

Friends

Do you know how to recognize a true friend? A real friend loves us and protects us.
...A true friend makes it easier for us to live the Gospel by being around him.
...A true friend does not make us choose between his way and the Lord's way.

Elder Robert D. Hales, *Ensign*, May 1990, p.40

Repentance

God asks us now to give up only those things which, if clung to, will destroy us.

Elder Neal A. Maxwell, *Ensign*, November 1974, p.13

Atonement

IN GETHSEMANE, THE SUFFERING JESUS BEGAN TO BE "SORE AMAZED" (MARK 14:33), OR IN THE GREEK "AWE STRUCK" AND "ASTONISHED". JESUS KNEW COGNITIVELY WHAT HE MUST DO, BUT NOT EXPERIENTIALLY. HE HAD NEVER PERSONALLY KNOWN THE EXQUISITE AND EXACTING PROCESS OF ATONEMENT BEFORE. THUS, WHEN THE AGONY CAME IN ITS FULLNESS, IT WAS SO MUCH WORSE THAN EVEN HE WITH HIS UNIQUE INTELLECT HAD EVER IMAGINED. THE CUMULATIVE WEIGHT OF ALL MORTAL SINS, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE – PRESSED UPON THAT PERFECT SINLESS, AND SENSITIVE SOUL. NO WONDER AN ANGEL APPEARED TO STRENGTHEN HIM.
Elder Neal A. Maxwell, *Ensign*, April 1985

Physical Death

Death is a mere comma, not an exclamation point!

Elder Neal A. Maxwell, May 1983, p.11

Scripture Study

We can and must go often and carefully to the word of God. If we become casual in our study of the scriptures, we will become casual in our prayers.

Henry B. Eyring, *Ensign*, November 2001, p.17

Child of God

Elder Henry B. Eyring of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles tells us a tender personal story that makes this point in a penetrating way. When he was a teenager his family moved from a very comfortable environment for young Elder Eyring to a location that was not to his liking. He sulked for a bit until the spirit spoke directly to him about who he was in God's plan and how we out to proceed. One day the spirit instructed, 'When you find out who you are, you will be sorry you didn't try harder.' I suspect this spiritual admonition for more diligent effort is probably appropriate for most of us. The Lord will lead us in our particular role if we will seek and follow His guidance.

Quoted by Elder Robert C. Oaks, *BYU Devotional*, "Understand Who You Are" 21 March 2006.

Prophets

A revealing characteristic of a true prophet is that he declares a message from God. He makes no apology for the message, nor does he fear for any social repercussions which may lead to derision and persecution.

Ezra Taft Benson, *Ensign*, November 1981, p.61

God the Father

And now we're here — our memories are veiled — and we're showing God and ourselves what we can do. And nothing is going to startle us more when we pass through the veil to the other side than to realize how well we know our Father and how familiar his face is to us.

President Ezra Taft Benson

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President Ezra Taft Benson, *Ensign*, Dec 1988, p.6