

Greenmount Ward

NEWSLETTER

3rd May 2020

#0007

"Reflecting on God's goodness and mercy helps us become more spiritually receptive"

Elder Dale G. Renlund

Bishop's Message

Hi Ward Family,

We see hope on the horizon with easing of government restrictions this week. It was also the same day the Area Presidency approved our ministering brothers to once again administer sacrament to those families without priesthood in their home- something we have all been hoping and praying for.

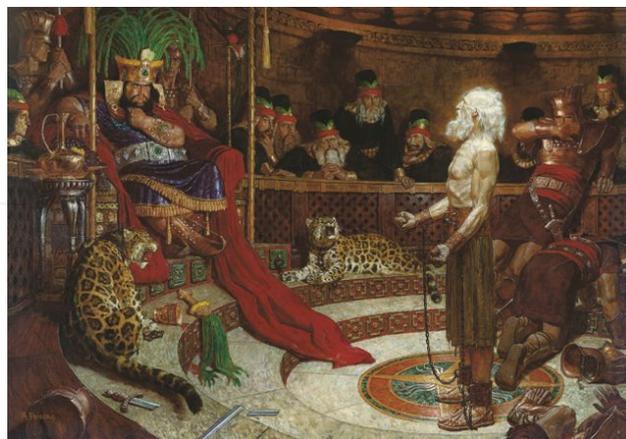
Last Sunday I watched one of the church released Book of Mormon videos on Youtube. It was the account of Abinadi (found in Mosiah 11-18) about 148BC in the land of Shilom, the prophet Abinadi rebuked King Noah and his priests for their wickedness. What struck me was his singular focus to deliver his message and the lack of concern for his own wellbeing when he said *"...I finish my message and then it matters not whither I go, if it so be that I be saved"*. What faith and fearlessness he had. Well, despite Abinadi's message from the Lord, Noah did not repent and Abinadi was put to death sealing his message with his own blood. However, there was one that did hear and believe, Alma, one of King Noah's judges. Alma and his son, Alma the younger eventually went on to become great prophets as Abinadi who continued to preach the gospel to many.

Abinadi delivered God's message, the invitation offered for Noah to repent, but he still refused. This could happen to us when we share the gospel but you never know who could be listening usually the least expecting recognizes the message, feels the spirit as Alma did and changes their life. Our part is to "invite" the rest is up to the Lord.

This has been a rare time of enforced solitude that has allowed us to slow down and brush off a lot of superficial busyness that distracts us from the important things in life. When things come right, and back to normal and they will, there will be some who will have reevaluated their lives as a result and are looking for a change.

May I encourage each of us, when the opportunity arises and the spirit prompts to continually invite friends, less active and those in need into your home, to church events and activities, to be a friend and to share your gospel experiences. You never know who may be listening, but the Lord will.

Sincerely,
Bishop Spark



Tithing Pickup

Our next tithing pickup will be Sunday the 3rd of May. Please contact one of the Bishopric members to add your name to our pick up list. Call Bishop on 0423 440 576.

Ward Announcements

- During the week the State government relaxed the restriction on indoor and outdoor social gatherings. These gatherings are now to be limited to 10 rather than two (social distancing is still required). As a result, the Area Presidency has announced that priesthood holders can now attend the members' homes to administer the sacrament on the sabbath. Please speak to your ministering brothers or the a member of the elders quorum presidency (Don Desmond - 0419 191 756 and Tony MacDonald - 0412 380 210) if you wish to have the sacrament in your home.
- Relief Society will be holding weekly lessons using zoom. These will be at 11.30 every Sunday. Details of how to join will come via text message. If you have any trouble or questions to contact Naomi Holder 0437 392 874.

Relief Society President Message

Getting to know the sisters

Hello from Belinda King

Something I have learnt from come follow me this year?

