# Anyone can receive a personal, special witness of Jesus Christ

By anonymous except to the people who know me

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# **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this book to my God who is mighty to save, the God who is the Father of our salvation, the Father of creation, and the Father of our reborn souls, Jesus Christ. I am anonymous because I want to fight the temptation to share my testimony for fame or fortune. I only want to share for the Love of God. I dedicate this book for charity for the love of God, for his glory. That's why it's free just like salvation is free; all God asks is our heart so he can change it and our lifelong commitment so we can live more abundantly.

I am thankful to my wonderful wife, parents and siblings who have always been there for me.

# CONTENTS

	Testimony summary	i
1	Haven't you already seen me?	1
2	Baptism by fire	Pg#
3	Overcoming addiction, parents' divorce/absence	Pg#
4	All the times Jesus saved my life	Pg#
5	Finding my calling	Pg#
6	Christ comes in a dream	Pg#
7	Let's all see God's	Po #

hand in our life,

receive a personal, special witness of Jesus Christ and share our witness

# Testimony of Jesus Christ Summary

On this Valentine's day, 2019, I want to share the love of God, the greatest gift ever, of his son Jesus Christ. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoso believeth in him might not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

I love how John chapter 4 shows the evolution of faith. One woman at the well (a sinner like us all with whom Jesus wanted to share his love and salvation like us all) testifies to others of her personal witness of Christ from the well. Many in her town believe her to the point that Christ is ready to manifest himself to them so that they can receive their own special witness.

So, to follow her example and to give God glory, I want to share my own special witness of Jesus Christ today in hopes that all of you will receive your own special witness of Christ as well. In October, 2017, Jesus Christ, by the gift and power of God, came to me in a dream after I had fasted and prayed a few days to receive a dream like my ancestor Sanford Porter did.

I talked with Jesus face to face and I know He was and is the Messiah, the Son of God. He hugged me and I felt a burning in my heart from the Holy Ghost that the dream of Jesus Christ was true. Jesus filled me with the sweetest, indescribable, brightest love, peace and joy

beyond compare. I cannot deny it or I would be lying to God and all of you. I also feel that if I did not share it, I would be denying it. It is my greatest hope that you may also receive a special witness of Jesus Christ so that you may experience that which words cannot do justice.

I know that Jesus suffered for all our sins in Gethsemane and died for us on the cross because the Holy Ghost witnessed this to me starting as a troubled teen when I read the Book of Mormon and as I watched the Testaments [of Jesus Christ] video my whole body was filled with pure light and energy, warm tingly sensation as the Spirit's witness. And so I knew Jesus Christ is my saviour in my heart by the Holy Ghost before Jesus visited me in a dream.

It is my hope and prayer that many of us, if not all, may receive a special, personal witness of Jesus Christ from and because of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Ghost, and that many of us, if not all, may be saved in the kingdom of God at the last day.

Happy Valentine's day! I love you all! ♥♥♥

# Reference:

42 And [the townspeople] said unto the woman [at the well whose testimony they believed], Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

# John 4:42

# https://www.lds.org/scriptures/nt/john/4?verse=4 2&lang=eng#p42

# 1 Haven't you already seen me?

Alone. Silent, sitting, seeking. In about September, 2017 I was in my room looking up at a gold-framed picture of the one, Jesus Christ, who had saved my life over the past three years while recovering from a mental breakdown and coping with a new diagnosis of bipolar disorder and other major life events.

I ask, "Can I see you Lord?"

"Haven't you already seen me in your life?" the impression flowed gently, peacefully piercing my mind and heart.

I was astounded.

When I had received such direct answers from the Spirit a few years earlier, I remember feeling troubled at first like someone else was in the room unseen. But then I was filled with that same wonder and astounding feeling that I had now. How God is able to be so close to each of us that He even knows the thoughts and intents of our heart, gently

guiding all along, is beyond my wildest imagination. How amazing is our God!

What wise counsel from God, "Haven't you already seen me in your life?"

My thoughts then were drawn to the times in the recent years I had seen Jesus' hand in my life.

2016 was the worst. Ever. I couldn't even muster the desire to pull myself out of bed. Every minuscule task of getting myself ready in the morning seemed like a mountain of a chore. The Lord's Spirit and my wife's sweet compassion guided her to know how to help me.

My wife would start the day ever so gently, baby-stepping me along: "Okay, let's open the drapes... okay, now let's pull the blanket off...okay, now your legs off the bed..." God sent my angel wife to keep me going through the worst trenches.

