

Faith: A Bond of Trust and Loyalty

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Pammati: Maysa a Begkes ti Panagtalek ken Kinasungdo

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Faith sprouts as we trust in Jesus Christ and blooms as we are faithful and loyal to Him.

When I was 17, I made an agreement with my friend José Luis to teach him how to swim. So one morning we dedicated time to practice. When our lesson was over and I was leaving the pool, I heard my friend shouting for help. He was drowning in the deep end of the pool.

I threw myself into the water and swam toward him while praying for help. As I grabbed his hand to pull him to the surface, my desperate friend climbed onto my back and put me in a choke hold. Now we were both drowning. Trying my best to reach the surface, I prayed with all my might for a miracle from God. Then, slowly but steadily, the power of God was manifest as I felt a hand propelling me toward the shallow end of the pool, bringing us to safety.

This experience confirmed a profound lesson President Russell M. Nelson once taught: “When you reach up for the Lord’s power in your life with the same intensity that a drowning person has when grasping and gasping for air, power from Jesus Christ will be yours.”

Dear children and young people, today I want to talk to you about the essential principle of faith in Jesus Christ.

Faith in Christ Means Trusting Him

What does it mean to have faith in Christ?

Agrusing ti pammati no agtalektayo ken Jesucristo ken agbukar no napudno ken nasungdotayo Kenkuana.

Idi 17 ti tawenko, nakitulagak ken ni gayyemko a ni José Luis tapno suruak nga aglangoy. Isu a maysa a bigat inusarmi ti oras tapno agpraktis. Idi malpas ti leksionmi ket panawakon iti pool, nangngegko ti panagpukkaw ti gayyemko nga agpatulong. Malmalmesen isuna iti adalem nga ungto ti pool.

Nagtappuakak iti danum ket naglangoyak a napan kenkuana bayat ti panagkararagko iti tulong. Idi iggamak ti imana a mangguyod nga ipan iti sang-at, kimmalay-at kaniak ti gayyemko iti tengngedko a diakon pakaangsan. Ita agpa-dakamin a malmalmes. Inkarigatak ti dumanon iti sang-at, nagkararagak iti amin a kabaalak iti milagro ti Dios. Idi kuan, in-inut ngem natalged, naiparangarang ti bileg ti Dios idi nariknak ti maysa nga ima a mangiturturong kaniak iti ababaw nga ungto ti pool, a namagtalged kada-kami.

Impatalged daytoy a padas ti nauneg nga adalen nga insuro ni Presidente Russell M. Nelson: “No magun-odyo ti bileg ti Apo iti biagyo nga addaan ti kasta met laeng nga intensidad iti malmalmesen a tao no iggaman ken marigatan nga umanges, kukuamto ti bileg ni Jesucristo.”

Patpatgek nga ubbing ken agtutubo, ita kayatko a makasaritakayo maipapan iti napateg a pagbatayan ti pammati ken Jesucristo.

Ti Pammati ken Cristo Kaipapananna ti Panagtalek Kenkuana

Ania ti kaipapanan ti maaddaan pammati

Does it mean we believe in Him or have a testimony that He is real? That may be a start, but it's more than that. Have you ever thought of faith—trust? Think of the person you trust the most—perhaps a family member or a friend. Why do you trust them? It is probably because you have seen their constant love and help.

When we have faith in Christ, we recognize His blessings and develop a relationship of trust with Him.

In a recent youth devotional, you were invited to meditate on a time in your life when you received a ray of heavenly light. Try this exercise!

Start by meditating about Christ and the happiness His Atonement and gospel bring to your life. Also, make a record of the “spiritually defining memories” where God has been there for you, for your loved ones, and for the people in the scriptures. Now, these testimonies will not bring power to your life until the Spirit etches them in the “fleshy tables” of your heart. So ponder and record all God set in motion for these miracles to come at just the right time.

Next, use this exercise as an opportunity to get closer to God. Pray to your Heavenly Father as if it were the first time. Express your love and gratitude for His blessings. Even ask Him how He feels about you and about the direction your life is taking.

If you are sincere and humble, you will hear His answer and begin a personal and lasting relationship with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Not only that, but your religious habits will become meaningful! For instance, you will look forward to your prayers, personal study, and temple worship as opportunities to get to know Them and be with Them.

