

Our Heavenly Guidance System

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Of the Seventy

Rafitra mitari-dalana antsika avy any an-danitra

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Ao amin'ny Fitopololahy

April 2025 general conference

As we focus our lives on Jesus Christ, we will find our way home, enduring to the end and rejoicing to the end.

Jesus Christ changed my life when I was baptized at the age of 26 in my beloved Frutillar, Chile. At that time, my job took me across the ocean, rivers, and lakes of the beautiful Chilean Patagonia. After my baptism, I saw my work and my life in a new and different way, recognizing that truly “all things denote there is a God.”

In nature, salmon are born in the source of the rivers. At some point in their lives, they need to swim downriver to reach the ocean, where they find the nourishment and conditions necessary for their development.

But the ocean is also a dangerous place where predators lurk and where fishers try to catch the salmon with flashy hooks that imitate food but do not nourish them. If the salmon can survive these threats, they will be ready to use their powerful guidance system to return upriver to the same place where they were born, facing new and some familiar challenges. Scientists have studied their migratory behavior for years and have discovered that they use a type of magnetic map, similar to GPS, to guide them to their final destination with incredible precision.

Rehefa mampifantoka ny fiainantsika amin'i Jesoa Kristy isika dia ho hitantsika ny lalana mody, sady maharitra hatramin'ny farany no mifaly hatramin'ny farany.

Nanova ny fiainako i Jesoa Kristy rehefa natao batisa teo amin'ny faha-26 taonako aho tany Frutillar, Chili tany mamiko. Tamin'izany fotoana izany noho ny asako dia nitety ny ranomasina sy ireo renirano ary ireo farihy mahafinaritr'i Patagonie Chili aho. Taorian'ny batisako dia fomba fijery hafa sy vaovao no fahitako ny asako sy ny fiainako, niaiky marina aho fa “ny zava-drehetra dia maneho fa misy Andriamanitra.”

Any amin'ireo renirano no foy ireo zanaka saumon, raha ny rindra ara-natiora. Misy fotoana eo amin'ny fiainan'izy ireo dia mila milomano manaraka ny riaka izy mba hahatongavana any amin'ny ranomasina izay hahitan'izy ireo ny sakafony sy ny tontolo ilainy hahafahany mitombo.

Kanefa toerana mampidi-doza ihany koa ny ranomasina, izay misy biby mpihaza mihaodihao sy mpanjono izay miezaka misambotra saumon amin'ireo fandrika marevaka izay toa maka endrika sakafo saingy tsy mahavoky azy ireo. Raha tafavoaka velona amin'ireo loza ireo ny saumon, dia ho afaka hampiasa ilay rafitra fitarihan-dalana mahery vaika hiverenana mananika ny renirano, hatrany amin'ilay toerana izay nahaterahan'izy ireo ihany, miatrika fanambany vaovao sy efa mahazatra. Ireo mpahay siansa dia nandalina ny fomba fifindran'izy ireo monina nandritra ny taona maro, ary nahita fa mampiasa karazana sarin-tany manietika mitovitovy amin'ny GPS izy ireo mba hitari-dalana azy ireo mankamin'ny toerana farany itobiany amin'ny

We can all return one day to the heavenly home from where we came. And like the salmon, we have our own magnetic map, or Light of Christ, to guide us there. Jesus taught His disciples, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

As we focus our lives on Jesus Christ, we will find our way home, enduring to the end and rejoicing to the end. President Russell M. Nelson taught that “the joy we feel has little to do with the circumstances of our lives and everything to do with the focus of our lives.”

Our Divine Nature and Destiny

From the family proclamation, we read that “each [of us] is a beloved spirit son or daughter of heavenly parents, and, as such, each has a divine nature and destiny. ... In the premortal realm, spirit sons and daughters knew and worshipped God as their Eternal Father and accepted His plan by which His children could obtain a physical body and gain earthly experience to progress toward perfection and ultimately realize their divine destiny as heirs of eternal life.”

