two centuries ago.

Our Decade

Let me explain. Between now, 2024, and

Utangulizi

Wapendwa akina kaka na akina dada, historia ya Kanisa la Yesu Kristo la Watakatifu wa Siku za Mwisho katika kipindi hiki ni nzuri kwa uzoefu wa kiungu ambao huonesha jinsi ambavyo Bwana ameliongoza Kanisa Lake. Hata hivyo, kuna muongo mmoja katika historia yetu, unasimama tofauti juu ya mingine yote—muongo kuanzia 1820 hadi 1830. Tukianza na uzoefu wa Nabii Joseph Smith katika Kijisitu Kitakatifu majira ya kuchipua ya 1820, wakati alipomwona Baba wa Mbinguni na Mwana Wake, Yesu Kristo, na kuendelea hadi Aprili 6, 1830, muongo huo ni tofauti na mwingine wowote.

Zingatia matukio haya ya kustaajibisha! Nabii kijana alizungumza na malaika Moroni, alitafsiri mabamba ya dhahabu na kuchapisha Kitabu cha Mormoni! Alikuwa chombo ambacho kupitia kwacho Ukuhani wa Haruni na Melkizedeki ulirejeshwa, na hapo alianzisha Kanisa! Oliver Cowdery alielezea vyema kipindi hicho: “Hizi zilikuwa siku ambazo kamwe hazitasahaulika.” Matukio ya kimiujiza yameendelea hadi leo.

Acha niwe jasiri kupendekeza kwamba mwaka huu tumeanza muongo ambao unaweza kuthibitisha kuwa muhimu sana kama vile wowote ule tangu muongo ule wa mwanzo takribani karne mbili zilizopita.

Muongo Wetu

Acha nifanue. Kati ya sasa 2024 na 2034,

2034, we will experience seminal events that will result in extraordinary opportunities to serve, to unite with members and friends, and to introduce The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to more people than ever before.

We just witnessed the power of a truly historic moment as we celebrated with tens of millions the 100th birthday of President Russell M. Nelson.

Reporting on President Nelson's birthday, Newsweek wrote a headline that read, "World's Oldest Religious Leader Turns 100." They then listed the world's 10 oldest faith leaders—with President Nelson first on a list that included Pope Francis and the Dalai Lama.

This statement from a New York Times article represents the spirit of much of the international coverage: "In a [United States] presidential election cycle that has prompted soul-searching about aging and leadership, Mr. Nelson's milestone suggests that, at least in his church, a triple-digit birthday does not merit much hand-wringing. He remains a popular figure among church members, who view their president not just as an executive but as a 'prophet, seer, and revelator.'"

How grateful we are that President Nelson's landmark birthday gave us an opportunity to introduce a global audience to a prophet of God, a celebration never to be forgotten.

Earlier this spring, a refurbished plaza on Temple Square—featuring a display of international flags representing countries where the Church is recognized—was unveiled. The plaza entrance is marked by a granite monument with these prophetic words: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it."

Surely, the monumental events that will occur during the next 10 years constitute one manifestation this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled.

Contemplate the unprecedented number of temple open houses and dedications that are planned to take place over the next decade, even the potential of 164 temples and counting. Imagine tens of millions of you and your friends walk-

tutapata uzoefu wa matukio muhimu ambayo yataleta fursa zisizo kifani za kutumikia, za kuunganana na waumini na marafiki na za kutambulisha Kanisa la Yesu Kristo la Watakatifu wa Siku za Mwisho kwa watu wengi zaidi kuliko hapo kabla.

Hakika tumeshuhudia hivi karibuni nguvu ya nyakati za kihistoria tuliposherehekea pamoja na makumi ya mamilioni kumbukizi ya miaka 100 ya kuzaliwa kwa Rais Russell M. Nelson.