Faith Flourishes with Loyalty

Notice that faith sprouts as we trust in Jesus Christ and blooms as we are faithful and loyal to Him. If you want a true relationship with Christ, show Him by making covenants and honoring

ken Cristo? Kaipapananna kadi amamatitayo Kenkuanawenno adda pammaneknektayo a pudno Isuna? Mabalina a rugi dayta, ngem ad-adda pay ngem dayta. Napanunotyo kadin ti pammati kaspanagtalek? Mangpanunot iti tao a pagtalkan- yo unay—nalabit a maysa a miembro ti familia wenno gayyem. Apay a pagtalkan- yo ida? Nalabit a gapu ta nakitayo ti agtultuloy nga ayat kentulongda.

No addaantayo iti pammati ken Cristo, mabigbigtayo dagiti bendisionna ken mapadur-astayo ti panagtalek Kenkuana.

Iti nabiit pay a debosional dagiti agtutubo, naawiskayo a “mangutob iti panawen iti biagyo idi naawatyo ti sinamar ti nailangitan a la- wag.” Padasenyo daytoy nga ehersisio!

Rugian babaen ti panagutob maipapan ken Cristo ken ti ragsak a yeg ti Pannubbot ken ebangeliona iti biagyo. Irekordyo pay dagiti “naespirituan a mangiladawan a lagip” no sadino nga adda sadiay ti Dios para kadakayo, dagiti ay-ayatenyo, ken para kadagiti tao iti nasantuan a kasuratan. Ita, dagitoy a pammaneknek saan a mangyeg iti bileg iti biagyo agingga nga ikitikit ida ti Espiritu kadagiti “taptapi a bato” ti pusoyo. Isu nga utobenyo ken irekordyo amin nga intuding ti Dios nga umay dagitoy a milagro iti umisu a panawen.

Sumaruno, usarenyo daytoy nga ehersisio kas gundaway nga umasideg iti Dios. Agkararakayo iti Nailangitan nga Amayo a kasla umuna a gundaway. Iyebkasyo ti ayat ken panagyamanyo kadagiti bendisionna. Damagenyo Kenkuana no ania ti riknana kadakayo ken maipapan iti turongen ti biagyo.

No napasnek ken napakumbabakayo, mangngegyo ti sungbatna ket rugianyo ti personal ken manayon a relasion iti Nailangitan nga Ama ken ni Jesucristo. Saan laeng a dayta, ngem agbalinto a napateg iti kaipapanan dagiti ugaliyo iti religion! Kas pagarigan, padpadaananyunto dagiti kararagyo, bukod a panagadal, ken panagday-dayaw iti templo kas gundaway nga am-ammuen ken makadennayo Ida.

Pumigsa ti Pammati nga Addaan iti Kinasungdo

Madlaw nga agrusing ti pammati no agtalektayo ken Jesucristo ken agbukar no napudno ken nasungdotayo Kenkuana. No kayatyo ti pudno a relasion ken Cristo, ipakitayo Kenkuana

them with faithfulness and loyalty. Making covenants with Jesus Christ builds hope. Honoring them builds faith.

Let me use a personal example: When I was a child, I found my mother crying alone one day. When I asked her why, she gently said, “I need you to be a good boy.” Even though I knew that I was not the cause of her distress, I loved and trusted my mother like no one else and wanted to make her life less difficult. So, with tears in my eyes and with all the solemnity that a nine-year-old can have, I promised her that day I would always strive to be the best son and make her proud.

Can you imagine the power that promise had—and still has—on me?

That promise with her would guide my life. Before making decisions, I would consider whether my actions would please her. The bond of this promise and the relationship with my mother were the anchors for my conduct throughout my life.

Years later, as I came to know Jesus Christ better, I already knew how to base my faith in Him. I made covenants with the Lord, and as I have sought to honor them, He has forgiven my sins, guided my life, and “filled me with his love” to the very core of my being. Christ has instilled in me a deep love, respect, and loyalty for Him.

Do you understand why “faith is a principle of action” and that “without faith it is impossible to please [God]”?

As you try to do what pleases Him, you will say, like Joseph in Egypt when he was tempted by Potiphar’s wife, “How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” And when faced with opposition, you will say, like the young Prophet Joseph, “I knew it, and I knew that God knew it, and I could not deny it; ... I knew that by so doing I would offend God.”

