Kindness Outline – Mike Baird

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Related Documents

 "Strengthen Your Brethren in all your conversation" by Michael Baird (http://mikebaird.net/Church/GospelTopics/JustJoking.pdf)

Savior showed us how to treat others

• John 13:34-35

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

Kindness to others shows our love of the Savior

• D&C 42:38

"For inasmuch as ye do it unto the least of these, you do it unto me."

Will never regret kindness to others

Michael Baird

When I was called as bishop my wife Nancy told me when in doubt go to the hospital to see a member of the ward. You will never regret doing so. I found out she was right!

• Favorite poem of Thomas S Monson:

I have wept in the night

For the shortness of sight
That to somebody's need made me blind;
But I never have yet
Felt a tinge of regret
For being a little too kind.
--Anonymous

For that which ye do send out shall return unto you again

- D&C Alma 41: 13-15
 - " 13 O, my son, this is not the case; but the meaning of the word restoration is to bring back again evil for evil, or carnal for carnal, or devilish for devilish—good for that which is good; righteous for that which is righteous; just for that which is just; merciful for that which is merciful.
 - 14 **Therefore**, my son, see that you are merciful unto your brethren; deal justly, judge righteously, and do good continually; and if ye do all these things then shall ye receive your reward; yea, ye shall have mercy restored unto you again; ye shall have justice restored unto you again; ye shall have a righteous judgment restored unto you again; and ye shall have good rewarded unto you again.
 - 15 *For that which ye do send out shall return unto you again*, and be restored; therefore, the word restoration more fully condemneth the sinner, and justifieth him not at all."

Personal Experiences – return is realized soon after

Sometimes we see the "return unto you again" immediately or soon after showing kindness to others.

Sister Unga

I am a season ticket holder for BYU football and occasionally will travel to attend away games too. In the first game of a particular season BYU was playing Oklahoma in Dallas Texas. On my way to the game I was on a layover in the Salt Lake City airport waiting at the gate to catch my flight to Dallas. I was sitting on the end seat next to the main walkway down the middle of the terminal. While sitting there I

had noticed a Polynesian woman talking on her cell phone some 10 feet away from me in the the main walkway. As she was talking she reached into her purse to get something. As she was pulling it out a bunch of coins from her purse fell out and scattered all around her. Some rolling quite some distance. I immediately got up and kneeling down picked up most of the coins for her while she, still on the phone, picked up the rest. She mouthed a "thank you" to me while I returned to my seat and began reading a book. A short while later I looked up as the lady, now off the phone, sat next to me and again thanked me for my kindness and introduced herself as Harvey Unga's mother. Harvey Unga at that time was the star running back for BYU. We talked for a while and after I told her I flew down to attend the BYU home games, she told me that I must stop by the tailgate that her family held before the home games.

The next home game I, along with my father, brother and two nephews went to the Unga tailgate in the parking lot next to the stadium. Sister Unga lit up when she saw me and in the way of Polynesians gave me a hug of welcome and then introduced me to her husband as "that kind man I told you about who helped me in the airport". Bro Unga then shook my hand and thanked me for the kindness I had shown to his wife. That fall we attended the Unga tailgate before all the home games.

Though it was a simple kindness I had done I will never forget the feeling I had at the gratitude and kindness returned to me by the Ungas.

Redbox Return

On our way home from eating dinner at a local Panera restaurant on a Saturday evening we stopped at a 7-Eleven store to drop off a couple of videos that our daughter had rented from Redbox. There were two Redbox machines standing side by side there and as I got out of the car one machine had two people in line behind it and the other had only one person. So I got in line at the machine with just one person in the

line. As it turned out the person in front of me finished before the person in the front of the machine with two people. I turned to the man at the end of the other line and waved him toward the machine in front of me and said "go ahead, you were here first". He thanked me and then returned a couple of videos. He was clearly then going to rent some additional videos but he looked at the other machine and observed that the person there was still busy picking out videos to rent. He turned to me and asked "are you just returning?" When I replied that I was he said "go ahead". I thanked him and did. I was struck as I left how a simple kindness by me to a stranger had been returned in kind to me.

Personal Experiences – Never know

Sometimes we may not directly see or never know what is returned to us for our kindness

Mom at the restaurant

On one of my business trips on which she had accompanied me my wife and I were out to dinner at a restaurant. When we sat down I noticed at the table next to ours was a younger couple with a newer baby. After we had ordered and were waiting for our food the young couple finished their dinner and was in the process of leaving. The husband said to his wife that he would go fetch the car and meet her in front of the restaurant and left. I watched with interest as the young mother placed the baby in one of those carriers that double as a car seat and then began to pick up her purse, the baby's bag, some blankets and so forth until her arms were full. I stood up and said to her. "Here, let me help you. Can I carry something out for you." She thanked me and had me carry out the carrier with her child in it. We introduced ourselves and talked on our way out to the curb in front of the restaurant. She said that they had moved to the area not long before and commented that I must not be from around there because

no one there had ever shown kindness to them like I had shown. She thanked me again and I went back into the restaurant.