Malagasy

Charity—a Sign of True Discipleship

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Ny fiantrana—Famantarana iray ny maha tena mpianatry ny Tompo

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The real destination of discipleship is literally to become as Jesus Christ is.

Ny tena tanjon'ny maha mpianatra dia ny ho lasa tahaka an'i Jesoa Kristy ara-bakiteny.

President Russell M. Nelson recently invited us to "make our discipleship our highest priority." That powerful invitation has stirred me to ponder deeply about my personal discipleship of Jesus Christ.

Nanasa antsika vao tsy ela ny Filoha Russell M. Nelson mba "hanao laharam-pahamehana ambony indrindra ny maha-mpianatry ny Tompo antsika." Nanitikitika ahy izany fanasana mahery vaika izany ka nahatonga ahy hisaintsaina lalina kokoa momba ny maha mpianatr'i Jesoa Kristy ahy manokana.

Discipleship Is Deliberate

Finiavana ilay maha mpianatra

A disciple is a follower or student of another. Disciples are "apprentices" who devote their lives to becoming like their teacher. Thus, being a disciple of Jesus Christ implies more than believing His teachings and doctrine. It even implies more than acknowledging His divinity and accepting Him as our Savior and Redeemer, as vitally important as that is.

Ny atao hoe mpianatra dia mpanaradia na mpandray fampianarana avy amin'ny olona iray hafa. Ny mpianatra dia "mpiofana" izay manokana ny fiainany mba ho lasa toy ilay mpampianany. Noho izany, ny hoe mpianatr'i Jesoa Kristy dia mifono zavatra hafa ankoatra ny hoe mino ny fampianarany sy ny fotopampianarany. Mbola midika mihoatra noho ny hoe manaiky ny maha Andriamanitra Azy sy manaiky Azy ho ny Mpamonjy sy Mpanavotra antsika mihitsy aza izany, na dia zavatra tena manan-danja tokoa aza izany.

President Dallin H. Oaks explained: "Following Christ is not a casual or occasional practice. It is a continuous commitment and way of life that should guide us at all times and in all places." Discipleship is a deliberate journey that we take to become transformed through the Lord's atoning sacrifice and His enabling power. The real destination of discipleship is literally to become as Jesus Christ is—even to the point where we receive "his image in [our] countenances."

Nanazava ny Filoha Dallin H. Oaks hoe: "Tsy zavatra ataotao fahatany na tsindraindray ny fanarahana an'i Kristy. Fanolorantena tsy tapaka sy fomba fiaina izay tokony hitarika antsika amin'ny fotoana rehetra sy amin'ny toerana rehetra izany." Dia ataontsika am-piniavana izay hampiova antsika amin'ny alalan'ny sorona fanavotana nataon'ny Tompo sy ny heriny ahafahana mahavita zavatra ny maha mpianatra. Ny tena tanjon'ny maha mpianatra dia ny ho lasa tahaka an'i Jesoa Kristy ara-bakiteny, izay tonga hatramin'ny hoe "[m]isoritra eo amin'ny tarehin[tsika

To be the Lord's disciples, we must intentionally imitate His thoughts and actions every day—for example, His obedience, humility, and patience. As we gradually incorporate these attributes into our own identities, we become "partakers of [His] divine nature."This emulation of the Savior's character is at the heart of worshipping Him. As President Nelson taught, "Our adoration of Jesus is best expressed by our emulation of Jesus."

ny endriny]."

Mba ho lasa mpianatry ny Tompo dia tsy maintsy maka tahaka an-tsitrapo ny eritreriny sy ny zavatra ataony isan'andro isika, ohatra amin'izany ny fankatoavana, sy ny fanetrentena, ary ny faharetana. Rehefa mampiditra tsikelikely ireo toetra ireo ao amin'ny toetra mamaritra antsika isika dia lasa "mpiray amin'ny fomba[ny masina]."Izany fakana tahaka ny toetran'ny Mpamonjy izany no ivon'ny fitsaohana Azy. Araka ny nampianarin'ny Filoha Nelson hoe: "Ny porofo tsara indrindran'ny fitsaohantsika an'i Jesoa dia ny fakantsika tahaka Azy."

