

**Jesus Calls Us to be of
One Heart and One Mind—
Zion**

**2017 Restoration Branch Family Reunion &
Conference of Restoration Elders**

Morning General Class, June 30, 2017

What does it take to become of one heart and one mind?

It takes more than one – but it starts with one

Before we can become of one heart and one mind as a people we must become of one heart and one mind with the master.

There is only one way to accomplish that – that is to submit to the will of the master and to allow Him to do his work – first IN US, and then THROUGH US

Through Christ – We Become One With the Son & the Father

Doctrine & Covenants 34

1a Listen to the voice of the Lord your God, even Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, whose course is one eternal round, the same today as yesterday and for ever.

1b I am Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was crucified for the sins of the world, even as many as will believe on my name, that they may become the sons of God, even one in me as I am in the Father, as the Father is one in me, that we may be one.

Christ Prayed for Us to Be One with Him and the Father

John 17:6 - John 17:26

11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, **that they may be one, as we are.**

16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth.

18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

20 **Neither pray I for these alone, (First hand witnesses) but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; (Witnesses through the testimony of others)**

21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one;

23 I in them, and thou in me, (through Christ we are one with the Father) that they may be made **perfect in one**; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Christ Prayed for Us to be Given the Holy Ghost that we might be One with Him and the Father

3 Nephi 9:

20 ...Father, I thank thee that thou hast given the Holy Ghost unto these whom I have chosen; and it is because of their belief in me, that I have chosen them out of the world. **21 Father, I pray thee that thou wilt give the Holy Ghost unto all them that shall believe in their words.**

22 Father, thou hast given them the Holy Ghost, because they believe in me, and thou seest that they believe in me, because thou hearest them, (*the Father witnesses*) and they pray unto me; and they pray unto me because I am with them. **23** And now Father, I pray unto thee for them, and also for all those who shall believe on their words, that they may believe in me, **that I may be in them as thou, Father, art in me, that we may be one.**

28 Father, I thank thee **that thou hast purified** these whom I have chosen, **because of their faith.**

29 And I pray for them, and also for them who shall believe on their words, that they may be purified in me, through faith on their words, even as they are purified in me.

30 Father, I pray not for the world, but for those whom thou hast given me out of the world, because of their faith, that they may be purified in me, **that I may be in them as thou, Father, art in me, that we may be one,** that I may be glorified in them.

There can be no Fellowship with the Father, His Son, and Each Other without the Light of Christ being in Us

I John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, **that ye also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.**

1:4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.**

1:6 **If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.** **(There is no fellowship between light and darkness*)**

1:7 **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.**

***2 Cor 6:14 ...For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?**

I John 1 Continued

1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

What is required to become of One Heart & One Mind with the Son and the Father?

First – It requires the **Holy Ghost**

It requires us **to become Christ minded**

It requires a **broken heart and contrite spirit**

IT REQUIRES US TO SURRENDER

Being One With God and Each Other requires us to Be Christ Minded

Philippians 2

1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

2 Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus;

Being One with God and Each Other requires a Broken Heart and Contrite Spirit

How many times does Christ have to win my heart? My devotion? My response to his ministry?

You think it would only require once, but that hasn't been true in my life.

Far too often my heart is focused on lesser things, and my response to his ministry has suffered. Some of you may have similar experiences.

The question is, Why is this so? Why do I have such a fickle heart? Why do I continue to set my heart on lesser things?

Why do I have Fickle Heart?

Number of reasons, but I want to focus on just one today:

I don't understand, and appreciate the immense worth that God places on a soul. On my soul.

- He loved me enough that he created me/us, and created me/us to be citizens of his Kingdom – **that should be enough demonstration of his love**

However, we have an even greater witness:

- **My soul is of such great worth to Him that He gave His only begotten Son as a sacrifice for me, that my soul might not be lost; that I might have the opportunity to take my place as a citizen in His Kingdom.**

This means, I don't have to establish my worth with God

The King who created me, who endowed me with talents, abilities and gifts, loves me and He knows my worth.

- In His Kingdom, I am counted worthy, **until I prove myself to be of little worth, or value**, in the work of the Kingdom.
- **I become unworthy because of my response, or lack thereof, not because I am not of worth in God's eye, but because I don't understand my worth**
- As such, **I am the one who devalues myself**, and **I dishonor the one who gave me life**
- And because I don't appreciate how much I am worth, and how much each of you is worth to God, **I find myself giving my heart, and being engaged in lesser things.**
- **I/We have a Heart Problem – I need to Appreciate, how much God values me and each of you.**

To accomplish this, in some ways is more of a miracle than moving mountains.