Before His birth in mortality, Jesus Christ appeared to Moses and spoke to him on behalf of the Father. He told Moses He had a great work for him to do. During that meeting, the Lord called him “my son” several times.

After that experience, Satan came tempting him, saying, “Moses, son of man, worship me.”

Moses responded to the temptation by remembering his divine nature, saying, “Who art thou? For behold, I am a son of God.” The truth freed Moses from an attack by the adversary.

fomba voarefy tsara tsy mampino.

Afaka miverina any amin’ny fonenantsika any an-danitra avokoa isika rehetra indray andro any, toerana izay niavantsika. Ary tahaka ny saumon dia manana ny sarin-tany manana herintsona ara-boajanahary manokana isika—na ny “Fahazavan’i Kristy”—hitari-dalana antsika ho any. Hoy i Jesoa nampianatra ireo mpianany: “Izaho no lalana sy fahamarinana ary fiainana; tsy misy olona mankany amin’ny Ray, afa-tsy amin’ny alalako.”

Rehefa mampifantoka ny fiainantsika amin’i Jesoa Kristy isika dia ho hitantsika ny lalana mody, sady maharitra hatramin’ny farany no mifaly hatramin’ny farany. Nampianatra ny Filoha Nelson fa “zara raha misy ifandraisany amin’ny toe-javatra mitranga eo amin’ny fiainantsika ilay fifaliana tsapantsika ary tena mifandray amin’ny fifantohan’ny fiainantsika izany.”

Ny toetrantsika sy ny anjarantsika araka an’ Andriamanitra

Mamaky isika ao amin’ny fanambarana ho an’ny fianakaviana fa “ny tsirairay [amintsika] dia fanahy izay zanakalahy sy zanakavavy malalan’ny ray aman-dreny any an-danitra, ary araka izany, ny tsirairay dia samy manana toetra sy anjara araka an’ Andriamanitra. ... Tany amin’ny fanjakana talohan’ny nahaterahana, ireo fanahy izay zanakalahy sy zanakavavy dia nahafantatra sy nanompo an’ Andriamanitra tahaka ny Rainy mandrakizay ary nanaiky ny drafiny izay ahafahan’ireo zanany hahazo vatana sy hahazo traikefa ety ambonin’ny tany mba handrosoany mankany amin’ny fahatanterahana ary hahatratrarany any amin’ny farany ny anjarany tahaka an’ Andriamanitra amin’ny maha mpandova ny fiainana mandrakizay azy.”

Talohan’ny nahaterahany teto an-tany i Jesoa Kristy dia niseho tamin’i Mosesy ary niresaka taminy tamin’ny anaran’ny Ray. Nilaza tamin’i Mosesy Izy fa manana asa lehibe hampanaovina azy. Niantso azy hoe “zanako lahy” im-betsaka ny Tompo nandritra izany fihaonana izany.

Taorian’izany traikefa izany dia tonga naka fanahy azy i Satana sady niteny hoe “Ry Mosesy, zanak’olona, miderà ahy”.

Niatrika ilay fakam-panahy i Mosesy tamin’ny fahatsiarovana ny toetrany araka an’ Andriamanitra ary niteny hoe: “Iza moa ianao? Fa indro izaho dia zanak’ Andriamanitra”. Nana-

Brothers and sisters, the hooks of mortality are real. They are often enticing, but they seek only one target: to pull us out of the course of living waters that lead to the Father and eternal life.

I know how real the hooks of mortality can be. One Sunday, as a new convert, I was teaching a priesthood class when an unsettling conversation arose. I struggled to finish my lesson. I took offense and felt that I was the victim. Without saying a word, I headed for the exit with the idea that I would not return to church for a while.

At that very moment, a concerned priesthood holder stood in front of me. He lovingly invited me to focus on Christ and not on the situation we had experienced in class. As I looked back on the experience with him, he shared with me that he heard a voice tell him, “Go after him; he is important to me.”

My dear friends, we are all important to Him. President Nelson taught that “because of our covenant with God, He will never tire in His efforts to help us, and we will never exhaust His merciful patience with us.” Our divine nature and covenant relationship with God entitle us to receive divine help.