I also remembered being in a crisis recovery unit twice in 2016 after not being able to be safe living alone because of the suicidal depression. The place was a simple building as a refuge for those with mental health that were currently too weak to withstand the storms of life.

The suicidal thoughts constantly bombarded me. It got so bad I remember praying that my life would end.

Despite this intense mountain suicidal depression, I kept reading the Book of Mormon and praying, just holding on to any spark of joy left in me.

Then, I remember, in my crisis recovery unit room, alone, I had a vision of Jesus' hand reaching down to me. I felt like Peter, near drowning, reaching up to Jesus extending His

hand.

What hope that gave me! I knew Jesus was aware of me and that deliverance was nigh. In the upcoming weeks, after trying everything for severe depression--diet, exercise, medications, sleep, etc.--I was begging my wife that she would let me do electroconvulsive therapy (ECT). The deliverance started as God sent a feeling of profound peace to replace her great anxiety for putting me through the procedure.

ECT is a simple, 30 second shock that is administered near the temples which triggers seizures, which somehow reignites the spark of life back into the brain. It's like getting a jumpstart. I know God was with me because I didn't feel afraid of the procedure; I was excited because I knew it helped my mom out of deep depression, too.

My wife, ever encouraging, held my hand as I drifted off to sleep before the shock therapy.

Checking my coherence as I was waking up, the anaesthesiologist pointed to my wife and asked me her name. I said, "Wife."

I was all smiles and laughs.

Tears of joy streamed from my wife's face as she saw me wake up out of the shock therapy. She finally had her husband back.

# 2 Baptism by fire

Back to Fall, 2017. My mind continues to trace

God's hand in my life further.

It was Summer 2014 to January 2015 in the scorching oasis of Lake Havasu City, AZ. I had been in a whirlwind of mental breakdown in the middle of a problems at work that it turned out I dreaded, job loss while trying to support my wife and three kids. On top of this was a genetic mental health vulnerability which would soon become a mental breakdown and bipolar 1 diagnosis.

At the peak of my inner conflict l had some questions about my existence. It was a faith crisis and identity crisis. I thought, if this life is infinite then l don't wanna live it because I'm having a hard enough time with finite life. And I started to think, if I wasn't infinite, then what would l start or finish from, nothing?! Then I started to drown in the thought of what it would be like to be nothing or to be deleted, to be lost for all eternity, in the void. The thought flooded me with darkness, despair and fear, falling into the abyss.

Such intense anxiety led me into a panic attack when I was taken to the lake havasu hospital. I felt I was being stripped of my identity as I was admitted to the ER. I had nothing left to hold on to, not even myself. In my panic before given a tranquilizer, I saw my name Steven on my sweater and I started crying out to my wife, "I'm still Steve right?!"

During my terror of losing my identity I willed myself to believe God and his love were still there for me. As I did I thought of the words to Mary "nothing shall be impossible with God" and I was flooded with love, light and unspeakable joy which lasted for the next several months and even after that remains its lasting impression. Now it all makes sense, the words from Jesus "lose yourself to find yourself."

I had never felt such peace in my life. Symbols of that peace

was a moment it seemed time stood still as I gazed at the desert paradise seen of a saguaro standing next to a palm tree, sublime symbol of eternal stillness to me finding my paradise-sure testimony of Jesus Christ's love for me- in my darkest hour.

Becoming fully aware of Jesus Christ's awareness of my very thoughts and feelings, sufferings and rejoicings; I had never felt so close to God, such pure and sweet love, joy and peace beyond compare.

I felt God so close that I remember sitting in a room at work and despite the turmoil there, He was so close that I could write any question down and the answer would come to my mind and heart right away. I still have that paper I wrote those questions and answers on.

So I experienced like what Alma the younger of the book of Mormon described as "my soul was racked with eternal torment" before he called on Jesus' name and was filled with light and joy, which sweetness was as exquisite as was his pain.

Then during my spiritual rebirth/awakening, the following months I saw evidence of Christ and his love for me and each of us personally everywhere, with my spiritual eyes e.g. symbolism in nature. It was hard not to look for him everywhere in everything because I knew that Jesus was the only one who could snatch me out of that abyss. So I wanted to keep finding him.