Brother Oakman

Lecture 2 - A Spiritual View Of History

“Gentlemen, has it ever occurred to you, God by His word can make a galaxy or a universe, utter His word and it is obeyed, and **yet it takes Him the agony and the sweat, and the blood of the cross to change the heart of one selfish man, so that it becomes a loving heart. Have you ever thought of that?**

And has it ever occurred to you that it matters more to God in eternity, that one little eight year old child makes a decision for righteousness of his own free will, this matters more to God than the creation of the universe.”

What has Christ called us to do?

Has he called us to move mountains? – No

Has he called us to change the course of rivers? – No

Has he called us to convert the entire world? – NO

Has he called us to fight the battles of this world – NO,

He says he will fight those.

He has simply called us to love Him, to give our hearts to Him,

And to love one another - to love one another enough to sacrifice self for each other

He has called us to express our love for him by loving one another

Gal 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Mos 1:49 And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of your God.

When we made our covenant with the Lord, we signified to Him that we had given him all our heart, our might, mind and strength; and that we would serve him. Every month, when we partake of the sacrament, we reaffirm this.

Yet the question remains: - **Will he have to win my heart again?**

Doctrine and Covenants 45:2a-b

Hearken, O ye people of my church, and ye elders, listen together, and hear my voice, while it is called today, and harden not your hearts; for verily I say unto you that I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, [I Am] the light and the life of the world; a light that shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not.

What is required to be of One Heart – One Mind?

We must be one body – the body of Christ?

I Corinthians 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body; so also is Christ. (who is the head)

12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

12:14 For the body is not one member, but many.

12:20 But now are they many members, yet but one body.

All Are Needed for the Body to Function Effectively

I Corinthians 12:18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 12:19 And if they were all one member, where were the body?

I Corinthians

12:21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee; nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. **12:22** Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary; **12:23** And those members of the body, which we think to be less honorable, upon these we bestow more abundant honor; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. **12:24** For our comely parts have no need; **but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honor to that part which lacked;** **12:25** **That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.** **12:26** And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it.

12:27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

We are the body of Christ, and Members in Particular

Questions remain:

How do we function as the body of Christ? (Collective Question)

How do become a people of one heart and one mind

What is our part in the body? (Personal Question)

What are our gifts? What is our calling? What is our stewardship?

What is required TO BE A PEOPLE of ONE HEART and ONE MIND?

Beyond our fellowship with God - It will require us to:

- 1. Reaffirm our common covenant and common heritage**
- 2. Affirm that which reconciles, unites and compels us to fulfill our common covenant**
- 3. Clarify and reaffirm our common purpose and vision**

1. Reaffirm our common covenant and common heritage

What is the common covenant each of us have entered into?

“And now, as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light; Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times, and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life: Now I say unto you, If this be the desire of your hearts, what have you against being baptized in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him that ye will serve him and keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit more abundantly upon you? And now when the people had heard these words, they clapped their hands for joy, and exclaimed, This is the desire of our hearts.” Mosiah 9:39-42

1. Reaffirm our common covenant and common heritage

What is the common covenant each of us have entered into?

“One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.” Ephesians 4:5-7

*“All those who humble themselves before God and desire to be baptized, and **come forth with broken hearts and contrite spirits**, and witness before the church that they have truly repented of all their sins, and are willing to take upon them the name of Jesus Christ, having a determination to serve him to the end, and truly manifest by their works that they have received of the Spirit of Christ unto the remission of their sins, shall be received by baptism into his church.”* Doctrine & Covenants 17:7b-d

1. Reaffirm our common covenant and common heritage

Can we reaffirm our common covenants and agree to be a covenant people?

*“And **they all cried with one voice**, saying, Yea, we believe all the words which thou hast spoken unto us; And also, we know of their surety and truth, because of the Spirit of the Lord Omnipotent, which has wrought a mighty change in us, or in our hearts, that we have no more disposition to do evil, but to do good continually. And we, ourselves, also, through the infinite goodness of God, and the manifestations of his Spirit, have great views of that which is to come; and were it expedient, we could prophesy of all things....And **we are willing to enter into a covenant with our God, to do his will, and to be obedient to his commandments in all things that he shall command us, all the remainder of our day,**” Mosiah 3:2-6*

2. Affirm that which reconciles, unites and compels us to fulfill our common covenant

What separates us from each other, what keeps us from becoming one? (Pg. 4)

- Strife and vainglory (Phil. 2:3)
- Envy and strife (James 3:14-16)
- Desirous of vainglory, provoking one another (Galatians 5:25-26)
- Vanity of mind; blindness of heart; Lasciviousness leading to uncleanness and greediness (Eph. 4:17-19)
- Fear (I John 4:18)

