

True to the Faith That Our Parents Have Cherished

By Elder Hans T. Boom
Of the Seventy

Mahatoky amin'ny finoana izay notandrovan'ireo ray aman-drenintsika

Nataon'ny Loholona Hans T. Boom
Ao amin'ny Fitopololahy

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Please learn and receive strength from the faith and testimonies of those who came before you.

While I was visiting the Nashville Tennessee Temple for a temple review, I was privileged to do a walk-through as part of this assignment, reviewing this beautiful house of the Lord. I was especially impressed with the painting of Mary Wanlass called Carry On hanging on the wall in the office of the matron.

This is the story behind the painting:

“In Missouri in 1862, the 14-year-old Mary Wanlass promised her dying stepmother that she would see to it that her disabled father [and her four much younger siblings would all make] it to the Valley of the Great Salt Lake. ... Mary drove the oxen and milk cows that pulled the wagon, in which her father [was bedridden, and] she cared for her ... siblings. After each day's journey, she fed the family by foraging edible plants, flowers, and berries. Her only compass was the instruction she had received to keep traveling west 'until the clouds become mountains.'"

“They reached [the] Utah Valley in September, having traveled all spring and summer. Her father died not long after the family settled in Utah County, where Mary later married and raised her [own] family.”

Aoka re mba hianatra sy hahazo hery ianareo avy amin'ny finoana sy fijoroana ho vavolombelon'ireo izay nialoha anareo.

Rehefa nitsidika ny tempolin'i Nashville Tennessee aho mba hanao fanaraha-maso ny tempoly, dia nanana ny tombontsoa hitari-dalana mpitsidika tao anatin'ilay andraikitra nanendrena ahy hanara-maso io tranon'ny Tompo tena kanto io. Nanaitra ahy manokana ny sary hosodoko nataon'i Mary Wanlass antsoina hoe Carry On (Tohizo hatrany) izay nihantona teo amin'ny rindrin'ny biraon'ny mpiandraikitra ny tempoly.

Toy izao ny tantara fonosin'ilay sary hosodoko:

“Tany Missouri tamin'ny taona 1862, dia nanao fampanantenana i Mary Wanlass, 14 taona, tamin'ny renikeliny teo am-pialana aina fa ha-taony izay hahatongavan'ny rainy manan-kilema sy ireo zandriny efatra any amin'ny Lemaky ny Farihy Masira any Salt Lake. ... Notarihin'i Mary ireo ombilahy sy ombivavy izay nisintona ny sarety nisy ny rainy narary tao am-pandriana, ary nikararaka ireo ... iray tampo taminy izy. Isaky ny vita ny dia mandritra ny andro dia mamahana ny fianakaviany izy amin'ny fitadiavana za-va-maniry sy voninkazo ary voankazo fihinana. Ny hany tari-dalana nananany dia ny toromarika voarainy nanao hoe tohizo ny dia mankany andrefana -mandra-pahatazana tendrombohitra ho solon'ny rahona.-

“Tonga tao amin'ny Lemak'i Utah izy ireo tamin'ny volana septambra, rehefa avy nanao ny dia nandritra ny lohataona sy fahavaratra. Tsy ela taorian'ny nahatongavan'izy ireo tao amin'ny faritr'i Utah dia nodimandry ny rainy, ary taorian'izay dia nanambady sy nanorina ny tokantra-

This is an amazing story of the faith and strength of a 14-year-old young woman that can help each one of us today to “just carry on.”

“Just carry on”—or freely translated in my native Dutch language, *Gewoon doorgaan*—is also my mom and dad’s lifelong slogan.

My parents and in-laws are the pioneers in our family. They have crossed their own “plains,” just like all those who are coming into the Church, the Lord’s fold, every day. Their stories have little to do with oxen and wagons but have the same effect on future generations.

They embraced the gospel and were baptized in their young adult years. Both my parents had a difficult childhood. My father grew up on the island of Java in Indonesia. During World War II, he was forcefully separated from his family and interned in a concentration camp, where he suffered unspeakable hardships at a young age.

My mother was raised in a broken home and also suffered from hunger and the hardships of World War II. At times she even had to resort to eating tulip bulbs. Due to her father’s actions and his subsequent divorce from her mother, it was sometimes difficult for her to see Heavenly Father as a loving Father.

