

Confidence in the Presence of God

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Talitonu Mautinoa i Luma o le Atua

Saunia e Peresitene Russell M. Nelson

Peresitene O Le Ekalesia a Iesu Keriso o le Au Paia o Aso e Gata Ai

April 2025 general conference

As we diligently seek to have charity and virtue fill our lives, our confidence in approaching God will increase.

A o tatou saili ma le maelega ia maua le alofa mamā ma le amiomamā e faatutumu ai o tatou olaga, o le a faateleina lo tatou talitonu mautinoa e faalatalata atu i le Atua.

My dear brothers and sisters, I am grateful to speak to you today in this important general conference. My eyes continue to get older. Thank you for your understanding as I deliver my message.

We live in a day of great momentum in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I am filled with joy as I see progress in so many areas.

I am especially inspired by our youth. They are giving service in large numbers. They are seeking their ancestors and performing ordinances in the temple. Our young men and women are submitting applications for missionary service in record numbers. The rising generation is rising up as stalwart followers of Jesus Christ.

Recently I met a new great-granddaughter. When I contemplate the challenges she will experience in her life, I feel a great desire to help her build faith in Jesus Christ. Living His gospel is essential for her future happiness.

She, like each of us, will face challenges. We all will experience illness, disappointment, temptation, and loss. These challenges can knock our self-confidence. However, disciples of Jesus Christ have access to a different kind of confidence.

When we make and keep covenants with God, we can have confidence that is born of the

O’u uso e ma tuafafine pele, ou te faafetai i lo’u talanoa atu ia te outou i le asō i lenei konafesi aoao taua. Ua oo ina leaga tele la’u vaai a o faasolo ina matua tele. Faafetai mo lo outou agaga malamalama a o tuuina atu la’u savali.

Ua tatou ola i se taimi o malosia sili i Le Ekalesia a Iesu Keriso o le Au Paia o Aso e Gata Ai. Ua tumu a’u i le olioli a o o’u vaai atu i le agai-gai i luma i le tele naua o itu.

Ua faapitoa le musuia o a’u i o tatou talavou laiti. O loo latou tuuina atu le auunaga i ni ao-faiga tetele. O loo latou sailia o latou augatuaa ma faatino sauniga i le malumalu. O loo auina mai e o tatou alii talavou ma tamaitai talavou ia talosaga mo le galuega faafaifeautalai i ni fuainumera ua sili ona maualuluga. O lenei tupulaga faia’e uatula’i maio ni soo totoa o Iesu Keriso.

Lata mai nei sa ou feiloai ai i se tama teine fou a le tama a lo’u afafine. Pe a ou manatunatu i luitau o le a feagai ma ia i lona olaga, ou te lag-onaina se faanaunaga tele e fesoasoani e fausia lona faatuatua ia Iesu Keriso. O le ola ai i Lana talalelei, o se mea e tata ai mo lona fiafia i le lumanai.

E faapei foi o i tatou, o le a feagai o ia ma luitau. O le a oo uma i tatou inā mama’i, lē fiafia, tofotofoina, ma toilalo. E mafai e nei luitau ona faavaivaia lo tatou lava talitonu mautinoa. Peitai, e mafai e soo o Iesu Keriso ona maua le avanoa i se isi ituaiga o talitonuga mautinoa.

Pe a tatou osia ma tausia feagaiga ma le Atua, e mafai ona tatou maua le talitonu mautinoa

Spirit. The Lord told the Prophet Joseph Smith that our confidence can “wax strong in the presence of God.” Imagine the comfort of having confidence in the presence of God!

When I speak of having confidence before God, I am referring to having confidence in approaching Godright now! I am referring to praying with confidence that Heavenly Father hears us, that He understands our needs better than we do. I am referring to having confidence that He loves us more than we can comprehend, that He sends angels to be with us and with those we love. I am referring to having confidence that He yearns to help each of us reach our highest potential.

Now, how do we gain such confidence? The Lord answers this question with these words: “Let thy bowels ... be full of charity towards all men, ... and let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly; then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God.”

There’s the key! In the Lord’s own words, charity and virtue open the way to having confidence before God! Brothers and sisters, we can do this! Our confidence can truly wax strong in the presence of God, right now!

Let’s consider both charity and virtue.

First, charity. Two years ago, I called upon us, as covenant followers of Jesus Christ, to be peacemakers. I repeat what I said then: “Anger never persuades. Hostility builds no one. Contention never leads to inspired solutions.”

True charity towards all men is the hallmark of peacemakers! It is imperative that we have charity in our discourse, both public and private. I thank those of you who took my previous counsel to heart. But we can still do better.

The present hostility in public dialogue and on social media is alarming. Hateful words are

e musuia mai e le Agaga. Na ta’u atu e le Alii i le Perofeta o Iosefa Samita e faapea o lo tatou talitonu mautinoa e mafai ona “solo malos i luma o le Atua.” Manatu i le to’afimālie i le i ai o le talitonu mautinoa i luma o le Atua!