The Need of Nourishment

Just as salmon need to be nourished in the ocean to grow, we also need to nourish ourselves spiritually to avoid dying of spiritual malnutrition. Prayer, the scriptures, the temple, and our regular attendance at Sunday meetings are vital in our spiritual menu.

In November 1956, Ricardo García entered the waters of baptism in Chile, becoming the first member of the Church in my country. Just one day before he died, he declared before his family

faka an'i Mosesy tamin'ny fanafihan'ny fahavalo ilay fahamarinana.

Ry rahalahy sy anabavy, tena misy ireo fandriky ny fiainana an-tany. Manintona izy ireny mazàna, saingy ny hany tanjona katsahin'izy ireo dia ny hanala antsika tsy ho ao amin'ny fizotry ny ranovelona izay mitondra antsika mankany amin'ny Ray sy ny fiainana mandrakizay.

Fantatro hoe tena misy ireo fandriky ny fiainana an-tany. Indray Alahady, fony aho mpi-kambana vaovao raha nampianatra tao amin'ny kilasin'ny fisoronana dia nisy fifampiresahana manafintohana nitranga. Sahirana aho vao vita ny lesoko. Tafintohina aho ary nahatsapa fa izaho no voa mafy. Sady tsy niteny aho no nizotra nankany amin'ny varavarana fivoahana, no sady nieritreritra fa tsy hiverina ao am-piangonana aloha elaela.

Tamin'izay fotoana izay indrindra no nisy mpihazona fisoronana iray be fitiavana nijoro teo anoloako. Nanasa ahy tamim-pitiavana izy hifantoka amin'i Kristy fa tsy amin'ilay toe-javatra niainanay tao amin'ny kilasy. Rehefa niara-nandinika ilay zavatra niainana izahay dia nozarainy tamiko fa naheno feo izy niteny taminy nanao hoe “Mandehana araho izy; manan-danja amiko izy”.

Ry namako malala, manan-danja Aminyda-holoisika rehetra. Nampianatra ny Filoha Nelson fa “noho ny fanekempihavanantsika amin' Andriamanitra, dia tsy ho reraka mihitsy Izy amin'ny ezaka ataony hanampiana antsika, ary tsy ho lany mihitsy ny faharetany feno famindram-po amintsika.” Ny toetrantsika araka an' Andriamanitra sy ny fifandraisantsika ara-panekepkihavanana amin' Andriamanitra no mahatonga antsika handray ny fanampiany masina.

Ny filàna hanina mahavelona

Tsy misy hafa amin'ny filàn'ny saumon hanina mahavelona any anaty ranomasina mba hahafahany mitombo, isika ihany koa dia mila mamelona ara-panahy ny tenan-tsika mba hisorohana ny fahafatesana noho ny tsy fanjarian-tsakafo ara-panahy. Ny vavaka, ny soratra masina, ny tempoly sy ny fanatrehantsika tsy tapaka ireo fivoriana amin'ny Alahady no hiankinan'ny aina eo amin'ireo lisitra sakafontsika ara-panahy.

Tamin'ny Nôvambra 1956 i Ricardo García sy ny fianakaviany dia niditra tamin'ny ranon'ny batisa tany Chili, lasa mpikamban'ny Fiangonana voalohany tany amin'ny fireneneko izy ireo.

and friends, “Many years ago, missionaries invited me to be happy along with my family. I am a happy man. Tell everyone in Chile the gospel is happiness.”

After having been nourished with the gospel of Jesus Christ, Ricardo dedicated his entire life to serving God and his neighbor with love. His example of discipleship has blessed generations, including me. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught that “a man filled with the love of God, is not content with blessing his family alone, but ranges through the whole world, anxious to bless the whole human race.”

Return to Our Heavenly Home

Deep inside each of us is a desire to return to our heavenly home, and Jesus Christ is our heavenly guidance system. He is the way. His atoning sacrifice makes it possible for us to make sacred covenants with God. Once we make covenants, we will at times find ourselves swimming against the current. Danger, disappointment, temptation, and affliction will test our faith and spiritual strength. Ask for help. Jesus Christ understands and is always eager to share our burdens.