I was spiritually reborn with a new, bright perspective on my life and the world. No matter where I looked, I saw symbols of Christ's love and sacrifice and I was filled with pure love and gratitude. Whether it was in living things like bugs and plants, even weeds, or in natural surroundings or skies; symbols of their creator, Jesus Christ, became obvious to me

everywhere. Like that thing you were looking for that was right under your nose the whole time.

That's why I describe it as an awakening or rebirth, because I saw people and the whole world in a new, beautiful, and glorious light. And it seemed like something that was within me the whole time, it just took those experiences to bring it out to the surface. And I thank God for helping to bring out His divinity from within me to turn me into who I am today, a more dedicated disciple of Christ.

3 JESUS GAVE ME THE POWER TO overcome addiction and parents' divorce/absence as a teen and bipolar disorder as an adult

My mind drew back to my teenage years up to adulthood. Out of all the books I've read, the Book of Mormon has increased my faith and brought me closer to Jesus Christ more than any other book.

When I first started reading the Book of Mormon daily as a teenager, it was for 9th grade seminary. The more I read, the more I was drawn to it, to not just read the minimum. That was my first testimony of the book, the fact that it was hard to put the Book of Mormon down, even though it was scripture. It began to be "delicious" to me as Alma says in Alma chapter 32 of the Book of Mormon. I began to "feast upon the words of Christ". I started to understand that God could speak to me personally through His Spirit which came through reading Christ's words in the Book of Mormon. Certain

passages would seem to jump out of the page and into my heart and soul, guiding me step by step, molding me into who I am today.

As I read the Book of Mormon, I noticed a tangible difference in my daily life. I was 14, had just moved out of state the previous year, following my parents divorce and my mom's clinical depression mental breakdown when she would get sent to a mental facility often for the next 4 years. Plus, I had my own struggles with social anxiety and an addiction. By all rights I should have been miserable. But I wasn't. And the Book of Mormon was a big part of why I was able to remain happy despite extremely difficult experiences because of the Spirit it brought into my life. When I stayed at my sister's mother and father-in-law's house in Tucson, AZ when my mom and dad couldn't take care of me I started to read the book of Mormon in the mornings because someone recommended that to me and it brought me peace in a very troubling time.

I can still remember when I was 15 after Seminary just walking to class in the snow feeling very bright and happy. My friend asked my why I was having such a great day and the thought occurred to me that it was because I could feel God's love more from my Book of Mormon reading. And because I read daily, I had many days like that; it helped me to be a kinder friend and a better student. It wasn't that God's love for me was changing, but I was changing to be more open to receive the messages of love He was already willing to send.

The Book of Mormon builds my faith in Christ so that l

have enough faith to repent and ask for his enabling power to become more like Him. I know Christ has forgiven me many times as I repent. After I started reading the Book of Mormon daily, Jesus helped me overcome an addiction as a teenager. I followed my bishop's inspired counsel to read the scriptures daily which gave me power through Christ to conquer my addiction. I felt like Christ baptized me with fire as I felt burning, warm tingling sensations throughout my whole body as I watched resurrected Jesus during the Testaments, a movie about Christ's visit in the Book of

Testaments, a movie about Christ's visit in the Book of Mormon and New Testament. I felt like Christ gave me spiritual rebirth by changing my nature in that I had no more desire to do evil including the addiction, but to do good continually.

Between ages 14 and 18 l lived with extended family or friends 4 different times and also lived alone at times in 2 states. With everything always changing in my life, my one constant became God's love for me personally which l felt closer to as l read the Book of Mormon.

Reading the book of Mormon daily also helped me to learn to speak, read and write Russian within 6 months when I volunteered there for 2 years teaching about Jesus, teaching English, and serving the disabled or at nursing homes.

Jesus has empowered me with strength and endurance to recover from a nervous breakdown and get through the last 3 years of clinical bipolar depression episodes, from extreme high manic episodes to extreme low depression episodes lasting several months. During those times, I continued to read the Book of Mormon

and pray. While at a Crisis Recovery Unit for suicidal clinical depression, I knew God had not forgotten me. An image came to my mind from Christ of His hand reaching out to me, just like as He was walking on water and reached down to Peter when He was about to drown. Then, I felt Christ 'pulled me up' out of the water as He led me to find the treatment that would work for me with bipolar disorder, shock therapy. He sent my wife profound peace about me doing shock therapy, dispelling all her fears. Now it's almost been a year since my last episode.

And now in 2017, in april I heard from the Mormon prophet Thomas S. Monson at general conference "if you're not already reading the book of Mormon daily, please do so." Those words hit me with such power and I immediately committed to myself I would read the book of Mormon daily, which I followed from April to now, 8 months later.

