

Katy First Ward Spiritual Message #35

DEVELOPING THE DISPOSITION TO DO GOOD

My son Nathan made an interesting observation recently. He said,

“For over 50 years chimpanzees have been taught with great success to communicate through sign language. Yet from the first one in 1965 until today, a chimpanzee has never asked a question. They have the tools to communicate but lack the curiosity to question the world around them.

Similarly, millions of God's children have been taught the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but many of us lack the curiosity to go beyond just knowing that it is true. It's like having a Ferrari nicely stored in a garage somewhere.”

That reminds me of something I learned teaching the High Priest Quorum years ago. As I prepared the lesson I realized that if God already knows everything then we are not here on this earth to prove anything to Him. He already knows the outcome. The purpose of this life is for us to gain character. We came into this life naked and we will go out the same way with one exception. We will be able to take the knowledge, wisdom and understanding we have gained. That comes from our seeking, asking, learning, questioning, gaining new information from life's experiences. We have been sent here TO BECOME not just to DO. Life is about becoming through learning and change.

In the Book of Mormon Amulek clearly states that fact.

Alma 34:34.... that same spirit which doth possess your bodies at the time that ye go out of this life, that same spirit will have power to possess your body in that eternal world

Amulek's point is that the purpose of this life is do develop a disposition. That is our character. And when we die that same character or disposition we have developed here in this life will be with you in the next life. As pointed out in Mosiah our challenge in life is to develop the disposition to do good.

Mosiah 5:2“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.”

We cannot develop that disposition to do good by just showing up at church. We have to search out our mistakes and overcome them. If we are like chimpanzees and just show up and go through the motions we have been taught and are not seeking and asking how to improve our lives we will die without becoming who we were foreordained to become.

Many people die with their music still in them. Why is this so? Too often it is because they are always getting ready to live. Before they know it, time runs out. Oliver Wendell

Holmes, Sr.

Oliver Wendell Holmes Senior

As we change our disposition, our character will be developed and in the next life we will have become what we had the potential of becoming.

Brother Vail

[Back To Index Page](#)