"GREAT THINGS AWAIT YOU"

D&C 45:62

Preparing For the Second coming of Jesus Christ



Painting by Michael Malm

Dear Sisters,

For women here and across the globe, this is a season of preparation. President Nelson's October 2024 General Conference talk, "The Lord Jesus Christ Will Come Again," has inspired us to organize the Winter 2025 Discussion Series on spiritual preparation for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, with an emphasis on hope and female discipleship. We feel blessed to know that the Holy Ghost will guide the preparatory work of receiving the Great Jehovah when He returns to reign on earth as the millennial Messiah. As glorious as that promised day will be, we only know it will be "in a coming day."

Our task now, as holy, covenant-seeking women is to prepare for that day, regardless of when it occurs. We need not do this alone. Jesus Christ has promised, "I will be on your right hand and on your left, and my Spirit shall be in your hearts, and mine angels round about you, to bear you up" (D&C 84:88). Along with practical tips we will use podcasts, talks, quotes, and scriptures to talk about signs, sanctuaries, pride, why we need resilient faith, and so much more. We invite you to come learn, laugh and grow with us. In the words of Elaine Dalton, "[The Lord's] hand is in this work, and He is hastening our preparation if we will listen and act." We are the women that were reserved for this day. "Great things await!"

Love,

Lisa Rose, Allison Sine, Amy Curtis, and Lorri Carrell

Monument Park Stake Relief Society Presidency

JAN 23 – THEY SHALL SEE SIGNS AND WONDERS

Jane Rogers, Discussion Leader

Quote:

"My dear brothers and sisters, in a coming day, Jesus Christ will return to the earth as the millennial Messiah" President Russell M. Nelson.

Scriptures:

<u>Joseph Smith--Matthew 1:4</u> "Tell us when shall these things be . . . and what is the sign of thy coming . . .?"

<u>D&C 45:16</u> "As ye have asked of me concerning the signs of my coming. . ." Five versions of the Savior's Olivet Discourse are recorded in Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21, JS-Matthew, and D&C 45.

Talk:

Dallin H. Oaks, "Preparation for the Second Coming," Ensign or Liahona, May 2004.

Podcast:

Follow Him, Hank Smith and John Bytheway with Dr. Avram Shannon JS-Matt Part 1

Follow Him, Hank Smith and John Bytheway with Dr. Avram Shannon JS-Matt Part 2

JAN 30 –SACRED RHYTHMS, HOLY RITUALS, SANCTUARIES OF STRENGTH MeriKaye Moore, Discussion Leader

Quotes:

"Brothers and sisters, now is the time for you and for me to prepare for the Second Coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Now is the time for us to make our discipleship our highest priority. In a world filled with dizzying distractions, how can we do this? Regular worship in the temple will help us" President Russell M. Nelson.

"I urge you to devote time each week—for the rest of your life—to increase your understanding of the Atonement of Jesus Christ" President Russell M. Nelson.

Scriptures:

<u>D&C 88:67-68, 73</u> This chapter was designated by the Prophet Joseph Smith as the "olive leaf . . .plucked from the Tree of Paradise, the Lord's message of peace to us."

Talk:

Todd L. Budge, "Seek Him with All Your Heart," Ensign or Liahona, October 2024.

Podcasts:

Inklings with Emily Belle Freeman, Russell M. Nelson: The Lord Jesus Christ Will Come Again

All In an LDS Living Podcast, Tamara McFadden: He Lives

Latter-day Saint Women Podcast, Ryan Saltzgiver and Neelima Surisetty Rayudu: Women Endowed with Power

FEB 6 – ABIDE THE DAY

Jane Bodnar, Discussion Leader

Quotes:

"To whom or to what will I give my life? My decision to follow Jesus Christ is the most important decision I have ever made. During medical school, I gained a testimony of the divinity of God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. Since then our Savior has been the rock upon which I have built my life. That choice has made all the difference! That decision has made so many other decisions easier. That decision has given me purpose and direction. It has also helped me weather the storms of life." President Russell M. Nelson.

