

## Anxiously Engaged Outline – Mike Baird

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### Anxiously Engaged

- D&C 58:27  
Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness;

### Anxiously engaged versus frantically engaged

- Elder Neal A Maxwell:  
"Given our weaknesses, however, paced progress is essential, much as God used six measured and orderly creative periods (followed by respite) in preparing man and this earth. There is a difference, therefore, between being steadily and effectively or "anxiously " engaged, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, being frantically engaged one moment and being passive and detached the next.  
Lest we wrongly assume that traveling on the straight and narrow path requires hectic pace, let us remember that the Lord does not want us to weary by the way and for very good reasons. Thoughtless haste and spurts of service are not what is desired, for such naivete is like the businessman who confuses volume with profit " (Notwithstanding My Weakness, pg 3)

## Wisdom in all things

- Jacob 4:14  
"And see that all these things are done in wisdom and order; for it is not requisite that a man should run faster than he has strength. And again, *it is expedient that he should be diligent*, that thereby he might win the prize; therefore, all things must be done in order"
  - Diligence: daily obedience
- Elder Bruce R McConkie:  
" We don't need to get a complex or get a feeling that you have to be perfect to be saved. You don't. There's only been one perfect person, and that's the Lord Jesus, but in order to be saved in the Kingdom of God and in order to pass the test of mortality, what you have to do is get on the straight and narrow path - thus charting a course leading to eternal life - and then, being on that path, pass out of this life in full fellowship. I'm not saying that you don't have to keep the commandments. I'm saying you don't have to be perfect to be saved. If you did, no one would be saved... *You don't have to do what Jacob said, 'Go beyond the mark.'* *You don't have to live a life that's truer than true. You don't have to have an excessive zeal that becomes fanatical and becomes unbalancing.* What you have to do is stay in the mainstream of the Church - keeping commandments, paying your tithing, serving in the organizations of the Church, loving the Lord, staying on the straight and narrow path. If you're on that path when death comes - because this is the time and the day appointed, this the probationary estate - you'll never fall off from it, and, for all practical purposes, your calling and election is made sure." ("The Probationary Test of Mortality," Devotional Address given at University of Utah Institute of Religion, January 10, 1982)

## **Dailyness**

- Elaine S Dalton:

" At times I have resented the dailyness of my life; but as I look back, I see that dailyness has patterned and schooled me. Daily doings add up, and they can make an eternity of difference...

I am grateful for the dailyness. In subtle, quiet ways, these patterns prepare us to grow, as Christ did, from grace to grace, in obedience. Nature shows the strength and joy of dailyness. I am grateful for daily sunrises and sunsets, for the stars' and moon's appearance daily. In times of great stress and trial, the routine things sustain us—daily prayer and daily scripture study. In dailyness we learn obedience and practice sacrifice." (*Every Good Thing: Talks from the 1997 BYU Women's Conference*, 249)

## **Applications**

- What things should we be anxiously engaged in?

### ***Scripture study***

- Ezra Taft Benson

" Search the scriptures diligently in personal study every day.

Daily scripture study invites the Spirit" ('Seek Spirit' Prophet's Constant Theme , *LDS Church News*, 1993, 12/25/93)

- Don't read 100 pages one day and none for weeks
- Family
  - Parents – it may be all you can get for your children

### ***Prayer***

- Personal
  - Don't pray for 1 hour one day and none for weeks
- Family
  - Pray for your children that they hear you

### ***Repentance***

- Daily

## **FHE**

### **Callings**

- Elder Russell M Ballard  
" we need to thoughtfully allocate our resources of time, income, and energy. I would like to let you in on a little secret. Some of you have already learned it. If you haven't, it's time you knew. No matter what your family needs are or your responsibilities in the Church, there is no such thing as "done." There will always be more we can do. There is always another family matter that needs attention, another lesson to prepare, another interview to conduct, another meeting to attend. We just need to be wise in protecting our health and in following the counsel that President Hinckley has given often to just do the best that we can. The key, it seems to me, is to know and understand your own capabilities and limitations and then to pace yourself, allocating and prioritizing your time, your attention, and your resources to wisely help others, including your family, in their quest for eternal life." ("O Be Wise," *Ensign*, Nov 2006, 17–20)

### **Temple**

- Howard W Hunter  
" Let us truly be a temple-attending and a temple-loving people. *We should hasten to the temple as frequently, yet prudently, as our personal circumstances allow.* We should go not only for our kindred dead but also for the personal blessing of temple worship, for the sanctity and safety that are within those hallowed and consecrated walls. As we attend the temple, we learn more richly and deeply the purpose of life and the significance of the atoning sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us make the temple, with temple worship and temple covenants and temple marriage, our ultimate earthly goal and the supreme mortal experience" ("A Temple-Motivated People," *Ensign*, Feb. 1995, pg 2)