My parents met at a Church activity and shortly after decided to get married and sealed in the Bern Switzerland Temple. Waiting at the railway station, having spent the last of their little savings for the trip to the temple, they wondered how they would make ends meet but were confident that it would all work out. And it did!

They started to raise their family from a very humble single attic-room apartment in the heart of Amsterdam. After several years of washing their clothes by hand, they had finally saved up enough money to purchase a washing machine.

nony i Mary.”

Tantara mahatalanjona izany maneho ny finoana sy ny tanjaky ny zatovovavy 14 taona izay afaka manampy antsika tsirairay ankehitriny mba “hanohy hatrany fotsiny.”

“Tohizo hatrany fotsiny,” na raha adika malalaka amin’ny Néerlandais tenim-pirenako dia hoe, *Gewoon Doorgaan*, izay teny filamatra ny dada sy neniko nandritra ny androm-piainany.

Ireo ray aman-dreniko sy ny fianakaviam-ba-diko no mpamaky lain’ny fianakavianay. Izy ireo dia namakivaky ireo “lemak” izy ireo manokana, tahaka ireo rehetra izay miditra ho ao amin’ny Fiangonana, ilay valan’ny Tompo, isan’andro. Tsy misy ifandraisany amin’ny omby sy sarety ny tantaran’izy ireo kanefa mitovy ny vokany ho an’ny taranaka ho avy.

Nandray ny filazantsara izy ireo ary natao batisa tamin’ny fahatanorany. Ny raiko sy ny reniko dia samy niaina fahazazana sarotra. Lehibe tany amin’ny nosy Java any Indonésie ny raiko. Nandritra ny Ady Lehibe faharoa dia noterena hisaraka tamin’ny fianakaviany izy ary nalefa hipetraka tany amin’ny tobin’ny olona voababo, ary tao no nijaliany tamin’ny fomba tsy hay lazaina tanatin’ny fahatanorany.

Ny reniko dia lehibe tanaty fianakaviana nisaratsaraka ary izy koa dia niaina ny hanohanana sy fahasahiranana nateraky ny Ady Lehibe faharoa. Nisy fotoana aza dia voam-boninkazo tiolipa no nataony sakafo. Noho ny zavatra nataon’ny rainy sy ny fisaraham-panambadiana naterak’izany dia sarotra taminy indraindray ny mahita ny Ray any An-danitra ho Ray be fitiavana.

Tany amina fiaraha-mientana iray tao am-piangonana no nihaonan’ny ray aman-dreniko ary fotoana fohy taorian’izay dia nanapa-kevitra ny hivady sy ho fehezina tao amin’ny Tempolin’i Berne Suisse izy ireo. Rehefa niandry teo amin’ny seran-dalamby izy ireo, avy nandany ny tahiry kely nananany nanaovana ilay dia nankany amin’ny tempoly, dia nanontany tena hoe ahoana no hahatafavoahana amin’ny fahasahiranana kanefa natoky izy ireo fa hilamina ny zava-drehetra. Ary izay tokoa no nitranga!

Nanomboka ny fiainam-pianakaviany tao amin’ny efitrano farany ambony rihana izay tsotra sy tokana izy ireo tao afovoan-tanànan’i Amsterdam. Rehefa avy nanasa lamba tamin’ny tanana nandritra ny taona maro izy ireo dia na-

Just before they would make the purchase, the bishop visited them, asking for a contribution to build the meetinghouse in Amsterdam. They decided to give all they had saved for the washing machine and continued to do the laundry by hand.

As a family we went through some hardships, just like any other family. These have only made us stronger and have deepened our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, just like when Alma was sharing his story with his son Helaman, where he told him that he had been “supported under trials and troubles of every kind” because he had put his trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

How did two people who experienced so many trials in their younger years become the very best parents I could ever wish for? The answer is simple: they fully embraced the gospel and live by their covenants to this very day!

After more than 65 years of marriage, my mother, who suffered from Alzheimer’s disease, passed away in February. My father, at the age of 92 and still living at home, visited her as often as he could until she passed away. Some time ago he mentioned to my younger siblings that the dreadful experiences in the camp in Indonesia during World War II had prepared him to patiently care for his wife for so many years as she fell ill and deteriorated from this horrible disease and also for the fateful day he had to entrust her primary care to others and could not be by her side anymore. Their motto has been and still is to “Just carry on,” having a perfect hope in Christ to be raised up at the last day and to dwell with Him in glory forever.