The Sign of True Discipleship

Of all the many divine attributes of Jesus Christ we are to emulate, one stands preeminent and embodies all others. That attribute is His pure love, or charity. Both the prophet Mormon and the Apostle Paul remind us that without charity, "[we] are nothing."Or, as revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith, without "charity, [we] candonothing."

The Savior Himself identified love as a mark or sign by which His true disciples would be recognized when He declared:

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

"Bythis shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

Charity is a rich concept that can be difficult to define but is easily perceived by all who are touched by it.Preach My Gospelteaches that "charity, like faith, leads to action."Indeed, charity may be described as "love in action." This description provides great insight into the summary statement of the Savior's life—He "went about doing good."

As followers of Jesus Christ, we should seek to emulate the way our Master demonstrated His pure love for others. Although the Savior manifests charity in many ways, I would like to call attention to three particular patterns of His charity

Ny famantarana ny maha tena mpianatry ny Tompo

Raha ny amin'ireo toetra masina rehetra ananan'i Jesoa Kristy izay tokony halaintsika tahaka, dia anankiray no miavaka indrindra ary mahafaoka ny hafa rehetra. Izany toetra izany dia ny fitiavany madio, na ny fiantrana. Na i Môrmôna mpaminany na i Paoly Apôstôly dia samy mampahatsiahy antsika fa raha tsy misy ny fiantrana dia "tsinontsinona [isika]."Na, araka ny nambara tamin'ny Mpaminany Joseph Smith hoe raha tsy manana ny "fiantrana ianareo dia tsy afakamanaona inona na inona."

Ny Mpamonjy mihitsy no namaritra ny fitiavana ho marika na famantarana iray izay hahalalana ny tena mpianany raha nilaza Izy hoe:

"Didy vaovao no omeko anareo, dia ny mba hifankatiavanareo; eny, aoka ho tahaka ny nitiavako anareo no mba hifankatiavanareo kosa.

"Izanyno hahafantaran'ny olona rehetra fa mpianatro hianareo, raha mifankatia."

Ny fiantrana dia foto-kevitra midadasika izay mety ho sarotra faritana kanefa mora tsapan'ireo izay voakasik'izany. NyTorio ny Filazantsarakodia mampianatra fa ny "fiantrana, tahaka ny finoana, dia mitarika any amin'ny fanaovana asa."Eny tokoa, azo fariparitana ho "fanehoam-pitiavana amin'ny alalan'ny asa" ny fiantrana. Izany famariparitana izany dia manolotra fahatakarana lehibe an'ilay fehezanteny famintinana ny fiainan'ny Mpamonjy manao hoe: "Nandehandeha nanao soa" Izy.

Amin'ny maha mpanaradia an'i Jesoa Kristy antsika dia tokony hikatsaka isika ny haka tahaka ny fomba nanehoan'ilay Tompontsika ny fitiavany madio ho an'ny hafa. Na dia mampiseho ny fitiavany amin'ny fomba maro aza ny Mpamonjy,

that are readily seen in His true disciples.

dia tiako ny hanamarika zavatra telo manokana izay nisehoan'ny fiantrany ka tokony ho hita avy hatrany ao amin'ireo tena mpianany.

Charity Is Showing Compassion

Ny fiantrana dia fanehoana fangorahana

First, the Savior showed charity by being compassionate. During His ministry among the Nephites, as recorded in the Book of Mormon, the Lord invited the people to return home and ponder on the things He had taught and to prepare for His return the following day.The record then states:

"They were in tears, and did look steadfastly upon him as if they would ask him to tarry a little longer with them.

"And he said unto them: Behold, my bowels are filled with compassion towards you."

Compassion is the portion of charity that seeks to alleviate suffering.Filled with compassion, the Lord healed the sick and afflicted among the people. Afterward, He blessed their children while angels descended from heaven and surrounded them.He performed these tender, loving acts, and many more, because He was "moved with compassion."