Pe a ou talanoa atu i le i ai o le talitonu mautinoa i luma o le Atua, o loo ou faatatau i le i ai o le talitonu mautinoa e faalatalata atu ai i le Atua i letaimi nei lava! O loo ou faatatau i le tatalo atu ma le talitonu mautinoa e faafogaina i tatou e le Tama Faalelagi, e sili atu Lona malamalama i o tatou manaoga nai lo i tatou. O loo ou faatatau i le i ai o le talitonuga mautinoa e sili atu Lona alofa ia i tatou nai lo mea e mafai ona tatou malamalama i ai, Na te auina mai agelu e faatasi ma i tatou ma i latou foi tatou te alolofa i ai. O loo ou faatatau i le i ai o le talitonuga mautinoa e faapea, e naunau o Ia e fesoasoani ia i tatou taitoatasi ia taunuu i lo tatou gafatia aupito maua luga.

O lea la, e faapefea ona tatou maua lea ituaiga o talitonu mautinoa? Ua tali mai e le Alii lenei fesili i upu nei: “Ia tuu foi lou loto ... ia tumu i le alofa mamā i tagata uma, ... ma ia tuu le amiomamā e teuteuina ai ou mafaufauga e lē aunoa; onasolo malos ai lea o lou lototele i luma o le Atua.”

O loo i ai le ki! I upu a le Alii lava ia, o le alofa mamā ma le amiomamā e tatala ai le ala e maua ai le talitonu mautinoa i luma o le Atua! Uso e ma tuafafine, e mafai ona tatou faia lenei mea! O lo tatou talitonu mautinoa e mafai moni ona solo malos i luma o le Atua, i le taimi nei lava!

Ia tatou mafaufau i le alofa mamā ma le amiomamā.

Muamua, alofa mamā. E lua tausaga ua mavae, sa ou talosagaina ai i tatou uma, i le avea ai o ni soo o le feagaiga o Iesu Keriso, ina ia avea ma ni ē e faatupuina le filemu. Ou te toe fai atu le mea na ou fai atu ai i lenei taimi: “O le ita e lē faatauina ai lava. O le faatupu vevesi e le mafai ona malos ai se tasi. O finauga e le mafai lava ona musuia ai ni faaiuga.”

O le alofa mamā moni i tagata uma, o le faamaufaaailoga lea o i latou e faatupuina le filemu! E taua le i ai o le alofa mamā i a tatou talanoaga, i tulaga lautele ma tulaga tuma’oti. Ou te faafetai atu ia te outou na talitonu ma mulimuli’ia la’u fautuaga muamua. Ae e mafai lava ona sili atu mea tatou te faia.

O le faatupu vevesi o i ai nei i talanoaga lautele ma i ala o faasalalauga faaagafesootai e

deadly weapons. Contention prevents the Holy Ghost from being our constant companion.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we should lead the way as peacemakers. As charity becomes part of our nature, we will lose the impulse to demean others. We will stop judging others. We will have charity for those from all walks of life. Charity towards all men is essential to our progress. Charity is the foundation of a godly character.

Let us plead with our Heavenly Father to fill our hearts with greater charity—especially for those who are difficult to love—for charity is a gift from our Heavenly Father for true followers of Jesus Christ. The Savior is the Prince of Peace. We are to be His instruments for peace.

Now, let us speak of virtue. The Lord tells us to garnish our thoughts unceasingly with virtue. Imagine the boost you will receive to any positive thought when you enhance it with virtue. Virtue makes everything better and happier! On the other hand, imagine what will happen when you add virtue to an impure thought, a cruel thought, or a depressing thought. Virtue will drive away those thoughts. Virtue will free you from anxious, troublesome thoughts.

Brothers and sisters, as the world grows more wicked, we need to grow increasingly pure. Our thoughts, words, and actions need to be unfailingly virtuous and filled with the pure love of Jesus Christ towards all men. The great opportunity before us is to become the people God needs us to be.

Regular worship in the house of the Lord increases our capacity for both virtue and charity. Thus, time in the temple increases our confidence before the Lord. Increased time in the temple will help us prepare for the Second Coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We do not know the day or the hour of His coming. But I do know that the Lord is prompting me to urge us to get ready for that “great and dreadful day.”

taufaafefe. O upu faatiga o ni auupega e faaumatia ai. O fefinauaiga e taofia ai le Agaga Paia mai le avefa ma a tatou soa tumau.

I le avefa ai ma soo o Iesu Keriso, e tatou ona tatou taulamua i le ala o ni ē e faatupuina le filemu. A o avefa le alofa mamā o se vaega o lo tatou natura, o le a mou ese mai ia i tatou le naunauga e tuumauualaloina isi. O le a tatou le toe faamasinoina isi. “O le a tatou maua le alofa mamā mo soo se ituaiga o tagata. O le alofa mamā i tagata uma, o se mea e tatou ai mo lo tatou alu-alu i luma. O le alofa mamā o le faavae o se uiga faaleatua.