Their faith and testimonies are a driving strength for the generations that have come after them.

In the village where my wife grew up, her parents, who were good churchgoing people, embraced the gospel as a young married couple with my wife as their two-year-old daughter and

havita nanangona vola ampy hividiana milina fanasan-damba. Taloha kelin’izy ireo handeha hividy izany, dia nitsidika azy ireo ny eveka, nangataka fandraisana anjara mba hanorenana ilay trano fivoriana ao Amsterdam. Nanapa-kevitra izy ireo fa hanome ny tahiry rehetra saika hividiana milina fanasan-damba ary hanohy ny fanasana ny lamba amin’ny tanana.

Ny fianakavianay dia nandalo fahasahiranana tahaka ny fianakaviana hafa rehetra. Izany dia nahatonga anay hatanjaka kokoa ary nampiorim-paka ny finoanay an’i Jesoa Kristy Tompo, tahaka an’i Alma rehefa nizara ny tantaran’izy sy i Helamana zanany, ka nilazany tamin’ny fa efa notohanana izy nandritra ny fizahan-toetra sy ny fahasahiranana isan-karazany noho izy nametraka ny fitokisany tamin’i Jesoa Kristy Tompo.

Ahoana ny nahatonga ny olona roa izay niaina fitsapana maro toy izany tamin’ny fahatanorany ho lasa ireo ray aman-dreny tsara indrindra izay ho tiako hananana? Tsotra ny valiny: nandray tanteraka ny filazantsara izy ireo ary niaina araka ny fanekehampihavanana nataony mandraka androany!

65 taona mahery nanambadiana ny reniko no nodimandry tamin’ny volana febroary rehefa avy nararin’ny Alzheimer. Ny raiko izay 92 taona ary mbola velona sy mipetraka ao an-trano, dia namangy azy matetika araka izay tratrany mandra-podimandriny. Nisy fotoana izy nilaza tamin’ireo zandriko fa ny zavatra mahatsiravina niainany tao amin’ny tobin’ny olona voababo tany Indonésie nandritra ny Ady Lehibe faharoa dia nanomana azy hikarakara amim-paharetana ny vadiny nandritra ny taona maro dia maro rehefa narary sy trotrak’ilay areti-mandoza ny vadiny ary nanomana azy koa ho amin’ilay andro tsy maintsy nanankinany ny fikarakarana azy amin’ny hafa sy tsy nahafahany ho eo anilany intsony. Ny teny filamatra’izy ireo hatramin’izay sy hatramin’izao dia ny “manohy hatrany fotsiny,” sady manana fanantenana lavorary ao amin’i Kristy mba hatsangana amin’ny andro farany ary hitoetra miaraka Aminy amim-boninahitra mandrakizay.

Ny finoana sy fijoroana ho vavolombelona nananan’izy ireo dia mitondra tanjaka ho an’ireo taranaka izay nandimby azy ireo.

Tao amin’ilay tanàna kely nahabe ny vadiko, ireo ray aman-dreniny, izay olona mazoto mandeha miangona, dia nandray ny filazantsara fony izy ireo mpivady vao erotrerony ary ny vadiko,

only child at that time. Their decision to become members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints had a great impact on their lives as they were shunned by the villagers and by their family. It took many years, loving notes to family members, and service to the community before they were finally accepted.

On one occasion when my wife's father was serving as a bishop, he was falsely accused of something and was immediately released. My mother-in-law was so hurt that she asked her husband if they should continue to go to church. He answered that they of course would continue to go to church since this is not the church of men, but this is the Church of Jesus Christ.

It took some time before the truth came to light and apologies were made. What could have been their breaking point just added to their strength and conviction.

Why is it that some of us take for granted the faith and testimonies of our parents who through all their hardships have remained faithful? Do we think that they do not have a clear understanding of things? They were not and are not deceived! They just have had too many experiences with the Spirit and can say with the Prophet Joseph, "I knew it, ... and I could not deny it."

Don't you love the song about the army of Helaman, found in the Children's Songbook?

We have been born, as Nephi of old,
To goodly parents who love the Lord.
We have been taught, and we understand,
That we must do as the Lord commands.