While serving as a young missionary in South America, I likewise benefited from the compassion of a dear friend. One evening while I was driving with my companion to the home of our mission president, a young man on a bicycle turned suddenly in front of the vehicle. It happened so quickly that I could not avoid the collision. Tragically, this young man was killed by the impact. I was devastated over the loss of his life. Terrified and in shock as the awful reality of what had just occurred crashed down upon me, I was taken to jail and locked up.I have never felt more frightened and alone. I was filled with despair and fear that I would be imprisoned for the rest of my life.

A fellow missionary, Elder Brian Kochevar, learned of the accident and was moved by compassion. He came to the jail and pled with the officers to be allowed to stay with me in the

Voalohany, naneho fiantrana ny Mpamonjy rehefa nangoraka ny hafa. Nandritra ny asa fanompoany teo anivon'ny Nefita araka ny voarakitra ao amin'ny Bokin'i Môrmôna, dia nanasa ny olona mba hody any an-tranony sy hisaintsaina ireo zavatra nampianariny ny Tompo ary hiomana ho amin'ny fiverenany amin'ny andro manaraka.Milaza ilay rakitsoratra hoe:

"Nahatazana azy tao amin'ny ranomaso [izy ireo] ary ny fijeriny dia nifantoka Taminy miova tsy ny te hangataka Azy mba hijanona maharitraritra miaraka aminy."

"Ary hoy Izy taminy: Indro, ny kiboko dia feno fangorahana aminareo."

Ny fangorahana no ampahany ao amin'ny fiantrana izay mikatsaka ny hanamaivana ireo fijaliana.Heniky ny fangorahana ny Tompo ka nanasitrana ny marary sy ireo ory teo anivon'ny vahoaka. Taorian'izay dia nitsodrano ny zanak'izy ireo Izy ary nidina avy any an-danitra ny anjely nanodidina azy ireo.Nataony ireo asa feno hatsaram-panahy sy fitiavana ireo, ary ny maro hafa koa, satria "nahonena Azy" izy ireo.

Nandritra ny naha-misiônera tanora ahy tany Amerika Atsimo dia nahazo tombontsoa toy izany koa aho noho ny fangorahana nasehon'ny namana malala iray. Indray hariva raha nitondra fiara niaraka tamin'ny mpiara-manompo tamiko hankany amin'ny filohan'ny misiônanay aho dia nihodina tampoka teo anoloan'ny fiarako ny zazalahy nitaingina bisikileta iray. Haingana loatra no nitrangan'izany ka tsy afaka nisoroka ny fifandonanay aho. Nampalahelo fa matin'ilay fifandonana io zatovolahy io. Nalahelo izaitsizy aho noho ny namoizana ny ainy. Tao anatin'ny fihorohoroana sy fahatairana tanteraka noho ny zava-misy mahatsiravina izay nitontona teo amiko no nitondrana ahy tany am-ponja sy nanagadrana ahy.Tsy mbola nahatsapa ho natahotra sy irery nihoatra noho ny tamin'izay aho. Feno hakiviana sy tahotra tato amiko fa hogadraina mandrapahafatiko aho.

Nahare ilay loza ny misiônera namana iray, i Elder Brian Kochevar, ka onena ahy izy. Nankany amin'ilay fonja izy ary niangavy ny tompon'andraikitra ny hamelana azy hijanona hiaraka amiko

cell so that I would not be alone. Miraculously, they agreed. To this day, I feel profound gratitude for this disciple's act of Christlike love, which calmed, comforted, and consoled me during the greatest moment of distress in my life.His charitable compassion was a telling sign of his discipleship. As President Nelson observed, "One of the easiest ways to identify atrue followerof Jesus Christ is how compassionately that person treats other people."