Wakiripoti juu ya siku ya kumbukizi ya kuza-liwa kwa Rais Nelson, jarida la Newsweek walian-dika kichwa cha habari kilichosomeka, "Kiongozi wa Dini Mzee Zaidi Ulimwenguni Anafikisha Miaka 100." Kisha waliorodhesha viongozi 10 wa imani wazee zaidi ulimwenguni—Rais Nelson akiwa wa kwanza kwenye orodha ambayo iliwa-jumuisha Papa Francis na Dalai Lama.

Kauli hii kutoka makala ya New York Times shuwakilisha mtazamo wa habari nyingi za kimataifa: "Nchini [Marekani] mbio za uchaguzi wa urais ambazo zimechochea tafakuri kuhusu uzee na uongozi, safari ya bwana Nelson in-apendekeza kwamba, angalau katika kanisa lake, siku ya kuzaliwa yenye tarakimu tatu si suala la kuleta mawazo. Anabakia mtu maarufu kati ya waumini wa kanisa, ambao wanamwona rais wao si tu kama mtendaji bali kama 'nabii, mwonaji na mfunuzi.'"

Jinsi gani tuna shukrani kwamba ukumbusho wa siku ya kuzaliwa ya Rais Nelson umetupatia fursa ya kuitambulisha hadhira ya ulimwengu kwa nabii wa Mungu, maadhimisho ambayokam-we hayatasahaulika.

Mapema majira haya ya kuchipua, jengo lili-lofanyiwa ukarabati huko Temple Square—likiwa na maonyesho ya bendera za kimataifa zikiwakil-isha nchi ambapo Kanisa linatambulika—lilifun-guliwa. Njia ya kuingilia ina kielelezo cha mnara wa matale wenye maneno yafuatayo ya kinabii: "Na itakuwa katika siku za mwisho, kwamba mli-ma wa nyumba ya Bwana utawekwa imara juu ya milima, nao utainuliwa juu ya vilima; na mataifa yote watauendea makundi makundi."

Kwa kweli matukio ya kumbukumbu ambayo yatatukia kipindi cha miaka 10 ijayo yanajumui-sha dhihirisho moja kuwa unabii huu wa Isaya unatimia.

Tafakari idadi kubwa ya matembezi ya wazi kwa wote mahekaluni na uwekaji wakfu ambavyo vimepangwa kufanyika kwa muongo unaofuata, uwezekano mkubwa wa mahekalu 164 na zaidi. Fikiria makumi ya mamilioni ya ninyi na marafi-

ing through a house of the Lord. The symbolic center of these events will be the rededication of the Salt Lake Temple and the activities associated with it. These certainly will be days never to be forgotten.

The year 2030 will bring opportunities worldwide to commemorate the bicentennial of the organization of the Church. Although it is too early to say how the Church will recognize this milestone, it will certainly allow us to invite family, friends, colleagues, and distinguished guests to “come and see” and to better understand the powerful impact the Church has in the lives of Church members.

In 2034, thousands of dignitaries, visitors, and athletes from around the world will flood the streets of Salt Lake City, the stage for the Winter Olympic Games. There is perhaps no greater demonstration of worldwide unity than that embodied in the Olympic Games. The eyes of the world will be upon the Church and its members, affording a multitude of opportunities to volunteer, serve, and share glad tidings through kind deeds—an event never to be forgotten.

These upcoming moments will provide members of the Church everywhere with increased opportunities to share the glad tidings of the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and deed, a decade never to be forgotten.

Glad Tidings

In a meeting just weeks before his birthday, President Nelson shared the reason he cherishes the phrase “glad tidings.” On the face of it, he noted, the phrase rings of joy and happiness. But “glad tidings” conveys much more than that. He explained that this phrase comes from the original Greek *word*euangelion, which literally means the “good news” or the “gospel.” Happiness and joy in this life and the next are always linked with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Thus the phrase “glad tidings” captures this double meaning in a wonderful way.

