

## Callings Outline – Mike Baird

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### Principles

- Luke 9:46  
"Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.  
And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him,  
And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: *for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.*"
- John 13:13-17  
" Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.  
If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.  
For *I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.*  
Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him."
- Matt 6:1-4  
"Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.  
Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.  
But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy

right hand doeth:

That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly."

## **"Its not where you serve but how"**

- J Ruben Clark

"In the service of the Lord, it is not where you serve but how. In The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, one takes the place to which one is duly called, which place one neither seeks nor declines"

(Conference Report, Apr. 1951, 154.)

- Mike Baird

"How can we find peace in being released from one calling and asked to serve in another? It is found by:

- Knowing that we strived to do our best in the calling we had.
- Knowing that we truly loved and served those we were called to serve.
- Knowing we did our best to lift those around us up.
- Knowing we did as we were directed and guided to do
- Knowing that it is the Lord with whom we validate our thoughts and actions
- Knowing that the Lord knows the sacrifices and efforts that we have made"

(Private correspondence 2007)

## **"Its not about me"**

- Mike Baird

"This is one of the greatest lessons the Savior taught us. Service in his kingdom is not about ourselves but it is about whom we serve. As in all things He is our exemplar in this too. For Him it was not about Him, otherwise his glory would have been that of the world, but instead it was about you and me. All He did was for us. He descended below all, wrought the atonement and brought about the resurrection for you and me and gave glory to the Father." (Private correspondence 2007)

## **The Lord qualifies those whom He calls**

- Gorden B Hinckley

"Whenever you are called upon to serve may I urge you to respond, and as you do so your faith will strengthen and increase. ... If you accept every opportunity, if you accept every calling, the Lord will make it

possible for you to perform it. The Church will not ask you to do anything which you cannot do with the help of the Lord. God bless you to do everything that you are called upon to do." ("Inspirational Thoughts," Ensign, June 1999, 2)

- Thomas S Monson

"Now, some of you may be shy by nature or consider yourselves inadequate to respond affirmatively to a calling. Remember that this work is not yours and mine alone. It is the Lord's work, and when we are on the Lord's errand, we are entitled to the Lord's help. Remember that whom the Lord calls, the Lord qualifies" ("Duty Calls," Ensign, May 1996, 43)

## **Focus on People & Principles not Programs**

- M. Russel Ballard

" Our goal should always be to use the programs of the Church as a means to lift, encourage, assist, teach, love, and perfect people. "Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God" (D&C 18:10). Programs are tools. Their management and staffing must not take priority over the needs of the people they are designed to bless and to serve." ("O Be Wise," Ensign, Nov. 2006, 17)

## **Allow others to fulfill stewardship as best they can**

- M. Russel Ballard

" Assignments should be made, responsibilities should be delegated, and members should be allowed to fulfill their stewardship as best they can. Counsel, advise, persuade, motivate—but don't do the work for them. *Allow others to progress and grow, even if it means sometimes getting less-than-perfect results on the reports.*" ("O Be Wise," Ensign, Nov. 2006, 17)

## **Love not Guilt or Fear**

- 1 John 4:18-19

" There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear... We love him, because he first loved us"

- M. Russel Ballard

" ... guilt is not a proper motivational technique for leaders and teachers of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We must always motivate through love and sincere appreciation, not by creating guilt. " ("O Be Wise," Ensign, Nov. 2006, 17)

## References

- William R. Walker, "In the Service of the Lord," Ensign, Aug. 2006, 12
- Thomas S. Monson, "Duty Calls," Ensign, May 1996, 43
- Henry B. Eyring, "Rise to Your Call," Ensign, Nov. 2002, 75
- M. Russell Ballard, "O Be Wise," Ensign, Nov. 2006, 17