This year's Come Follow Me I have been enjoying watching a youtube series by Scripture Gems each week. Some weeks I haven't done the study but I have done most and really enjoy the insights I am learning. One of the most interesting things I learned was way back in 1st Nephi 11-15. In Nephi's vision he talks with an angel about the condescension of Christ. Condescension means the ability to come to our level. What I found interesting is the following:

The place that Jesus was born was in a **lowly** stable. Did you know that the place where Jesus was baptised (the River Jordan) was actually the **lowest** physical place on the earth? Jesus Ministered to people in their **lowest** place. Jesus died in the **lowest** way possible on a cross (the worst sinners were crucified in this way). He was even placed in a borrowed tomb. I found it amazing how symbolic everything is in the Gospel, and this was no exception.

Something positive about quarantine.

I am actually enjoying my time at home. It has given me opportunities to spend time on projects and doing things I love to do. We are working on some reupholstery projects and I am also spending some time on making family Christmas gifts. I have loved having my son Jordan at home with us for almost 3 weeks and not have to share him. When we were preparing for possible isolation it gave me a good opportunity, and frankly a kick in the backside, to take a good look at our self-reliance in particular our food and storage supplies. I had slackened off on a lot of things over the past few years in that regard and so I was able to reassess and get my stocks back up.

What's worth spending more money on to get the best?

The thing I think is worth spending more money on to get the best is a mattress! If you can get a good and comfortable night's sleep that sets you up for the whole day and week. It also means less back and health problems.

What are some hobbies you enjoy?

I enjoy many crafts and hobbies. I feel like I want to do them all. But I have found that I only have a certain amount of time and so I have to pick and choose the things that give me most enjoyment. I love creating, so sewing is one of my enjoyable hobbies. I have made handbags, clothes, scripture bags, quilting (though I haven't had time to finish many quilting projects because it is a very time-consuming hobby). I have a list of projects that keeps growing. One of the things I have added to the list is making children's dolls. I love growing veggies in our garden. I have put some research into building a raised garden bed that mostly takes care of itself once established. They are working pretty well. We were looking forward to camping over Easter but have had to stay home instead this year. A bit disappointing but at least I have my projects to keep me busy.

What fictional place would you like to visit the most?

I love losing myself in the magical fantasy world of Harry Potter! Sometimes I have wished I could magically fly, disappear or go on some adventures in that magical world. If only I could wave a wand and have the dishes wash themselves and put themselves away or have dinner cook itself, or have the house clean itself.

Elders Quorum

Elders Quorum lessons and dates:

- 10-05-20 Spiritually defining memories – Neil L Andersen
- 24-05-20 Ensuring a righteous judgment – James R Rasband
- 14-06-20 Deep in our hearts- Douglas D Holmes
- 28-06-20 Come unto Christ- John A McCune
- 12-07-20 Consider the goodness and greatness of god – Dale G Renlund
- 26-07-20 A good foundation against the time to come- Gary E Stevenson
- 09-08-20 He goes before us- Henry B Eyring
- 23-08-20 The Melchizedek priesthood and the keys- Dallin H Oaks
- 13-09-20 Opening the heavens for help- Russell M Nelson
- 27-09-20 Come and belong- Dieter F Uchtdorf
- 11-10-20 Finding refuge from the storms of life- Ricardo P Gimenez
- 25-10-20 The finest homes- L Whitney Clayton

Birthdays

- Nicholette Punaivaha 24th April
- Don Desmond 3rd May
- Joyce Renolds 5th May
- Daniel Ballah 10 May
- Hannah Ballah 10 May
- Anthony Punaivaha 12 May

Primary

We hope you are all enjoying the primary spotlight, don't we have such wonderful children in primary!!

Primary has emailed all families about paper copies of the primary lessons and all copies should be delivered to those that responded and wanted them.

If for whatever reason your child/ren missed out and you would like a copy please contact sister Beckham who has spare copies.

Thank you and we hope to see you all soon, love primary.

Primary spotlight

Annalise Beckham

What's your favourite hymn or primary song?

When I Am Baptised

What is your favourite scripture story and why?

In Mosiah, where Ammon went to preach the gospel and find his lost brethren, and King Limhi shows him the plates of the Jaredites that he found.

What are you enjoying most about spending time with your family right now?

Going on walks, bird watching, picking flowers, and riding my bike around Chidlow.