I did notice a big difference. I experimented with just reading random pages each day and it was amazing that I remember particular days when I flipped to a page and I'd think, "how did God know how to guide me to just the right page to hear the words I needed to hear?"

After it happened a few times I realized it wasn't necessarily because I needed a certain page number. It was because when I'm reading the words of Christ in the scriptures, the Spirit is able to enlighten me and speak to my questions and concerns, no matter the page number.

Today, Dec 21st I read in Alma 33 in the Book of Mormon and it described the time with Moses when

there were venomous serpents and the only thing the Israelites needed to do to be healed and save their life was to look at Moses' serpent staff, small and simple thing to save them. The spirit taught me that Thomas S. Monson's direction to reading the Book of Mormon daily is the same as Moses' direction to look at his staff. The book of Mormon daily is just as effective for me to be healed and saved spiritually daily from the Serpent's (devil's) venom--temptations/sin-- as the serpent staff (Jesus on the cross) was effective for physical healing and saving because reading and applying the book of Mormon daily increases my faith in Jesus Christ's power to heal me spiritually and physically.

So I continue to read the scriptures daily so I can be more in tune to the spirit and be who God sent me to earth to be.

Through my faith in Christ, developed from Book of Mormon reading, Jesus Christ heals me spiritually from sin, blesses me with his spirit presence on earth, and empowers me to become like Him so that I can overcome any struggle and become worthy to live in his presence in glory forever.

4 All the times Jesus saved my life

THE FLOOD

When I was a baby, as my parents told me, there was a huge flood in Tucson where we lived. My siblings were having a fun time evading the rescue helicopter while cruising around on their raft. Meanwhile for me the baby, it just so happened that my parents had taken me with them on a trip. I wonder what would've happened to me if I wasn't on the trip. I count that as my first time Jesus saved my life physically.

#### THE FIRE

When I was 5, I was sleeping in my room upstairs one snowy night in Boulder, Colorado. My brother Dave's scream to the smoke awakened me, our older brother and sister Chris and Shannon and parents.

My dad was scrambling in the closet for a ladder. Then he passed out to a premonition that all of us were dead on the ground. Then he knew to abandon his ladder search and just get us out.

My brother Chris guided us to crawl down the hall on hands and knees to avoid breathing smoke. My dad under adrenaline and divine guidance knew to toss us one at a time through 2 different 2 story windows, taking a gasp of fresh air with each toss.

I still remember feeling like I was floating down the free fall onto the tree, that caught me like an angel. Jesus blessed me and all our family to come out alive.

#### FROM DROWNING

I have a dream or a memory from long ago. One of those surreal ones, but that has never left me. Was it real? Well, doubt carries greater risk than faith, so I'd rather not doubt.

I was at a hotel swimming pool

with my dad and brother Dave, maybe just old enough to talk. Ever curious, I walked into the deep end. Then I start walking on the bottom, without any fear. My brother or an angel dives in to rescue me.

#### **ADDICTION**

As a teen I struggled with an addiction. Jesus' power to change hearts and His inspiration to my bishop Carter to overcome my demon. Bishop had a vision for my future to give me hope, he exclaimed, "Steve! You will go on a mission and get married in the temple!"

Bishop counseled me to read scriptures and pray every day. I went to the salt lake city, UT temple square visitor center to see a new church film about Jesus' visit to the Americas from the Book of Mormon and life from the New Testament.

Feeling so unworthy of Jesus, yet as Jesus smiled from the screen I felt a warm, electric feeling envelop me as if Jesus was looking at me directly and bathing me with His love.

# JESUS SAVED ME FROM SHAME AND DOUBT

In the missionary training center I felt great anxiety, shame and doubt over my own worthiness to serve a mission. Then I came across a verse in Hebrews and then it was add if the words were from Jesus directly to me "I the Lord remember your sins no more."

#### RUSSIA

I felt guided and protected while serving a mission in Russia to share the good news of God's love through his gospel of faith in Jesus Christ and repentance. I never got beat up, threatened violently, kidnapped, mugged, or killed. The worst I got was slapped by a man and written on by youth. I count that as a blessing because Russia can be scary.

#### AUTOMOBILE INCIDENCES

Twice I've lost control on the freeway as a teen, once on gravel and once on snow, doing 180 to 360 turns without a scratch. My brother Dave was backed over at 4 years old and was saved with a priesthood blessing by my dad from Jesus. Dave said soon after, "Jesus came down and picked me up."