ao amin'ilay fonja mba tsy ho irery aho. Tena mahagaga fa nanaiky izy ireo. Hatramin'izao dia fankasitrahana lalina no tsapako eo anatrehan'io fihetsiky ny mpianatry ny Tompo feno fitiavana tahaka ny an'i Kristy io, izay nampitony sy nankahery ary nampionona ahy nandritra ny fotoam-pahoriana goavana indrindra teo amin'ny fiainako.Famantarana manondro ny maha mpianatry ny Tompo azy izany fangorahana feno fiantrana izany. Araka ny voalazan'ny Filoha Nelson hoe: "Ny iray amin'ireo fomba mora indrindra hamantarana nympanara-dia marinaan'i Jesoa Kristy dia ny fangorahana asehony eo amin'ny fitondrany ny olona hafa."

Charity Is Ministering to Unspoken Needs

Ny fiantrana dia fanompoana manoloana ireo filana tsy voambara mivantana

Another example of how the Savior demonstrates His love is through His observance of and ministry to the unspoken needs of others. To the man who had been lame for 38 years with no one to help him, the Lord made him whole and encouraged him to live righteously.To the woman caught in adultery, He offered hope and comfort rather than condemnation.For the man with paralysis who was lowered from the roof, the Lord offered forgiveness of sins, not just healing of body.

Ohatra iray hafa amin'ny fomba nanehoan'ny Mpamonjy ny fitiavany dia tamin'ny alalan'ny fandinihana ny filan'ny hafa izay tsy nambara mivantana ary ny fanompoany eo anatrehan'izy ireny. Ho an'ilay lehilahy nalemy nandritra ny 38 taona izay tsy nanana na iza na iza nanampy azy, dia nositranin'ny Tompo izy ary namporisihany mba hiaina amim-pahamarinana .Ho an'ilay vehivavy tratra nijangajanga, dia nanolotra fanantenana sy fampiononana Izy fa tsy fanamelohana. Ho an'ilay lehilahy mararin'ny paralysisa izay nahidina avy tamin'ny tafo, dia nanolotra famelana ny fahotana ny Tompo fa tsy fanasitranana ny vatana fotsiny ihany.

When I was called to serve as a bishop, our six young children made sacrament meetings challenging for my wife, Cristin, who had to manage them alone while I sat on the stand. As you may imagine, our children were often less than reverent. Noticing her situation, two members of our ward, John and Debbie Benich, began sitting with her each Sunday to help. Their kindness continued for years, and they became surrogate grandparents to our family. Like the Lord, these disciples had noticed the unspoken need and acted in love—a prominent sign of their discipleship.

Rehefa nantsoina ho eveka aho dia lasa nanahirana ho an'i Cristin vadiko ireo fivoriana fanasan'ny Tompo satria voatery niambina irery ny zanakay enina mbola kely izy noho izaho lasa mipetraka eny aloha. Mety ho azonareo an-tsaina fa matetika ireo zanakay no pelika sy mitabataba. Rehefa nahatsikaritra ny manjo azy ny mpikambana roa tao amin'ny paroasinay, i John sy i Debbie Benich, dia nanomboka nipetraka teo akaikiny mba hanampy isaky ny alahady. Nitohy nandritra ny taona maro ny hatsaram-panahin'izy ireo ary dia lasa ray aman-drenibe mpitaizan'ny fianakavianay izy ireo. Ireo mpianatry ny Tompo ireo, tahaka Azy, dia nahatsikaritra ilay filana tsy voambara mivantana ka dia naneho fihetsika feno fitiavana, famantarana iray ny maha mpianatra azy ireo.

Charity Is Helping Others Along the Covenant Path

Ny fiantrana dia ny fanampiana ny hafa eo amin'ny lalan'ny fanekempihavanana

Lastly, the Savior's perfect love is focused on enabling all of God's children to fulfill our divine potential that we may "partake of his salvation, and the power of his redemption."As we become more like our Master, our desire to help our brothers and sisters along the covenant path will naturally increase.