“Men [and women] are, that they might have joy.” Heavenly Father has provided the plan of happiness that enables joy through His blessings. These include living in His presence eternally as families. The Atonement of Jesus Christ is central to God’s plan to redeem us. To receive eternal life, we must come unto Christ. As we do so “and

ki zenu mkitembea katika nyumba ya Bwana. Kiini cha kiishara cha matukio haya kitakuwa uwekaji wakfu upya wa Hekalu la Salt Lake na shughuli zinazohusiana na hili. Hizi hakika zita-kuwa siku ambazo kamwe hazitasahaulika.

Mwaka 2030 utaleta fursa ulimwenguni kote ya kukumbuka miaka mia mbili ya uanzishwaji wa Kanisa. Ingawa ni mapema kusema jinsi Kanisa litakavyotambua hatua hii kubwa, itaturuhusu kualika familia, marafiki, wafanyakazi wenza na wageni waalikwa “kuja na kuona” na kuelewa vyema matokeo yenye nguvu Kanisa iliyonayo katika maisha ya waumini wa Kanisa.

Mnamo 2034, maelfu ya waheshimiwa, wageni na wanariadha kutoka kote ulimwenguni watajaza mitaa ya Jiji la Salt Lake, jukwaa kwa ajili ya Michezo ya Olimpiki ya Majira ya Baridi. Pengine hakuna onyesho kubwa zaidi la umoja ulimwenguni kote zaidi ya lile linalodhihirishwa katika Michezo ya Olimpiki. Macho ya ulimwengu yatakuwa juu ya Kanisa na waumini wake, wakimudu fursa lukuki za kujitolea, kuhudumu na kushiriki habari njema kupitia matendo ya ukarimu—tukio ambalo halitasahaulika kamwe.

Hakika nyakati hizi zijazo zitawapa waumini wa Kanisa kila mahali ongezeko la fursa za kushiriki habari njema za injili ya Yesu Kristo kupitia maneno na matendo, muongo ambao hautasahaulika kamwe.

Habari Njema

Katika mkutano wiki chache kabla ya siku yake ya kuzaliwa, Rais Nelson alishiriki sababu ya yeye kuthamini kirai “habari njema.” Kwa kuliangalia tu neno, alisema, kirai kinaashiria shangwe na furaha. Lakini “habari njema” humaanisha mengi zaidi ya hilo. Alifafanua kwamba kirai hiki kinatoka kwenye neno la kiasili la Kigirikieuangelion, ambalo kiuhalisia humaanisha “habari njema” au “injili.” Furaha na shangwe katika maisha haya na yajayo mara zote imeunganishwa na injili ya Yesu Kristo. Hivyo kirai “habari njema” huchukua maana hizi mbili katika namna ya kupendeza.

“Wanaume [na wanawake] wapo, ili wapa-te shangwe.” Baba wa Mbinguni alitoa mpango wa furaha ambao huwezesha shangwe kupitia baraka Zake. Hizi ni pamoja na kuishi katika uwepo Wake milele kama familia. Upatanisho wa Yesu Kristo ni kiini kwenye mpango wa Mungu wa kutukombo. Ili kupokea uzima wa milele,

help others do the same, we participate in God's work of salvation and exaltation."

This message of the glad tidings of the gospel of Jesus Christ is the most important message on earth. And that is where the youth and young adults of the Church come in.

For the Strength of Youth

Now, while this upcoming decade may be filled with days never to be forgotten for every member of the Church, this especially can be true for you of the rising generation. You are here on earth now because you were selected to be here now. You have the strength and capacity to be disciples of Christ in an unprecedented way.

President George Q. Cannon taught, "God has reserved spirits for this dispensation who have the courage and determination to face the world and all the powers of the evil one [and to] ... build up the Zion of our God fearless of all consequences."

To that end, I wish to speak to you of the rising generation, to invite you to imagine how exciting this next decade, one never to be forgotten, can be for you. I also offer a few simple words of counsel and encouragement that may empower you during this coming decade.

Like many of you, I have a smartphone that, on occasion and without any prompt, pulls together a reel of photos showing what I was doing on a certain day. It is always surprising to see how much things have changed for me and my family in just a few years.