So faith in Jesus Christ is a bond of trust forged in loyalty and love. In other words, in gratitude for God’s merciful love (*hesed*), we show our loyal love (*emunah*) by keeping His commandments.

babaen ti panagaramid kadagiti katulagan ken panangdayaw kadakuada babaen ti kinamatalek ken kinasungdo. Ti pannakitulag ken Jesucristo ti mangbangon iti namnama. Ti panangdayaw kadakuada ti mangbangon iti pammati.

Usarek man ti bukod a pagarigan: Idi ubin-gak pay, nakitak ni nanangko nga agsangsangit iti maysa nga aldaw. Idi damagek no apay, siaayat a kinunana, “Nasken nga agbalinka a nasingpet nga ubing.” Nupay ammok a saan a siak ti gapu ti paglidayanna, ay-ayatek ken pagtalkak ni nanangko awan sabali ken kayatko nga aramiden a nanam-ay ti biagna. Isu a, nakaluaak ken iti amin a kinapasnek a mabalin nga adda iti nuebe anios nga ubing, inkarik kenkuana ti dayta nga aldaw a kanayon nga ikarigatak ti agbalin a kas-ingpetan nga anak ken maipagpannakkelnak.

Mapanunotyo kadi ti bileg nga adda iti dayta a kari—ken adda pay laeng—kaniak?

Dayta a karik kenkuana ti mangiwanwan iti biagko. Sakbay nga agdesisionak, panunotek no mangparagsak met la kenkuana dagiti tignayko. Ti begkes daytoy a kari ken ti relasionko ken ni nanangko ti nagbalin nga angkora para iti ugalik iti unos ti biagko.

Naglabas dagiti tawen, nasaysayaat a naam-ammok ni Jesucristo, ammokon no kasano nga ibatay ti pammatik Kenkuana. Nakitulagak iti Apo, ket iti panagkalikagumko a mangdayaw kadagitoy, pinakawanna dagiti basolko, inwan-wanna ti biagko, ken “pinunnonak iti ayatna” agingga iti mismo a kaunggak. Intukit ni Cristo kaniak ti nauneg nga ayat, panagraem, ken kinasungdo para Kenkuana.

Maawatanyo kadi no apay a ti “pammati ti pagbatayan ti aramid” ken no “awan pammati saan a mabalin a maparagsak ti [Dios]”?

No padasenyo nga aramiden no ania ti mangparagsak Kenkuana, ibagayunto a kas ken Jose idia Egipto idi sinulisog ti asawa ni Potifar: “Kasano ngarud a maaramidko daytoy dakkal a kinadakes, ket agbasol iti Dios?” Ket no maipasangokayo iti oposision, kunayunto a kas iti agtutubo a propeta Joseph: “Ammok dayta, ken ammok nga ammo ti Dios dayta, ket diak mapaglikudan ... Ammok a no aramidek ti kasta agbasolak iti Dios.”

Isu a ti pammati ken Jesucristo ti begkes ti panagtalek a nabukel iti kinasungdokan ayat. Iti sabali a panna, kas panagyaman iti naasi nga ayat ti Dios (*hesed*), ipakitatayo ti ayattayo (*emunah*) babaen ti panagtungpal kadagiti bilinna.

Christ promises, “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them ... shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.” If you commit to being loyal to Him, He will manifest His love for you.

Faith in the Face of Adversity

But how should you respond to such adverse situations that require His miracles? While challenges are inevitable and sometimes frightening, simply walk undaunted toward Him, just as the 2025 FSY conference theme invites: “Look unto me in every thought; doubt not, fear not.”

Imagine that you are an explorer in uncharted territory. To overcome the obstacles ahead, you need a source of light. Your faithfulness to God and your constant interactions with Him are the fuel for your lantern. So when you encounter dark and perilous situations, instead of walking toward them blindly, you will turn on your lamp filled with the oil of faith in Christ to shed glimmers of hope on the uncertain path. Your past experiences will increase your hope that the Lord will sustain you on your journey.

Remember my story at the pool? In that moment of despair, the miracle came in the way I had expected, but God does not guarantee that it will always be according to our will. Our faith must be centered in Christ and our hope in His blessings, as He chooses to send them. “Expect miracles,” but “let God prevail in our lives.”