#### THE CONCUSSION

In May 2006 while hiking with my brother Dave, I was kinda reckless and slide headfirst on a tarp down a hillside toward a grove of trees. Dave had happened to learn, by miracle, the week before where to walk for phone reception. Also, there happened to be a hiker with a cell phone. I know these were not coincidences but blessings from Jesus Christ, saving my life.

HE SAVES MY SOUL FROM SPIRITUAL DROWNING WITH SACRED COVENANTS AS PRIESTHOOD ORDINANCES

I received the covenant of baptism in Gaithersburg Maryland at 8 years old from Jesus by my brother Bret and laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost by my dad with the Melchizedek priesthood of the Church of Jesus Christ of latter-day saints. You can chat with a missionary at mormon.org/chat to talk about faith I Jesus Christ repentance and making and keeping sacred covenants with God through priesthood ordinances.

I received the Melchizedek priesthood and soon after, the temple initiatories -washings and anointings- and endowment on Dec 17, 2003 from Jesus Christ at the mount Timpanogos temple in American fork, UT.

I was sealed together forever to my sweet wife Tiffany and our would-be children to receive all the promises of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob- which is to become as God is. This sealing ordinance was from Jesus Christ by brother Featherstone at the mount Timpanogos temple in American fork, UT on July 6, 2007.

### JESUS SAVES ME FROM SEPARATION FROM HIM

In fall, 2017 after getting through really tough times, I fasted and asked for a special dream like my ancestor Sanford Porter had. Then Jesus came to me in a dream and hugged me. And I feel his presence ever so close, leading kindly as we grow stronger and closer to Jesus.

# 5 FINDING MY CALLING; JESUS CAME TO ME IN A DREAM

Early in 2017, after recovering from my deep suicidal depression episodes of 2016, I started to feel awkward because I didn't have a calling at church. If you're a member of the church of Jesus Christ of latter-day saints, you know it feels different when you don't have a calling because most church members are given some assignment to serve in their church/community.

I prayed about how I could serve and I started to think, "well maybe God wants me to take the initiative this time, use my creativity and come up with some way to serve him." On my journey the next few months finding my calling I came across a few clues: my patriarchal blessing, an April 2017 talk from the prophet President Monson and a talk from my bishop Roberts about June 2017.

If you're not familiar, a patriarchal blessing is a personal prophetic guide older teens and above can receive. The blessing tells us our lineage per tribes of Israel, current spiritual gifts and blessings in store dependent upon faithfulness. One gift of mine it mentioned is that I'm able to explain gospel principles in understandable ways to encourage people along their path to become more like God.

My clue from President Monson was this simple, kind

and gentle request that hit me with such force: "if you're not already reading the Book of Mormon daily, please do so."

My clue from my bishop Roberts was his invitation for us to share with others the pure and simple principles of faith in Jesus Christ and repentance. I think I thought, "Well faith in Jesus Christ and repentance is all over the book of Mormon."

As I put two and two together I decided my calling could be to read the Book of Mormon daily and share it either on the internet or in person. I felt like the brother of Jared taking my idea to the Lord and asking him to bless it. The story went that he brought white stones to the Lord to touch to light up. Then the heavens opened up to the brother of Jared and he saw Jesus Christ and his creation, all his earthly children. I am reminded of my other bishop in 2015 who said that kind of experience of the brother of Jared wasn't just for a few but for all who seek it.

So my dream for my calling unfolded, I watched as the Lord helped me use my creativity to find new ways to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. I read the Book of Mormon daily and shared its messages on social media and my blog, and as I developed more courage I'd share with others around me in person, too. The blessings were great!

For example, Lord blessed me to find one man one day, a stranger on my way to work, who accepted a book of Mormon from me and said his friend had actually been inviting him to read it. How amazing are the

opportunities to serve and share with which God blesses us! The most precious gift I have been given to share is my testimony of Jesus Christ, his personal love, and how he changed me for good.

Now, back to where I was at the beginning of the book, except by this time in October 2017 I have finished looking back at my life and seeing God's hand many, many times.