Picture the photos your phone will serve up 10 years from now! You may see yourself graduating from high school or college, receiving your endowment, going on a mission, getting married, and having your first child. For you personally, this will be a decade never to be forgotten. But it will be doubly so if you actively strive to become a light unto the world of how the glad tidings of the gospel of Jesus Christ can enrich and enhance not only your lives but also those of your family, friends, and social media followers.

You may be wondering how to do this.

ni lazima tuje kwa Kristo. Tunapofanya hivyo "na kuwasaidia wengine kufanya vivyo hivyo, tunashiriki katika kazi ya Mungu ya wokovu na kuinuliwa."

Ujumbe huu wa habari njema ya injili ya Yesu Kristo ni ujumbe muhimu zaidi duniani. Na hapo ndipo vijana na vijana wakubwa wa Kanisa wanapoingia.

Kwa Ajili ya Nguvu Kwa Vijana

Sasa, wakati muongo huu ujao unaweza kuwa umejaa siku ambazokamwe hazitasa-haulikakwa kila muumini wa Kanisa, hii inaweza kuwa kweli hususani kwenu ninyi kizazi kinachoinukia. Mpo hapa duniani sasa kwa sababu mlíchaguliwa kuwa hapa sasa. Mnazo nguvu na uwezo wa kuwa wanafunzi wa Kristo katika njia zisizo na kifani.

Rais George Q. Cannon alifundisha, "Mungu amehifadhi roho kwa ajili ya kipindi hiki cha maongozi ya Mungu ambazo zina ujasiri na ari ya kukabiliana na ulimwengu, na nguvu zote za mwovu [na] ... kuijenga Sayuni ya Mungu wetu bila kuhofia matokeo."

Kwa sababu ya hilo, ninatamani kuzungumza nanyi enyi wa kizazi kinachoinukia, kuwaalika kupata taswira ya jinsi muongo huu ujao wa kisisimua, usiosahaulika kamwe unavyoweza kuwakwenu ninyi. Ninatoa pia maneno rahisi ya ushauri na kutia moyo ambayo yatawawezesha katika kipindi cha muongo huu ujao.

Kama vile wengi wenu, nina simu janja ambayo, mara kadhaa na bila kuamrisha, huvuta pamoja mlolongo wa picha zikionesha kile nilichokuwa nikifanya siku fulani. Mara zote inashangaza kuona jinsi mambo yalivyobadilika kwangu na kwa familia yangu ndani ya miaka michache tu.

Picha ambazo simuyako itatunza kwa miaka 10 kuanzia sasa! Unaweza kujiona ukihitimu shule ya upili au chuo, ukipokea endaumenti yako, kwenda misheni, kufunga ndoa na kupata mtoto wa kwanza. Kwako binafsi, huu utakuwa muongo usiosahaulika kamwe. Lakini itakuwamara mbiliya hayo ikiwa kwa ari utajitahidi kuwa nuru ya ulimwengu ya jinsi habari njema ya Yesu Kristo inavyoweza kurutubisha na kustawisha si tu maisha yako bali yale ya familia yako, marafiki na wafuasi wa mitandao ya kijamii.

Unaweza ukawa unajiuliza jinsi ya kufanya hili.

Prophets of God have taught us this is done through four simple activities, referred to as divinely appointed responsibilities: first, living the gospel of Jesus Christ; second, caring for those in need; third, inviting all to receive the gospel; and fourth, uniting families for eternity. Remarkably, each can be done in the most normal and natural ways.

Divinely Appointed Responsibilities

I promise you this will be a decade never to be forgotten for you if you embrace these four divinely appointed responsibilities. Let's consider what this might entail.

First, live the gospel of Jesus Christ. Study the words of the prophets, and learn to love your Father in Heaven. Incline your hearts to Him, and strive to walk in His way. Be lifted by the "covenant confidence" that Elder Ulisses Soares has described. This confidence comes from making covenants to follow Jesus Christ, knowing that the Savior will in turn strengthen and support you.