Remember that He is known as “a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.” The Savior taught, “In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” His atoning sacrifice allows our sins to be forgiven to the point that He no longer remembers them.

We may not totally forget our sins as part of our mortal learning so we will remember not to repeat them. Instead, we will remember Him as we take the sacrament at church every Sunday. This ordinance is an essential part of worship and spiritual development. Joy comes when we understand that this is not just another day. “The sabbath was made for man” with the intention of

Andro iray monja mialoha ny nahafatesany dia nanao fanambarana nanoloana ny fianakaviany sy ireo namany izy hoe: “Taona maro lasa izay dia nanasa ahy ireo misiônera mba ho sambatra miaraka amin’ny fianakaviako. Faly tokoa aho. Lazao amin’ny olona rehetra eto Chili fa ny filazantsara dia fahasambarana.”

Rehefa nihinana sakafo mahavelona tamin’ny filazantsaran’i Jesoa Kristy i Ricardo dia nanokana ny tenany manontolo hanompoana an’ Andriamanitra sy ny namany tamim-pitiavana. Nitahy taranaka nifandimby maro ny ohatra amin’ny maha-mpianatra nasehony, anisan’izany aho. Nampianatra ny Mpaminany Joseph Smith hoe: “ny lehilahy heniky ny fitiavan’ Andriamanitra dia tsy mifaly fotsiny amin’ny fitondrana fitahiana ho an’ny fianakaviany, fa mitety an’izao tontolo izao, maniry ny hitahy ny zanakolombelona rehetra.”

Miverina any amin’ny fonenantsika any An-danitra

Any anatintsika tsirairay avy any dia misy faniriana ny hiverina any amin’ny fonenantsika any an-danitra, ary i Jesoa Kristy no rafitra mitari-dalana antsika avy any an-danitra. Izy no lalana. Ny sorona fanavotana nataony no mahatonga antsika ho afaka manao fanekempihavanana masina amin’ Andriamanitra. Raha vao manao fanekempihavanana isika dia hiditra ao anatin’ireo fotoana hilomanosantsika manohitra ny toha-drivotra. Ny loza, ny fahadisoam-panantenana, ny fakam-panahy ary ny fijaliana dia hizahana toetra ny finoantsika sy ny herintsika ara-panahy. Mangataha fanampiana. Takatr’i Jesoa Kristy ny enta-mavesatsika ary maniry ny hifampizara izany amintsika lalandava Izy.

Tadidio fa Izy dia fantatra amin’ny hoe “lehilahy ory sady zatra ny fahoriana.” Nampianatra ny Mpamonjy fa: “Aty amin’izao tontolo izao no ahitanareo fahoriana; nefa matokia; Izaho efa naharesy izao tontolo izao.” Ny sorona fanavotana nataony no mahatonga ny fahotantsika ho voavela, ka tsy ho tsaroany intsony izy ireny.

Mety tsy ho adinontsika tanteraka ireo fahotantsika, ao anatin’ny fianarantsika eto an-tany izany, mba hahatonga antsika hahatsiaro ny tsy hamerina azy ireny. Fa hahatsiaro Azy kosa isika rehefa mandray ny fanasan’ny Tompo any am-piangonana isaky ny Alahady. Io ôrdônansy io dia ampahany manan-danja amin’ny fitsaohana sy ny fivoarana ara-panahy. Tonga ny fijaliana

giving us rest from the world and renewing our body and spirit.

We also remember Him when we go to the temple—the house of the Lord. Temples give us a deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ as the center of the covenant that leads us to eternal life, “the greatest of ... the gifts of God.”

Attending the temple has given me comfort and great hope about our eternal destiny. I have experienced heavenly connections with people on both sides of the veil. I’ve seen healing miracles in the lives of my young children, two of whom live with unseen illnesses that require daily care for the rest of this life.