Now I was driving and saw the beautiful sunrise on the way to the kids' school in layton (Crestview). My thoughts were drawn to God and his beautiful creation. And then I have this thought, "if you could meet anyone in the world, who would you want to meet?" I thought out of all the famous artists, philosophers, scientists, prophets, etc, who would I want to meet...well Jesus of course! He lived as a person too and I also know he's God the Son. Then the thought came "if you met Jesus in person, what would you ask Him? Ask that tonight because that's who you'll be meeting when you pray." The question I asked that night was, what can I do to turn my life over to thee Lord? I earlier asked how I can be comfortable in his presence if he came to visit. I also had recalled seeing Christ's hand reaching down to me while at my lowest ever point of depression at the Crisis recovery unit last year, and when fasting this week I had asked if I could see the rest of him.

That night I had a dream I saw Jesus. I was on a mission and the president gave us tokens/talents we could give to Jesus when He visits as a token of the visit. I was in

our missionary apt when He came. He just walked in like it was a normal occurrence. He asked me to put my hat back on and He had one too.

I talked with him face to face comfortably like it was just a normal thing and asked Him, how is it so Lord (thinking of Enos from the book of Mormon), then I felt a burning in my heart from the Spirit (so I knew this vision was from God), how can your love be with each one of us, can I know that now or do I need to wait for the next life? Then He just smiled. I know His spirit is the answer to my question and that's how he's able to be in all of us and us in him.

I hugged Him. I'm thankful this day for God sending me that experience with the Messiah, Jesus Christ, the God of Israel. What rapture filled my soul!

I had another such experience in spring 2018. It was a dream of God in pure, bright white robes standing by my family by our car smiling at us.

6 CATCHING FIRE OF THE SPIRIT OF ELIJAH: FAMILY HISTORY AND ORDINANCE WORK FOR OUR DEAD ANCESTORS IN TEMPLES

IN 2015 I WAS CALLED AS A FAMILY HISTORY CONSULTANT AND STARTED TO REALLY CATCH THE VISION OF THE BEAUTY AND EXCITING ENERGY IN FAMILY HISTORY AND TEMPLE WORK.

TURNING OUR HEARTS TO OUR FATHERS, ANCESTORS, AND THEIR HEARTS TO OURS

SO HOW DO WE TURN OUR HEART TO OUR FATHERS AND MOTHERS; OUR MIGHTY ANCESTORS?

- 1) Get to familysearch.org & create username and password
- 2) START ENTERING YOUR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS, THEN IT WILL LOAD UP FOR YOU YOUR GREAT GRANDPARENTS AND BEYOND
- 3) LEARN ABOUT THEM AND SUBMIT THEIR NAMES FOR TEMPLE WORK
- 4) SHARE THESE STEPS WITH OTHERS!
- 5) IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS GO TO THE HELP CENTER HTTPS://WWW.FAMILYSEARCH.ORG/ASK/LANDI

NG

THERE ARE PLENTY OF HELPERS AT FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARIES, FIND YOUR NEAREST: HTTPS://WWW.FAMILYSEARCH.ORG/LOCATIONS/CENTERLOCATOR

OR CONTACT ME SBELZINGA@GMAIL.COM 385-888-4352 I'M HAPPY TO HELP

FAMILYSEARCH.ORG IS FREE FOR ANYONE WHETHER YOU'RE A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS OR NOT.

ALSO, CHECK OUT BYU FAMILY HISTORY TECH LAB BECAUSE THEY HAVE A LOT OF FUN GAMES FOR KIDS AND THE WHOLE FAMILY LIKE WHEEL OF FORTUNE AND JEOPARDY TO HELP YOU LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR ANCESTORS: HTTPS://FHTL.BYU.EDU

I LOVE DOING FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH AND TEMPLE ORDINANCE WORK FOR MY DEAD ANCESTORS BY ACTING IN THEIR PLACE TO GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE THE SAME PRIESTHOOD ORDINANCES THAT I'VE RECEIVED. I CHERISH THE STORIES OF LEGACY I FIND OF THEIR COURAGE AND FAITH THROUGH ADVERSITY. IT'S LIKE FINDING TREASURE

TROVES. WHAT A SWEET WORK!

I LOVE DOING SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE ELSE THAT THEY CAN'T DO FOR THEMSELF. IT'S JUST LIKE HOW JESUS DID SOMETHING FOR EACH OF US THAT WE COULDN'T DO FOR ITSELF; HE SUFFERED UNIMAGINABLE PAIN OF BODY, SPIRIT, HEART AND MIND WHILE IN GETHSEMANE AND ON THE CROSS. AND THEN BEFORE HE WAS RESURRECTED, HE ORGANIZED MISSIONARY WORK IN THE SPIRIT WORLD SO THE DEAD PEOPLE COULD DEVELOP ENOUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST TO RECEIVE THEIR COVENANT PRIESTHOOD ORDINANCES.