Let your friends see the joy you feel in living the gospel, and you will be the best gospel message they ever receive.

Second, reach out in compassion to care for those in need. Your generation is unusually mindful of the less fortunate. Whenever disaster strikes and Church members rush to help clear away debris and comfort the afflicted, it seems the majority wearing "Helping Hands" T-shirts are teenagers and twentysomethings. It is in your nature "to bear one another's burdens" and "comfort those that stand in need of comfort." By doing this we "fulfill the law of Christ."

Evan, a young Primary-age boy, decided to spend his summer vacation from school gathering supplies for peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to donate to his local food bank. He found the project on the JustServe website. Young Evan enlisted his entire school class to help collect over 700 jars of jelly! Let the people you serve know that your concern for them is rooted in your love of God and your desire to treat your neighbor as yourself.

Third, invite all to receive the gospel. This year we opened 36 new missions worldwide to

Manabii wa Mungu wametufunza kwamba hili hufanyika kupitia shughuli rahisi, zinazojulikana kama majukumu matakatifu yaliyoainishwa: kwanza, kuishi injili ya Yesu Kristo; pili, kuwajali wenye mahitaji; tatu, kuwaalika watu wote waipokee injili; na nne, kuziunganisha familia kwa milele yote. Cha kustaajabisha, kila moja linaweza kufanywa katika njia za kawaida sana na za asili.

Majukumu Matakatifu Yaliyoainishwa

Ninawaahidi huu utakuwa muongo usiosahaulika kamwekwenu ikiwa mtakumbatia majukumu haya manne matakatifu yaliyoainishwa. Hebu tufikirie kile hii inachoweza kujumuisha.

Kwanza, ishi Injili ya Yesu Kristo. Jifunze maneno ya manabii, na jifunze kumpenda Baba yako wa Mbinguni. Funganisha moyo wako Kwake, na jitahidi kutembea katika njia Zake. Inuliwa na "ujasiri wa agano" ambao Mzee Ulisses Soares ameufanua. Ujasiri huu huja kutokana na kufanya maagano ya kumfuata Yesu Kristo, kwa kujua kwamba Mwokozi hatimaye atakuimarisha na kukuunga mkono.

Acha marafiki zako waone shangwe unayohisi katika kuishi injili na utakuwa ujumbe bora zaidi wa injili ambao watawahi kuupokea.

Pili, fikia kwa huruma ili kuwajali wenye mahitaji. Kizazi chenu kwa njia isiyo ya kawaida huwakumbuka sana wenye uhitaji. Popote majanga yanapotokea na waumini wa Kanisa wanapoharakisha kuondoa vifusi na kuwafariji wanaoteseka, inaonekana kwamba wengi wa waliovalia fulana za "Mikono ya Usaidizi" ni vijana na wale wa miaka ya ishirini. Ni asili yenu "kubeba mzigo wa mmoja na mwingine" na "kuwafariji wale wanaohitaji kufarijiwa." Kwa kufanya hili "tunatimiza sheria ya Kristo."

Evan, mvulana mdogo wa darasa la watoto, aliamua kutumia mapumziko yake ya kianzazi kwa kukusanya bidhaa kwa ajili ya mkate wenye karanga na jibini ili kutoa msaada kwenye hifadhi ya chakula ya eneo lake. Alipata mradi huo kwenye tovuti ya JustServe. Evan mdogo aliwaandikisha darasa lake lote la shuleni ku-saidia kukusanya chupa 700 za jibini! Waruhusu watu unaowatumikia wajue kuwa kuwajali kwako kuna kiini kwenye upendo wako kwa Mungu na tamaniyo lako la kumtendea jirani yako kama unavyojitendea.