Ia tatou aioi atu i lo tatou Tama Faalelagi e faatutumu o tatou loto i le alofa mamā sili atu—aemaise mo i latou e faigata ona alolofa i ai.—o le alofa mamā o se mea alofa mai lo tatou Tama Faalelagi mo soo moni o Iesu Keriso. O le Faaola o le Alii o le Filemu. E tatou ona avefa i tatou ma Ana meafaigaluega mo le filemu.

Taimi nei, tatou talanoa i le amio mamā. Ua ta’u mai e le Alii ia i tatou ia teuteu o tatou mafaufauga e le aunoa i le amio mamā. Manatu i le faatelega o le a e maua, i soo se mafaufauga lelei pe a e faateleina i le amio mamā. O le amio mamā e faaleleia atili ai mea uma ma tele atu ai le fiafia! I se isi itu, manatu pe o le a le mea o le a tupu pe a e faaopoopoa le mamā i se mafaufauga lē mamā, se mafaufauga faatautala, po o se mafaufauga faanoanoa. O le amio mamā o le a tata’iese anamafaufauga. O le amio mamā o le a faasalotoina ai mai mafaufauga atuatuvaale, ma le popolevale.

Uso e ma tuafafine, a o faatupulaia le amioleaga o le lalolagi, e manaomia ona faateleina lo tatou ola mamā a’ia’i. O o tatou mafaufauga, upu, ma faatinoga e manaomia ona amio mamā e le aunoa ma faatumuina i le alofa mamā a’ia’i o Iesu Keriso i tagata uma. O le avanoa sili o i o tatou luma o le avefa lea ma tagata e manaomia e le Atua ona avefa ai i tatou.

O le tapuai e lē aunoa i le maota o le Alii e faateleina ai lo tatou gafatia mo le alofa mamā ma le amio mamā. O le mea lea, o le taimi i le malumalu e faateleina ai lo tatou talitonu matutua i luma o le Alii. O le faateleina o taimi i le malumalu o le a fesoasoani ia i tatou e saunia ai mo le Afio Mai Faalua o lo tatou Faaola, o Iesu Keriso. Tatou te lē iloa le aso po o le itula o Lona afio mai. Ae ou te iloa ua musuia a’u e le Alii e uunaia i tatou e sauniuni mo lena “aso tele ma le matautia.”

As we diligently seek to have charity and virtue fill our lives, our confidence in approaching God will increase. I invite you to take intentional steps to grow in your confidence before the Lord. Then, as we go to our Heavenly Father with increasing confidence, we will be filled with more joy, and your faith in Jesus Christ will increase. We will begin to experience spiritual power that exceeds our greatest hopes.

We are grateful to the Lord for the acceleration of temple-building in recent years. Under His direction, today we announce plans to construct a temple in each of these 15 locations:

Reynosa, Mexico
Chorrillos, Peru
Rivera, Uruguay
Campo Grande, Brazil
Porto, Portugal
Uyo, Nigeria
San Jose del Monte, Philippines
Nouméa, New Caledonia
Liverpool, Australia
Caldwell, Idaho
Flagstaff, Arizona
Rapid City, South Dakota
Greenville, South Carolina
Norfolk, Virginia
Spanish Fork, Utah

I testify that Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of Israel, leads this, His Church. He is preparing to come again. May we likewise prepare to receive Him. For this I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

A o tatou saili ma le maelega ia maua le alofa mamā ma le amiomamā e faatutumu ai o tatou olaga, o le a faateleina lo tatou talitonu mautinoa e faalatalata atu i le Atua. Ou te valaaulia outou ia faia ni faatinoga ma le loto atoa ia faatupulā'ia lo outou talitonu mautinoa i luma o le Alii. A oo ai la ina tatou o i le Tama Faalelagi ma le talitonu mautinoa ua faateleina, o le a faatutumuina i tatou i le olioli sili atu, ma o le a faateleina lo outou faatuatua ia Iesu Keriso. O le a amata ona tatou iloaina le mana faaleagaga ua silimamao i o tatou faamoemoega aupito silisili.

Tatou te faafetai i le Alii mo le faatele'a'iina o le fauina o malumalu i nei tausaga. I le asō i lalo o Lana taitaiga, matou te faasilasila atu ai fuafuaga e fau se malumalu i nofoaga taitasi nei e 15:

Reynosa, Mekisiko
Chorrillos, Peru
Rivera, Iurukuei
Campo Grande, Pasila
Porto, Potukale
Uyo, Nigeria
San Jose del Monte, Filipaina
Noumea, Niu Kaletonia
Liverpool, Ausetalia
Caldwell, Idaho
Flagstaff, Arisona
Rapid City, South Dakota
Greenville, South Carolina
Norfolk, Virginia
Spanish Fork, Iuta

Ou te molimau atu o loo taitaia e Iesu Keriso, o le Togiola o Isaraelu, lenei, Lana Ekalesia. O loo sauniuni o Ia e toe afio mai. Ia faapena foi ona tatou sauniuni e talia o Ia. Ou te tatalo ai, i le suafa o Iesu Keriso, amene.