A DEAD PERSON CANNOT RECEIVE THEIR COVENANT PRIESTHOOD ORDINANCES IN BODY (BAPTISM, ENDOWMENT, MARRIAGE/FAMILY ETERNAL SEALINGS) BECAUSE OF ONE SIMPLE FACT; THEY'RE DEAD! AT LEAST PHYSICALLY THEY'RE DEAD, BUT IN SPIRIT THEY YEARN TO RECEIVE COVENANT PRIESTHOOD ORDINANCES THROUGH US, THEIR DESCENDANTS, SO THAT THEY CAN BE RESURRECTED AND LIVE FOREVER IN PEACE AND JOY WITH GOD AND FAMILY.

I HAVE ONE PARTICULAR EXPERIENCE I'D LIKE TO SHARE. ONE MORNING, I WAS WAKING UP TO THE NAME "JELLE" FLASHING IN MY MIND.

THE TEMPLE ORDINANCE CARD WITH THE NAME "JELLE", MY DUTCH ANCESTOR WAS SITTING IN MY ROOM.

I THOUGHT, "WELL, JELLE MUST REALLY WANT ME TO GO TO THE TEMPLE FOR HIM TODAY BECAUSE HE KNOWS I HAVE HIS ORDINANCE CARD."

SO I GOT READY QUICK AND MADE IT TO THE TEMPLE. AS I ACTED IN HIS PLACE AND WAS SEALED TO HIS PARENTS AT THE ALTAR, THE LIGHTS IN THE ROOM FLICKERED. I UNDERSTOOD THAT TO BE JELLE'S WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU.

A FRIEND OF MINE ALSO TOLD ME OF A TIME HE
DID TEMPLE WORK FOR AN ANCESTOR AND
RIGHT AFTERWARD HEARD A VOICE
WHISPERING "THANK YOU."

ALSO DID YOU KNOW OUR FOUNDING FATHERS APPEARED TO A LATTER-DAY PROPHET WILFORD WOODRUFF? THERE ARE INCREDIBLE STORIES OF VISIONS OF OUR FOUNDING FATHERS AND EARLY REFORMERS LIKE MARTIN LUTHER DEMANDING THEIR COVENANT PRIESTHOOD ORDINANCE WORK BE DONE. ALSO HERE IS ONE ACCOUNT OF THOSE SPIRITS

APPEARING JUST AS THEIR ORDINANCE WORK IS CARRIED OUT IN THE ST GEORGE TEMPLE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS.

HTTPS://HISTORYOFMORMONISM.COM/2015/0 5/25/WILFORD-WOODRUFF-FOUNDING-FATHERS/

I LOVE THEIR WORDS: "YOU HAVE HAD THE USE OF THE ENDOWMENT HOUSE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, AND YET NOTHING HAS EVER BEEN DONE FOR US."

WOW! WHAT A SENSE OF URGENCY! I'M GRATEFUL WE CAN DO WORK FOR OUR DEAD ANCESTORS

TODAY.

HOW SPECIAL ARE SUCH EXPERIENCES!

JUST THINK OF HOW MANY OF OUR ROYAL ANCESTORS ARE PENSIVELY WAITING FOR THEIR TEMPLE ORDINANCE WORK TO BE DONE! GET STARTED HERE!: FAMILYSEARCH.ORG ANY QUESTIONS? CHAT WITH A MISSIONARY AT MORMON.ORG/CHAT

SUPPORTING

**SCRIPTURES:** 

17 And HE [ELIJAH] SHALL GO BEFORE HIM [JESUS CHRIST 2ND COMING] IN THE SPIRIT AND POWER OF ELIAS, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN, AND THE DISOBEDIENT TO THE WISDOM OF THE JUST; TO MAKE READY A PEOPLE PREPARED FOR THE LORD

LUKE 1:16–17 HTTPS://WWW.LDS.ORG/SCRIPTURES/NT/LUKE /1?VERSE=16-17&LANG=ENG#P16

5 ¶ BEHOLD, I WILL SEND YOU ELIJAH THE PROPHET BEFORE THE COMING OF THE GREAT AND DREADFUL DAY OF THE LORD: 6 AND HE SHALL TURN THE HEART OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN, AND THE HEART OF THE CHILDREN TO THEIR FATHERS, LEST I COME AND SMITE THE EARTH WITH A CURSE. MALACHI