Tatu, waalike wote waipokee injili. Mwaka huu tumefungua misheni mpya 36 ulimwenguni

accommodate all who desire to serve full-time missions. In an era when many youth are opting out of formal religious activity altogether, this is remarkable and speaks to the magnificent nature of your testimonies. Whether serving full-time or not, please realize your immense capacity to influence your peers as you love, share, and invite them to explore the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Fourth, unite families for eternity. As I visit temples around the world, I marvel at the standing-room-only crowds of youth waiting at the baptistry and the increased numbers of young adults serving as ordinance workers. Recently a group of over 600 youth from Scotland and Ireland traveled to the Preston England Temple, performing over 4,000 ordinances, many of which were for their personal deceased ancestors! I urge you to become engaged in family history, spend time in the temple, and carefully prepare yourself to be the kind of man or woman ready to marry an equally worthy companion in the temple. Develop a pattern in your lifenowto make the temple a regular part of your lives.

Conclusion

My beloved brothers and sisters, my dear young friends, there will likely be difficulties for each of us in the days ahead. However, as we enter this coming decade of unprecedented moments, may we share glad tidings through the simple activities of living, caring, inviting, and uniting. As we do so, the Lord will bless us with experiences never to be forgotten.

I testify that those who approach the Lord with a sincere heart and real intent, those who have the name of the Savior upon their lips and the Holy Spirit in their souls, those who embark upon this grand and glorious pilgrimage will discover and experience bounteous celestial blessings and receive a witness that God hears you, knows you, and loves you. You will experience days never to be forgotten. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

kote ili kuweza kuwapokea wote wanaotamani kutumikia misheni. Katika kipindi ambapo vijana wengi hujiondoa kwenye shughuli za pamoja za kidini, hii ni ya kustaajabisha na huelezea asili tukufu ya shuhuda zenu. Iwe mnatumikia muda wote ama la, tafadhali tambueni uwezo wenu mkubwa wa kushawishi makundi rika yenu kadiri mnavyowapenda, kushiriki na kuwaalika watafiti injili ya Yesu Kristo.

Nne, ziunganishe familia kwa milele yote. Ninapotembelea mahekalu ulimwenguni kote, ninastaajabia idadi kubwa ya vijana waliosimama wakingojea kwenye eneo la ubatizo na ongezeko la idadi ya vijana wakubwa wakihudumu kama wahudumu wa ibada. Hivi karibuni kundi la vijana zaidi ya 600 kutoka Scotland na Ireland walisisafiri hadi Hekalu la Preston Uingereza, kufanya zaidi ya ibada 4,000, nyingi ambazo zilikuwa kwa ajili ya mababu zao wenyewe waliofariki! Ninawahimiza mjishughulishe katika historia ya familia, mtumie muda hekaluni na kwa umakini mjiandae kuwa aina ya mwanamume au mwanamke aliye tayari kufunga ndoa na mwenza mwenye kustahili kama wewe ndani ya hekalu. Jenga mpangilio katika maisha yakosasawa kufanya hekalu liwe sehemu ya kawaida ya maisha yenu.

Hitimisho

Wapendwa kaka zangu na dada zangu, marafiki zangu wapendwa vijana, yawezekana kukawepo na magumu kwa kila mmoja wetu katika siku za mbeleni. Hata hivyo, tunapouingia muongo huu wa nyakati zisizo na kifani, na tushiriki habari njema kupitia shughuli rahisi za kuishi, kujali, kualika na kuunganisha. Tunapofanya hivyo, Bwana atatubariki kwa uzoefu usisahaulika kamwe.

Ninashuhudia kwamba wale wanaomwenyede Bwana kwa moyo wa dhati na kusudi halisi, wale walio na jina la Mwokozi midomoni mwao na Roho Mtakatifu kwenye nafsi zao, wale wanaojiingiza kwenye hija hii kuu na tukufu, mtagundua na kupata uzoefu wa baraka tele za selestia na kupokea ushahidi kwamba Mungu anakusikia, anakujua na anakupenda. Utakuwa na uzoefu wa siku zisizosahaulika kamwe. Katika jina la Yesu Kristo, amina.