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Eternal Intelligence

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Hello, my dear Penny Creek ward member,

I do appreciate you. You're so important. I hope you're doing okay.

I know you may have personal struggles that are difficult to solve.

No matter how hard you try, they will not be solved overnight. It may take many nights. Possibly even years. But the Lord knows you and wants you to be happy.

He may not solve your problem in the way you'd like it to be solved, but what he can offer is a different way of seeing the world. A new viewpoint. A way to live that can bring peace. It's an eternal perspective. That is why he has taught us the Plan of Salvation, so we can know that we are eternal beings. And that means that whatever is happening on this earth is temporary.

This is a true principle because we know it's true for children. When young children are upset, with lots of very emotional crying that feels like the worst possible thing in life is happening to them at this very instant, as parents, with more knowledge and understanding, we know that the thing they are incredibly sad about is just a minor thing, and in a few minutes, they'll be laughing and happy again. (Well, this is what we have to remind ourselves in those moments because their behavior can be very convincing, which can cause us to be emotional if we let it. If you know what I mean :)

So, if that scenario is true, wouldn't that mean the same is true for an even higher level of knowledge, say as a teenager? They definitely know more than a toddler. But sometimes their emotion and dire view of their situation is very similar. It feels like the end of the world for them. (And sometimes with the same amount of crying :)

Therefore, by extension, the same must be true for all levels of understanding and knowledge. Whatever level we think we have achieved, there is someone who knows more than us, and can see the situation differently.

There's a great description of this truth in the Pearl of Great Price in the book of Abraham, chapter 3. I invite you to read the whole chapter, but verse 19 makes this point:

"And the Lord said unto me: These two facts do exist, that there are two spirits, one being more intelligent than the other; there shall be another more intelligent than they; I am the Lord thy God, I am more intelligent than they all." (Abraham 3:19)

So, the Lord is the most intelligent of all of us. Therefore, we need His help when we are sorrowful or upset or think that the worst possible thing is happening to us. Children need their parents understanding. We need our Father in Heaven and His understanding in order to overcome the challenges in our life.

Reach out to him. Your problems may not go away, but if you have God's perspective, they may not exist in the same way you thought of before. So, in essence, they aren't a problem anymore, and they do go away.

Trust in higher intelligence. Our Father has it. He wants you to know some of it. He wants you to be happy. "Men (and women) are, that they might have joy." (2 Nephi 2:25)

Our purpose in life, the reason our Father sent us here, is to have joy. And no matter how difficult or traumatic your life has been, or is right now, it is possible to feel joy. Believe it. Have hope.

Have faith in Jesus Christ and His atonement. Because of what He did, we can have joy and peace. He is the Prince of Peace. Lay all your personal struggles and pain on Him. He is able to bear it. In fact, He already did.

This is repentance. Repentance brings peace and joy. It consists of changing our natures to become like Him. Repent and live!

That was His message. That is our message to the world. And that is my message to you.

You are so loved.

Take care,

Bishop Williams

P.S.

- Tomorrow is our Teachers Council class during the second hour for YW/YM advisors. It will be held in the empty Bishop's office on the south side of the building.
- If you or your family need anything, please reach out to your ministering brothers and sisters.
- If you need to stay home and would like to watch the broadcast of Sacrament meeting, let me know by replying to this email. It's the same link that it has been for a while.

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.