Our family rejoices as we share about the plan of happiness. My children’s faces light up when they hear that, thanks to Jesus Christ, their “afflictions shall be but a small moment.” We love our children deeply, and we know that someday, as President Jeffrey R. Holland taught, they “will stand before us glorified and grand, breathtakingly perfect in body and mind.” Our covenants bring us closer to God to the point of making the impossible possible, filling every space of darkness and doubt with light and peace.

Thanks to Jesus Christ, there are hope and well-founded reasons to continue loving, praying, and supporting those we care about.

I know He lives. He knows us and He loves us. He is the way, the truth, and the life of the world.

I invite all of us today to center our lives on Jesus Christ and His teachings. Doing so will help us avoid biting the hooks of temptation, offense, and self-pity. We will stand as temples—holy, firm, and constant. We will weather the storms, and we will make it home, enduring to the end and rejoicing to the end. In the name of

rehefa takatsika fa tsy andro iray toy ny mahazatra fotsiny izy ity. “Ny sabata no natao ho an’ny olona” miaraka amin’ny fikasana ny hanomezana antsika fitsaharana amin’izao tontolo izao, sy hanavaozana ny vatana sy ny fanahintsika.

Mahatsiaro Azy ihany koa isika rehefa mandeha any amin’ny tempoly, dia ny tranon’ny Tompo. Ireo tempoly dia manome antsika fahalalana lalina kokoa momba an’i Jesoa Kristy ho ilay ivon’ny fanekempihanana izay mitondra antsika mankamin’ny fiainana mandrakizay, izay fanomezana lehibe indrindra amin’ny fanomezan’ Andriamanitra rehetra.

Nahazoako fiadanam-po sy fanantenana lehibe mahakasika izay hiafarantsika rahatrizay ny fanatrehana tany amin’ny tempoly. Niaina fifandraisana maro avy any an-danitra aho tamin’olona avy amin’ny lafiny roa amin’ny voaly. Nahita fahagagana manasitrana aho teo amin’ny fiainan’ireo zanako madinika, ny roa amin’ireo manana aretina mifina izay mitaky fitsaboana isan’andro mandritra ny andro sisa iainany.

Mifaly ny fianakavianay rehefa miresaka momba ny draftry ny fahasambarana izahay. Mamiratra ny endrik’ireo zanako rehefa mandre fa noho i Jesoa Kristy, “ny fahorian’[izy ireo] dia tsy haharitra afa-tsy fotoana fohy.” Tianay tokoa ireo zanakay, ary fantatray fa indray andro any, araka ny nampianarin’ny Filoha Jeffrey R. Holland, dia “hijoro eo anoloan[ay izy ireo] amin’ny vatana mahafinaritra sy feno voninahitra ary tonga lafatra tanteraka ao anatiny vatana sy fanahy feno hatsarana.” Ireo fenekepiahavanana nataontsika dia mampanatona antsika amin’ Andriamanitra ka mahatonga ny zavatra tsy azo tanterahina ho lasa azo tanterahina, ka hazavana sy fiadanana no mameno ny faritra rehetra izay maizina sy feno ahiahy.

Noho i Jesoa Kristy, dia misy foana ny fanantenana sy antony mitombona tsara hanohizana mitia sy mivavaka ary manohana ireo izay akaiky antsika.

Fantatro fa velona Izy. Mahafantatra antsika Izy ary tia antsika. Izy no lalana sy fahamarinana ary fiainan’izao tontolo izao.

Manasa antsika rehetra aho anio hampifantoka ny fiainantsika amin’i Jesoa Kristy sy ny fampianarany. Ny fanaovantsika izany dia hanampy antsika hiala amin’ireo fandriky ny fakam-panahy sy ny fahatafintohinana ary ny fiheveran-tena ho voa mafy. Hijoro toy ny tempoly isika—masina sy mafy orina ary tsy miovaova. Ho zakantsika

Jesus Christ, amen.

ireo rivodoza, ary ho tafody soamantsara isika,
sady maharitra hatramin'ny farany no mifaly
hatramin'ny farany. Amin'ny anaran'i Jesoa Kristy,
amena.