Even when this might not be the case, as my mother experienced as a child, you can become one of those "goodly parents who love the Lord" and provide a righteous example to others.

Do we feel that this is absolutely true when we sing it? Do you feel that you are "as the army of Helaman" and that you "will be the Lord's missionaries to bring the world his truth"? I have felt it on so many occasions while singing this song in several FSY settings and other youth

roa taona tamin'izany, no mbola hany zanany. Ny fanapahan-kevitry izy ireo ho lasa mpikamban'Ny Fiangonan'i Jesoa Kristy ho an'ny Olomasin'ny Andro Farany dia nisy fiantraikany lehibe teo amin'ny fiainan'izy ireo noho izy ireo nailiky ny mpiray monina taminy sy ny fianakaviany. Nitaky taona maro sy fanoratana tam-pitiavana tamin'ny havana ary fanaovana asa fanompoana teo amin'ny fiarahamonina vao nahazo fandraisana tsara izy ireo nony farany.

Indray mandeha fony ilay rafozan-dahiko eveka, dia nampangaina tsy ara-drariny izy ka nisaorana avy hatrany tamin'ny antsony. Tafintohina fatratra ny rafozam-baviko ka nanontany ny vadiny izy raha tokony mbola hanohy handeha ho any am-piangonana izy ireo. Namaly izy fa hanohy handeha ho any am-piangonana izy ireo mazava ho azy satria io dia tsy fiangonan'ny olombelona, fa Fiangonan'i Jesoa Kristy.

Elaela vao nipoitra ny marina ary natao ny fialana tsiny. Ilay zavatra saika tsy tany intsony dia lasa nampitombo tanjaka sy faharesen-dahatra ho azy ireo.

Nahoana ny sasany amintsika no tsy mahay mankasitraka ny finoana sy fijoroana ho vavolombelon'ireo ray aman-drenintsika izay nitoetra ho mahatoky tanatin'ireo fotoan-tsarotra nolalovany? Moa ve isika mieritreritra fa tsy mahazo zavatra mazava tsara izy ireo? Tsy voafitaka izy ireo na taloha na ankehitriny! Niaina zavatra ara-panahy maro tsotra izao izy ireo hany ka afaka miteny izy ireo miaraka amin'i Joseph Smith mpaminany manao hoe: "Nahafantatra izany aho ... ary tsy afaka mandà izany aho."

Moa ve tsy tianareo ilay hira momba ny tafik'i Helamàna hita ao amin'ny Bokin-kiran'ny ankizy?

Isika no toa an'i Nefia,
fa tsara ny olona nipoirantsika.
Ary izy ireo nanoro ihany koa
fa isika dia tokony hankatò.

Na dia tsy izay aza no zava-misy, tahaka ny zavatra niainan'ny reniko tamin'ny fahazazany, dia afaka ny ho iray amin'ireo "olona tsara nipoirana" ianao ary manome ohatry ny fahamarinana ho an'ny hafa.

Moa ve isika mahatsapa fa tena marina izany rehefa mihira izany isika? Moa ve ianareo mahatsapa fa ianareo dia "toy ilay tafik'i Helamàna" ary ianareo dia "ho misiônera, hitory maneran-tany"? Efa nahatsapa izany imbetsaka tokoa aho rehefa mihira ity hira ity mandritra ireo

gatherings.

Or what do we feel when we sing the hymn
“True to the Faith”?

Shall the youth of Zion falter
In defending truth and right?

While the enemy assaileth,
Shall we shrink or shun the fight? No!

True to the faith that our parents have cherished.

To those of the rising generation wherever you are and in whatever situation you may find yourself, please learn and receive strength from the faith and testimonies of those who came before you. It will help you understand that in order to gain or grow a testimony, sacrifices will have to be made and that “sacrifice brings forth the blessings of heaven.”

Thinking about a sacrifice that will truly bless your life, please consider and pray about the invitation of our beloved prophet, President Russell M. Nelson, when he asked “everyworthy, able young man to prepare for and serve a mission. For Latter-day Saint young men, missionary service is a priesthood responsibility. ...

“For ... young and able sisters, a mission is also a powerful, butoptional, opportunity.”

You could be called as a service or a teaching missionary. Both types of missionaries contribute to the same goal of bringing souls to Christ, each in their own unique and powerful way.