HTTPS://WWW.LDS.ORG/SCRIPTURES/OT/MAL/ 4?VERSE=5-6&LANG=ENG#P5

13 AFTER THIS VISION HAD CLOSED, ANOTHER GREAT AND GLORIOUS VISION BURST UPON US; FOR ELIJAH THE PROPHET, WHO WAS TAKEN TO

HEAVEN WITHOUT TASTING DEATH, STOOD BEFORE US, AND SAID: 14 BEHOLD, THE TIME HAS FULLY COME, WHICH WAS SPOKEN OF BY THE MOUTH OF MALACHI—TESTIFYING THAT HE [ELIJAH] SHOULD BE SENT, BEFORE THE GREAT AND DREADFUL DAY OF THE LORD COME— 15 TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN, AND CHILDREN TO THE FATHERS, LEST THE WHOLE EARTH BE SMITTEN WITH A CURSE— 16 THEREFORE, THE KEYS OF THIS DISPENSATION ARE COMMITTED INTO YOUR HANDS; AND BY THIS YE MAY KNOW THAT THE GREAT AND DREADFUL DAY OF THE LORD IS NEAR, EVEN AT DOORS. THE DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 110:13-16 HTTPS://WWW.LDS.ORG/SCRIPTURES/DC-

TESTAMENT/DC/110?VERSE=13-16&LANG=ENG#P13

7 Now it's your turn. Light the fire inside AND IN THE WORLD BY SEEING GOD'S HAND IN YOUR LIFE AND SHARING

HIGHLY RECOMMEND THIS SPIRITUAL EXERCISE OF GRATITUDE, TO LOOK BACK AT

YOUR LIFE AND SEE ALL THE MIRACLES HIS HAND BROUGHT YOU IN LIFE. THIS EXERCISE WAS SUCH A BLESSING IN MY LIFE AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. SHARE HOW GOD CHANGES YOU AND YOUR LIFE FOR GOOD.

DISCOVER WHAT LIFE CALLING YOU CAN CREATE WITH GOD'S SPIRIT AS YOUR COMPANION!

GOD BLESS YOU WITH PURE LOVE, PEACE AND JOY ON YOUR JOURNEY BACK TO HIM, TO REACH YOUR FULL POTENTIAL BY BECOMING MORE LIKE HIM EACH DAY.

IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, AMEN

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author is anonymous. The reason why I chose to remain anonymous is because I adore the scripture stories where the person's name is left out, like the Woman at the Well whom Jesus taught and King Lamoni's father in the Book of Mormon who experienced such a mighty change of heart that it literally floored him for days. Everyone thought he was dead except his wife knew better.

The reason why I love the anonymously-named stories is because what it personally means to me is that those stories apply to all of us. The name could be ours. Anyone can have a mighty change of heart and special witness of Jesus Christ; having their nature changed from fallen to divine. I think of this as Becoming inside out because I believe divine nature is at the core of all of us. Becoming one with God and singing the Song of Redeeming Love isn't just available to church leaders like Prophets/apostles, it's available to all.

I have seen very beautiful places from Moscow's Red Square to Costa Rica's volcano and beach. I've lived in Arizona, Colorado, Maryland, Utah and Russia. I've seen Arizona's Grand Canyon; Utah's Arches, Goblin Valley, Zion's; California's Yosemite Falls and Redwoods. I've hiked Mount Timpanogos and backpacked the high Uintas and Tetons. I've been in Utah's Nutty Putty Cave and Arizona's Agua Caliente cave among others. I've visited Niagara Falls and the Washington D.C. presidential monuments and museums. I am extremely lucky and grateful for all these amazing experiences. And yet, these all pale in comparison to what I'm most grateful for: the love and beauty I've felt in the beautiful temples of the Church of Jesus Christ of latter-day saints while participating in sacred priesthood ordinances to make and keep sacred covenants with God. And in the personal temples of private and family prayer and scripture

study from the Book of Mormon, Bible, etc., which answers come into my life in new, exciting, infinite ways bringing indescribable peace, love and joy forever.

If you would like to make and keep sacred covenants with God and receive your priesthood ordinances of baptism, laying on of hands and sealing your family together forever, please contact the missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of latter-day saints at mormon.org/chat