Ary farany, ny fitiavana tonga lafatry ny Mpamonjy dia nifantoka tamin'ny fanomezana fahafahana antsika rehetra mba hahazo fahombiazana feno amin'ny maha zanak' Andriamanitra antsika mba hahazoantsika "[mandray] anjara amin'ny famonjeny sy ny herin'ny fanavotany."Rehefa lasa kokoa tahaka ny Tompontsika isika dia hitombo ho azy ny faniriantsika hanampy ny rahalahy sy anabavintsika eo amin'ny lalan'ny fanekempihavanana.

For instance, we can uplift and befriend those who feel offended or forgotten, help those who are new to our congregation feel welcome, or invite friends to worship with us at sacrament meeting—perhaps this coming Easter. There are countless ways to encourage and assist others in their progression if we deliberately and prayerfully seek heaven's help to have eyes to seeand a heart to feel how Jesus Christ sees and feels for them.

Ohatra, afaka mankahery sy maka namana ireo izay mahatsapa ho tafintohina na nohadinoina isika, manampy ireo mpiangona izay vaovao mba hahatsiaro ho voaray tsara, na manasa namana hiara-hitsaoka amintsika mandritra ny fivoriana fanasan'ny Tompo, mety hoe amin'ity Paska ho avy ity mihitsy. Tsy tambo isaina ireo fomba hankaherezana sy hanampiana ny hafa amin'ny fivoarany raha toa isika ka mikatsaka amin-kitsim-po ombam-bavaka ny fanampian'ny lanitra mba hanana maso hahitasy fo mahatsapa izay hitan'i Jesoa Kristy sy tsapany ho azy ireo.

Helping others along their covenant path may take the form of an unconventional act of service. As an example, during my current assignment in the Philippines, I learned of the Agamata family. They were baptized in 2023, and then they eagerly set a date to be sealed as a family in the nearby Urdaneta Philippines Temple. However, just before the family's appointment, several typhoons struck the region. Brother Agamata, a rice farmer, was unable to plant his crops during the harsh storms. When the tempests finally passed, he needed to quickly plant the rice while the ground was soaked with water—ideal conditions for planting. Sadly, the temple trip would have to be postponed.

Mety hiseho amin'ny endrika asa fanompoana tsy mahazatra ny fanampiana ny hafa eo amin'ny lalan'ny fanekempihavanany. Ohatra iray amin'izany, nandritra ny andraikitra sahaniko ankehitriny ao Philippines dia henoko ny momba ny fianakaviana Agamata. Vita batisa tamin'ny 2023 izy ireo ary avy eo dia tamim-pahavitrihana tokoa izy ireo no nametraka daty mba hamehezana ny fianakaviany ao amin'ny tempolin'i Urdaneta Philippines izay tsy lavitra azy ireo. Talohan'ilay fotoana voafaritra ho an'ilay fianakaviana anefa dia nisy rivo-doza maro nisesy namely ilay faritra. Mpamboly vary Rahalahy Agamata, koa dia tsy afaka namboly ny masomboliny izy nandritra ireo rivo-mahery nahery vaika. Rehefa nijanona amin'izay ny rivo-doza, dia nila namboly haingana ny vary izy raha mbola lenan'ny rano ny tany, fepetra tena mety ho an'ny fambolena. Mampalahelo anefa fa tsy maintsy hahemotra ny dia mankany amin'ny tempoly.

Two disciples, Elder and Sister Cauilan, along with three young service missionaries, heard of the Agamata family's struggle and offered help despite having no farming experience. Working under the blistering sun, they helped plant the seedlings, allowing the Agamatas to complete their task and attend their temple sealing as scheduled. Elder Cauilan observed that "[the Agamatas'] countenances glowed as we saw them dressed in white in the house of the Lord.