2. Affirm that which reconciles, unites and compels us to fulfill our common covenant

What can we do to address that which separates us? (Pg. 4)

Lowliness of mind – esteem others better than ourselves (Phil. 2:3)

Be kindly affectioned with one another – have brotherly and sisterly love – preferring one another (Rom. 12:10)

See that ye love one another (D&C 85:38a-c)

- Cease to be covetous – learn to impart one to another as the gospel requires
- Cease to be idle
- Cease to be unclean
- Cease to find fault one with another
- Above all, **clothe yourselves with the bonds of Charity**, as with a mantle, which is a bond of perfectness and peace;
- Pray always, that you may not faint until I come; behold, and lo, I will come quickly, and receive you unto myself.

2. Affirm that which reconciles, unites and compels us to fulfill our common covenant

What binds us to one another? (Pg.4)

Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

- *With all lowliness and meekness,*
- *With long-suffering, forbearing one another in love;*
- *Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,*
- *In one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;”*

Ephesians 4:1-4

Finally, be ye all of one mind,

- *having compassion one of another;*
- *love as brethren,*
- *be pitiful,*
- *be courteous;*
- *Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing; but contrariwise blessing;*

Knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days,

- *let him refrain his tongue from evil, and*
- *his lips that they speak no guile;*
- *Let him eschew evil, and do good;*
- *let him seek peace, and ensue it.*

For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.” I Peter 3:8-12

2. Affirm that which reconciles, unites and compels us to fulfill our common covenant

Can we agree to not engage in things that separate us but to engage in things that bind us together? (Pg. 4)

“Let contentions and quarrelings among you cease. Sustain each other in peace, and ye shall be blessed with my Spirit, in comforting and strengthening you for my work. It is not expedient that I command you further at this time; but be ye diligent, wise, and faithful, doing all things with an eye single for the glory of your God, and for the good of his people. Thus saith the Lord. Amen.” Doctrine & Covenants 117:13-14

3. Clarify and reaffirm our common purpose and vision

What is our common purpose and vision?

“For this is my work and my glory, to bring to pass the immortality, and eternal life of man.” Doctrine & Covenants 22:23b

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” Matthew 28:18-19

“And they went forth and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.” Amen. Mark 16:21

“For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel; not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish, foolishness; but unto us which are saved, it is the power of God.” I Corinthians 1:17-18

“Wherefore, seek not the things of this world but seek ye first to build up the kingdom of God, and to establish his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:38

3. Clarify and reaffirm our common purpose and vision

What is our common purpose and vision?

“I have sent mine everlasting covenant into the world, to be a light to the world, and to be a standard for my people and for the Gentiles to seek to it, and to be a messenger before my face to prepare the way before me.” Doctrine & Covenants 45:2d

“Zion shall not be moved out of her place, notwithstanding her children are scattered, they that remain and are pure in heart shall return and come to their inheritances; they and their children, with songs of everlasting joy; to build up the waste places of Zion. And all these things, that the prophets might be fulfilled.” Doctrine & Covenants 98:4g

“Keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion: seek not for riches but for wisdom; and, behold, the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto you, and then shall you be made rich.” Doctrine & Covenants 6:3a-b

3. Clarify and reaffirm our common purpose and vision

How does this find meaning in each of our lives?

“For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.” Romans 14:17-19

“Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”
Phillipians 2:4

“Thus saith the Lord, Let Zion rejoice, for this is Zion, THE PURE IN HEART; therefore let Zion rejoice,” Doctrine & Covenants 94:5c

3. Clarify and reaffirm our common purpose and vision

Reaffirm our commitment to our common purpose and vision?

“Behold, I sent you out to testify and warn the people, and it becometh every man who hath been warned, to warn his neighbor; therefore, they are left without excuse, and their sins are upon their own heads.” Doctrine & Covenants 85:22a

“And it came to pass that there was no contention in the land, because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people. And there were no envyings, nor strifes, nor tumults, nor whoredoms, nor lyings, nor murders, nor any manner of lasciviousness; And surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God...And they had all things common among them, therefore they were not rich and poor, bond and free, but they were all made free, and partakers of the heavenly gift.” 4Nephi 1:17-19; 4Nephi 1:4

The Lord Called His People Zion

- **because they were of one heart and one mind, and**
- **dwelt in righteousness**
- **evidenced the fruits of righteousness - no poor among them**

Genesis 7:23-28; D&C 36:2f-3d

23 And the Lord called his people, Zion, because they were of one heart and of one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there were no poor among them.