God’s Promises to His Faithful People

My young friends, how much we love and trust you! You belong to the family of God and are children of the covenant. Believe and trust in Jesus Christ. He will enable you to truly become His disciples.

I invite you to begin today to nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ. Make a commitment to never forsake Him.

Your loyalty, love, and trust in Christ will shape your character and identity after His. You

Ikari ni Cristo: “Ti addaan kadagiti bilbil-inko ket tungpalenna ... ayatento ni Amak, ken isu ayatekto, ket agparangakto kenkuana.” No agkumitkayo nga agbalin a nasungdo Kenkuana, iparangarangna ti ayatna kadakayo.

Pammati iti Panangsango iti Rigat

Ngem kasano ti sungbatyo iti kakasta a dakes a kasasaad a kasapulan dagiti milagrona? Nupay di maliklikan dagiti karit ken no dadduma nakabutbuteng, magnakayo laeng a di mabutengnga agturong Kenkuana, kas met laeng iti awis ti tema ti FSY 2025: “Kitaendak iti tunggal panunot; dikay agduadua, dikay agbuteng.”

Panunoteny a maysakayo nga agsuksukisok iti di pay nakartaan a teritorio. Tapno maparmek dagiti lapped iti masanguanan, kasapulanyo ti pagtaudan ti lawag. Ti kinamatalekyo iti Dios ken ti kanayon a pannakilangeny Kenkuana ti gasolina ti parolyo. Isu a no masabatyo dagiti nasipnget ken napeggad a kasasaad, imbes a sibubulsek a magnakayo nga agturong kadakuada, iddepenyo ti pagsilawanyo a napno iti lana ti pammati ken Cristo tapno mangibukbok kadagiti silnag ti namnama iti di masigurado a dana. Dagiti napalabas a padasyo ti mangpadakkel iti namnamayo a tulongannakayo ti Apo iti daliastyo.

Malagipyo ti estoriak iti pool? Iti dayta a kanito ti pannakaupay, dimteng ti milagro iti wagas a ninamnamak, ngem saan nga ipasigurado ti Dios a kanayonto a mayannurot iti pagayatantayo. Nasken a maisentro ti pammatitayo ken Cristo ken ti namnamatayo iti bendisionna, no pilienna a mangipatulod kadagitoy. “Namnamaem dagiti milagro,” ngem “bay-an nga agballigi ti Dios iti biagtayo.”

Dagiti Kari ti Dios Kadagiti Napudno a Taona

Agtutubo a gagayyemko, dakkel ti ayat ken talekmi kadakayo! Dakayo tikamengiti pamilya ti Dios ken annak ti katulagan. Mamatiken agtalekayo ken Jesucristo. Pabaelennakayo a pudno nga agbalinkayoa disipulona.

Awisenkayo a mangrugi ita nga aldaw a mangaywan iti relasyonyo ken ni Jesucristo. Agaramid iti panagkumit a dikayto pulos pumanaw Kenkuana.

Ti kinasungdo, ayat, ken talekyo ken Cristo ti mangsukog iti ugaliyo ken kinasiasinoyokas

will gain confidence and strength to overcome Satan's attacks. And when you make mistakes, you will yearn for His forgiveness. Finally, your hope for the future will be bright. He will trust you with His power to accomplish anything He expects of you, even the power to return to His presence.

I testify to you of the joy that comes from singing "the song of redeeming love" and being "encircled about eternally in the arms of his love." In the sacred name of Jesus Christ, amen.

Kenkuana. Magun-odyo iti talek ken pigs a mangpamek kadagiti panangraut ni Satanas. Ket no agbiddutkayo, tarigagayanyo ti pammakawanna. Kamaudiananna, naraniagto ti namnamayo iti masakbayan. Agtalek kadakayo iti bilegna a mangipatungpal iti aniaman a namnamaenna kadakayo, kas iti bileg nga agsubli iti imatangna.

Paneknekak kadakayo ti rag-o nga aggapu iti panagkanta iti "kanta ti manangsubbot nga ayat" ken "nalikmutan iti agnanayon kadagiti takiag ti ayatna." Iti sagrado a nagan ni Jesucristo, amen.