Nahare ny fahasahiranan-dry Agamata ny mpianatry ny Tompo anankiroa, Elder sy Soeur Cauilan, ary koa ny tanora misiônera roa misahana asa fanompoana, ka dia nanolotra ny hanampy izy ireo na dia tsy nanana traikefa tamin'ny fambolena aza. Niasa teo ambanin'ny masoandro midanika izy ireo, nanampy hamboly ireo masomboly, ka namela an-dry Agamata hamita ny asan'izy ireo sy hamonjy ny famehezana any amin'ny tempoly araka ny voalahatra. Nanome

The joy we felt ministering to the one is a joy beyond compare!"

fanamarihana i Elder Cauilan fa "nanjelatra ny tarehin-dry [Agamata] rehefa hitanay niakanjo fotsy tao amin'ny tranon'ny Tompo izy ireo. Fifaliana tsy hay ampitahaina no fifaliana tsapanay tamin'ny fanompoana azy ireo!"

The Agamatas now enjoy the rich blessings of being sealed as an eternal family because a few fellow disciples who were filled with charity—a sign of their discipleship—determined to help their brothers and sisters forward along their covenant path.

Amin'izao ry Agamata dia mianoka ny fitahiana sesehen'ny hoe voafehy ho fianakaviana mandrakizay satria nisy mpianatry ny Tompo vitsivitsy tahaka azy ireo heniky ny fiantrana, izay famantarana iray ny maha mpianatra azy ireo, nanapa-kevitra ny hanampy ny rahalahiny sy ny anabaviny handroso eo amin'ny lalan'ny fanekempihavanany.

Brothers and sisters, discipleship of Jesus Christ is the only way to obtain enduring happiness. It is a path filled with deliberate and purposeful acts of love toward others. While the path of discipleship may be difficult and challenging, and while at times we may struggle and fall short, we can take comfort that God is mindful of us and yearns to help us every time we try. Isaiah reminds us that "God will hold [our] hand, saying … , Fear not; I will help thee."

Ry rahalahy sy anabavy, ny maha mpianatr'i Jesoa Kristy ihany no hany fomba hahazoana fahasambarana maharitra. Lalana iray feno fanehoam-pitiavana amin-kitsimpo sy amim-piniavana ny hafa izany. Na dia mety ho sarotra sy manahirana aza ny lalan'ny maha mpianatry ny Tompo, ary na dia mety hitolona aza isika indraindray ary tsy hahomby, dia afaka mahazo toky isika fa fantatr' Andriamanitra ny momba antsika ary maniry mafy ny hanampy antsika Izy isaky ny miezaka isika. Nampahatsiahy antsika Isaia fa "[Andriamanitra] no mitantana ny tanan[tsika], dia ilay manao amin[tsika] hoe … , Aza matahotra, Izaho no hamonjy anao."

With this assurance from our Father in Heaven in mind, I earnestly pray that we may follow President Nelson's invitation to prioritize our discipleship. May we "pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart" to "be filled with this love, which he hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of his Son, Jesus Christ; … that when he shall appear we shall be like him"because we will carry a sign of true discipleship, which is "charity … the pure love of Christ."

Miaraka amin'izany fanomezan-toky avy amin'ny Raintsika any An-danitra izany ao antsaina, dia mivavaka amin'ny foko manontolo aho ny mba hanarahantsika ny fanasan'ny Filoha Nelson mba hanao ho laharam-pahamehana ny maha mpianatry ny Tompo antsika. Enga anie isika "hivava[ka] amin'ny Ray amin'ny herin'ny fo manontolo" mba "hahazoana mameno an[tsika] amin'izany fitiavana izany, izay efa natolony ireo rehetra izay mpanaradia marina an'i Jesoa Kristy Zanany; … ka rehefa hiseho Izy, dia ho tahaka Azy isika"satria hitondra famantarana ny maha mpianatra marin'i Jesoa Kristy isika, dia ny "fiantrana … ny fitiavana madion'i Kristy."

I testify that Jesus Christ is our living, glorious Savior, Redeemer, Exemplar, and Friend. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

Mijoro ho vavolombelona aho fa i Jesoa Kristy no Mpamonjy, Mpanavotra, Ohatra, ary Namana ho antsika. Amin'ny anaran'i Jesoa Kristy, amena.