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It's a Wonderful Life!

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Reply-To: bishoprexawilliams@gmail.com

To: bishoprexawilliams@gmail.com

Hello my friend,

It's good to have friends. I consider you my friend, even if we haven't talked together much, or at all.

You know, we can if you want. Just a reply to this email is a conversation. But you don't have to. It's okay. Thanks for reading, I know that's something, and I really do appreciate it. It motivates me to keep writing these. So, thank you.

Well, last week was something, wasn't it? General Conference and Easter. I hope you had a wonderful time with family, or friends, or even just by yourself remembering why we celebrate that holiday. It really is the most significant thing in the history of the world. I'm glad there's still a holiday about it. It's a good thing to remember that Jesus Christ came out of the tomb and lived again in a different kind of body. A glorious, perfected one. Do you know what that means?

It means we get one of those too! Yay!

And if we get a new body after this one breaks down and is done, then there's something super exciting for us to do in the next life, some reason for us to continue with a brand new body. (But don't try to get there too early.) We know that that there is an eternity, and multiple phases of progression, and even though we don't know a lot of the details, it should be exciting and wonderful.

So then, what does that mean for us now? Do we just wait it out in this sub-perfect, fallen world? No, we enjoy this glorious phase, which, believe it or not, is probably way better than our previous phase. At least we were looking forward to it and probably preparing as much as we could. We get to experience love, joy, and happiness here!

Yes, that also means we get to experience sadness, pain, and misery too, but it was worth it. That's the risk we were willing to take because love and joy were so awesome. Plus, we knew we'd have some help to feel the good stuff more often than the bad stuff.

And that's what we got last weekend...

Help from our Father in Heaven who sent us here. Help to feel the good stuff.

He knew it would be hard. That's why He spoke directly with Adam and Eve in person and taught them so much about how it all works here and what's supposed to happen. Then they could easily tell all their children. (And they lived a long time back then, and had a lot of children.) And so that same message could get passed down from generation to generation, and written down in scripture, and then communicated to prophets so that everyone could know the big picture and the plan: that we do have a Heavenly Father who loves us, we lived before, we're now in a fallen world that makes us sin, and we have a Savior that did something amazing for us that is real important for how we experience our next phase.

So, that's what General Conference was about. (Kind of ;)

It was multiple messages from our Heavenly Father, through other people, about why we're here, what we should do, and how we should see the world to have the most joy and happiness while we're here. What a wonderful thing!

What we're trying to do here is to constantly change our fundamental belief system to be more aligned with Heaven, our Father, our Savior, and that eternal plan. We're preparing ourselves for that next phase and the rest of eternity.

So, because we forget things easily (or at least I do more and more these days) we need repetition to get those messages from General Conference (and our Father in Heaven) to sink deep into our mind and soul, so they can change the way we think and behave, the way we see the world and how we react to it.

Because, if we can see things like our Heavenly Father sees them, we will feel the divine joy and happiness He expected us to feel while we are here. And we will do things that create that joy for ourselves and others. This comes from knowing the plan and our purpose, knowing our Savior, and allowing the Holy Spirit to connect with our spirits.

Okay, I know that's pretty deep. And a real round-about way of saying, "Go read, watch, or listen to General Conference talks." But that's how I roll :)

Thank you for reading. I hope this helps in some way.

Take care.

Bishop Williams

P.S.

Here's a link to General Conference talks:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2021/04?lang=eng>

Remember, because we're in Phase 3, we're all meeting together in person for Sacrament meeting each week, along with the Zoom broadcast. We also have a different schedule for the second hour and many other significant changes. Please read both of the attachments from our Stake Presidency.

Since tomorrow is the second Sunday of the month we will have a Relief Society meeting (virtual only this time) and our youth quorum and class meetings. The Sisters will receive a Zoom link for that meeting.

Below is the link for today's Sacrament meeting broadcast. It'll be a little different because we will follow our traditional format and administer the sacrament at the beginning of the meeting (see attachment.) So, we will pause the broadcast while administering the sacrament to the congregation in the chapel, and those who are authorized can administer it in their home, then we will restart the broadcast for the talks and the rest of the meeting.

If you haven't received the sacrament in a while and would like someone to come administer it to you in your home, please reach out to our Elders Quorum President, Weston Palmer, at westonpalmer4@gmail.com.

Join us Sunday at 9:00am:

<https://zoom.us/j/92685846361>

You received this email because you made your email address available to your local Church leaders. It was sent by Rex Williams, whose calling is Bishop.

2 attachments



Everett Stake Phase 3 Adjustments and Guidelines for Sunday Meetings.pdf
75K



Moving the Church Forward.pdf
60K