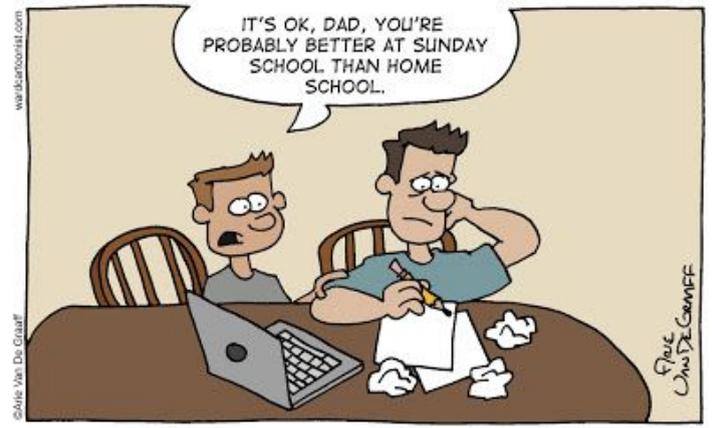


Weekly “Come, Follow Me” Home Centered Learning

We encourage you to continue your home-centered learning by continuing the “Come, follow me” program. If you need a “Come, follow me” manual, please call or message Luke Holder 0435 553 357 your name and address to get one delivered to your door this week! The learning schedule:

May 4 – 10 Mosiah 11–17	May 11– 17 Mosiah 18–24	May 18 - 24 Mosiah 25-28	May 25 - 31 Mosiah 29 - Alma 4
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The Isolation Cantillation



Self Reliance Newsletter below

If you did not receive the business email or this newsletter via email, please contact Neville King (0412 684 403) with your email address to be added to the ward list.

If you want to add something to the newsletter then please contact Michael McIlwaine on michael.mcilwaine@gmail.com

GREENMOUNT SAINTS – SELF-RELIANCE

MOST OF THE INFORMATION COMES FROM CHURCH MANUALS & COME WITH A PROMISE FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/manual/personal-finances-for-self-reliance/message-from-the-first-presidency?lang=eng>

EMPLOYMENT & FINANCES ARE BEST WORKED THROUGH IN WORK GROUPS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FACILITATORS.
(Contact Bro & Sis Thompson 0410757251 & 049975679)

30 SECONDS TO SERIOUSLY PONDER

“Whatever causes us to be dependent on someone else for decisions or resources we could provide for ourselves weakens us spiritually and retards our growth toward what the gospel plan intends us to be.”

Dallan H Oaks.

Spiritual & Mental Health Review Employment & Education Progression

HELP FOR ME

I FEEL SO ALONE, HOW CAN I HELP SOMEONE BETTER UNDERSTAND MY NEEDS?



<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/mental-health-help-for-me/9-i-feel-so-alone?lang=eng>

FINDING YOUR PASSION AND DRAWING ON YOUR EXPERIENCES (Navigate to page 30).

https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/ldsorg/topics/self-reliance/2017/14678_sgmb_book_eng.pdf?lang=eng

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ON THIS DIAGRAM TO REALISE WHAT YOUR PASSION IS



USE YOUR TIME WISELY (Navigate to page 130).

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/ldsorg/topics/self-reliance/education-for-better-work-na-eng.pdf?lang=eng&download=true>

HOW CAN I BETTER UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WARNINGS FROM THE SPIRIT AND EXCESSIVE WORRY?

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/mental-health-help-for-me/4-difference-between-the-spirit-and-worry?lang=eng>

Creating Better Relationships

TWELVE ROADBLOCKS TO COMMUNICATION.

(Check them and see which ones you may use that causes a problem in your relationships)



<https://www.gordonmodel.com/work-roadblocks.php>

Financial Matters Corner

MULTIPLE DEBTS? USE THE ROLLOVER METHOD (Navigate to pages 131 - 135)



<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/ldsorg/topics/self-reliance/personal-finances-na-eng.pdf?lang=eng&download=true>

Eat Healthy & Be Active Corner

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH SUGAR YOU ARE DRINKING

RELIEVE STRESS AND ANXIETY THROUGH DEEP BREATHING & MEDITATION

<https://www.headspace.com/meditation/stress>