In both types of service, you will show the Lord you love Him and that you want to get to know Him better. Remember, “for how knoweth a man the master whom he has not served, and who is a stranger unto him, and is far from the thoughts and intents of his heart?”

All of us, whether we are the first generation in the gospel or the fifth, should ask ourselves, What stories of faith, strength, and celestial commitment will I pass on to the next generation?

fivoriana HZM sy ireo fivoriana hafa ho an’ny tanora.

Ary ahoana no fahatsapantsika rehefa mihira ilay cantique “Vas-tu faiblir, ô jeunesse”?

Moa ve ny tanora ao Ziona hilefitra amin’ny fiarovana ny fahamarinana sy ny rariny?

Rehefa manafika ny fahavalo,
moa ve isika hisitrika na hitsoaka an’ily ady? Tsia!

Mahatoky amin’ny finoana izay notandrovan’ireo ray aman-drenintsika.

Ho an’ireo taranaka vao misondrotra, na aiza na aiza misy anareo ary na manao ahoana na manao ahoana ny toe-javatra misy anareo, aoka re mba hianatra sy hahazo hery ianareo avy amin’ny finoana sy fijoroana ho vavolombelon’ireo izay nialoha anareo. Hanampy anareo izany hahatakatra fa mba hahazoana na hampitomboana ny fijoroana ho vavolombelona, dia mila manao fahafoizan-tena ary “ny fahafoizan-tena dia mitondra ireo fitahiana avy any an-danitra.”

Eritrereto ny fahafoizan-tena iray izay tena nitahy ny fiainanao ary aoka ianao handinika sy hivavaka momba ilay fanasana nataon’ny mpaminany malalantsika, ny Filoha Russell M. Nelson, rehefa izy ilay nangataka “ny zatovolahy afaka mirotsaka sy mendrikatsirairay avymba hiomana sy hanao asa fitoriana. Ho an’ny zatovolahy Olomasin’ny Andro Farany dia andraikitry ny fisoronana ny asa fitoriana. ...

“Ho anareo ... tanora sy rahavavy afaka manao izany, dia fahafahana lehibe koa ny asa fitoriana saingytsy voateryhandeha ianareo.”

Azo antsoina ianareo ho misiônera manao fanompoana na mampianatra. Ireo karazana misiônera ireo dia samy mitondra anjara biriky amin’ny tanjona iray ihany dia ny mitondra fanahy hankany amin’i Kristy, fa samy amin’ny fombany avy izay samy miavaka sy mahery vaika.

Amin’ireo karazana fanompoana roa ireo ianareo dia haneho ny Tompo fa tianareo Izy ary maniry ny hahafantatra Azy bebe kokoa ianareo. Tsarovy hoe: “Fa ahoana moa no ahalalan’ny olona iray ny tompo izay tsy notompoiny sy izay vahiny aminy ary lavitry ny eritreriny sy ny fikasan’ny fony?”

Isika rehetra, na taranaka voalohany na fahadimy ao amin’ny filazantsara dia tokony hanontany ny tenantsika hoe inona no tantaram-pinoana sy tanjaka ary fanoloran-tena selestialy izay hampitaiko amin’ny taranaka mandimby?

Let us all continue in our efforts to get to know our Savior, Jesus Christ, better and to make Him the center of our lives. He is the rock upon which we must build so that when times become difficult, we will be able to stand firm.

Let us be “true to the faith that our parents have cherished, true to truth for which martyrs have perished, to God’s command, soul, heart, and hand, faithful and true we will ever stand.” In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

Aoka isika hanohy ny ezaka ataontsika mba hahafantatra kokoa an’i Jesoa Kristy Mpamonjy antsika, ary hanao Azy ho ivon’ny fiainantsika. Izy no vatolampy tokony hiorenantsika ka rehefa tonga ny fotoan-tsarotra dia ho afaka ny hijoro tsara isika.

Aoka isika ho “mahatoky amin’ny finoana izay notandrovan’ireo ray aman-drenintsika, mahatoky amin’ny fahamarinana izay namoizan’ireo maritiora ny ainy, araka ny handidian’ Andriamanitra, amin’ny fanahy, fo sy tanana isika dia hahatoky sy ho marina hatrany.” Amin’ny anaran’i Jesoa Kristy, amena.