"His hand is in this work, and He is hastening our preparation if we will listen and act" Elaine S. Dalton.

Scriptures:

D&C 58:27-28 "anxiously engaged . . . the power is in them."

2 Nephi 2:26 "to act for themselves and not be acted upon."

Matthew 25:1-13 and D&C 45:56-57 The Parable of the Ten Virgins.

Talks:

J. Anette Dennis, "Finding Peace Amidst Uncertainty," BYU Speeches, December 10, 2024.

Amy A. Wright, "Abide the Day in Christ," Ensign or Liahona, October 2023.

David A. Bednar, "Things As They Really Are 2.0," Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults, November 2024.

Podcast:

Scripture Central, The Parable of the Ten Virgins

FEB 13 – THE HEART OF THE MATTER

Jane Rogers, Discussion Leader

Quotes:

"Come unto Christ and offer your whole [soul] to Him" President Russell M. Nelson.

"The Final Judgment is not just an evaluation of a sum total of good and evil acts—what we have done. It is an acknowledgment of the final effect of our acts and thoughts—what we have become" Elder Dallin H. Oaks.

Scriptures:

Omni 1:26 "Offer your whole souls as an offering unto him."

The Book of Helaman

Talks:

David A. Bednar, "In the Space of Not Many Years," Ensign or Liahona, October 2024.

<u>Jeffrey R Holland, "Terror, Triumph, and a Wedding Feast, BYU Speeches, September 12, 2004.</u>

Podcast and Video:

Come Follow Up, The Pride Cycle

Dispensations: A Pattern of Apostacy and Restoration

FEB 20 - HOLY WOMEN

Jane Bodnar, Discussion Leader

Quotes:

"I pray that we will not miss the majesty of this moment!" President Russell M. Nelson.

"If we could unleash the full influence of covenant-keeping women, the kingdom of God would change overnight" Sheri Dew.

"No greater recognition can come to you in this world than to be known as a woman of God. . .Much of the major growth that is coming to the Church in the last days will come because many of the good women of the world. . .will be drawn to the Church in large numbers. This will happen to the degree that women of the Church reflect righteousness. . ." Spencer W. Kimball.

"My dear sisters, you who are our vital associates during this winding-up scene, the day that President Kimball foresaw is today. You are the women he

foresaw! . . .The kingdom of God is not and cannot be complete without women who make sacred covenants and then keep them, women who can speak with the power and authority of God!" Russell M. Nelson.

Scriptures:

D&C 25

Talks:

Barbara Morgan Gardner's 5-Minute Fireside: Women and Priesthood Power, LDS Living, Jan. 13, 2020.

Wendy W. Nelson, "One Question that Can Change Your Life," Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults with President Nelson, May 2022.

Emily Belle Freeman, "Live Up to Your Privileges," Ensign or Liahona, October 2024.

Podcast:

<u>Latter-day Saint Women Podcast, Rebecca Mehr - How Priesthood Power</u> <u>Offers Divine Help to Every Woman</u>

FEB 27 – RECEIVE THE LORD

MeriKaye Moore, Discussion Leader

Quote:

"The best is yet to come, my dear brothers and sisters, because the Savior is coming again! The best is yet to come because the Lord is hastening His work. The best is yet to come as we fully turn our hearts and our lives to Jesus Christ. I bear my solemn witness that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I am His disciple. I am honored to be His servant. At His Second Coming, 'the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.' That day will be filled with joy for the righteous! Through the power of the sacred priesthood keys I hold, I declare this truth to you and to all the world!" President Russell M. Nelson.

Scriptures:

Matthew 13:24-43 and D&C 86:1-7 The Parable of the Wheat and the tares.

Ether 12:19 Exceedingly strong faith and Luke 22:31-32 Resilient Faith.

Talk:

Russell M. Nelson, "The Future of the Church: Preparing the World for the Savior's Second Coming," Ensign or Liahona, April 2020.

Podcast, Video and Music:

Scripture Central The Wheat and the Tares with John Hilton III

A House of Faith, Church of Jesus Christ Europe

And the Glory - University of Utah Choirs, Handel's Messiah