#### Ministering - Value of One Outline - Mike Baird

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#### Individual voices

- Audio of encounter with flock of sheep at the Risstuben Farm, Ringebu, Norway
  - Sheep many voices
- Note the individual voices of the sheep!
  - o Different tones, volume
  - Some pleasing to the ear, some very annoying, some funny, some grating even
- Clearly you could learn to know the sheep just by their voices?
- The savior often likened his followers as his sheep and Him as the Good Shepherd
  - The individual voices are symbolic of the things that make us unique
- Listen to these verses in the context of sheep having individual voices
  - o John 10:
    - "2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
    - 3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: *and he calleth his own sheep by name*, and leadeth them out.
    - 4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before

them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

14 *I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep*, and am known of mine.

15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: **and I** lay down my life for the sheep."

#### Value of the One to God

- How does God value us as individuals?
- Or another way to put it How does God value the one? What value does he place on us?

### The Worth of a Soul

- D&C 18:10
  - "Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God;"
- What is the "worth of a soul" to God? Great
- What is meant by "Great"? The Lord answered it in the following versus:
- D&C 18:11-12
  - " 11 For, behold, the Lord your Redeemer suffered death in the flesh; wherefore he suffered the pain of all men, that all men might repent and come unto him.
  - 12 And he hath risen again from the dead, that he might bring all men unto him, on conditions of repentance."
    - o This is what is meant by "Great"
    - In the eyes of God our worth is infinite
    - o He gave his only begotten son who wrought an infinite atonement
      - " and I lay down my life for the sheep"
    - Worth of the one in God's eyes is so great that the greatest act of love and sacrifice that ever was done, was done for all of us, yet at the same time was done for the one

# Graven upon the palms of his hands

- Isaiah 49:16
  - "But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me.

Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Behold, *I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands*; thy walls are continually before me."

- Symbolism:
  - Reference to the cross and the prints of the nails in His hands
  - The palms of our hands are something we know intimately they are continually before us
- The one is continually remembered by God and an infinite price was paid to redeem the one

#### Value of the one to us

- The Savior asks us to be shepherds and to "Feed his sheep" (John 21:15-17)
- What does that mean in the context of the one?
- Christ taught the multitudes but he ministered one-by-one
- Christ put forth his hand to lift up
- Thomas S Monson:
  - "Not only by precept did Jesus teach, but also by example. He was faithful to his divine mission. He stretched forth his hand that others might be lifted toward God." ("With Hand and Heart", Jan 1995 Ensign)
- To "Feed his sheep" we minister one-by-one and put forth our hands that others may be lifted up
- What does it mean to Minister to Others one-by-one?
- Becoming acquainted with them and establishing sincere friendship
- Watching over them and strengthening their faith one by one
- Visiting them in their homes and elsewhere
- "Above all ministering is a work of love"
- "Leaders show love as they minister one by one as the Savior did"

# Savior taught multitudes but He Ministered One by One

- The Savior asks us to be shepherds and to "Feed his sheep" (John 21:15-17)
- What does that mean in the context of the one?

### Came forth One by One

- 3 Nephi 11:15
  - "And it came to pass that the multitude went forth, and thrust their hands into his side, and did feel the *prints of the nails in his hands* and in his feet; and this *they did do, going forth one by one* until they had all gone forth, and did see with their eyes and did feel with their hands, and did know of a surety and did bear record, that it was he, of whom it was written by the prophets, that should come."
  - The Savior ministered to them one by one
  - Did feel the prints of the nails pointing back to Isaiah 49:16
    - The

#### Ministered to the Children One by One

- 3 Nephi 17:21
  - " And when he had said these words, he wept, and the multitude bare record of it, and he took their little children, one by one, and blessed them, and prayed unto the Father for them."

#### He "put forth his hand"

- Thomas S Monson
  - "Not only by precept did Jesus teach, but also by example. He was faithful to his divine mission. He stretched forth his hand that others might be lifted toward God." ("With Hand and Heart", Jan 1995 Ensign <a href="https://www.lds.org/ensign/1995/01/with-hand-and-heart?lang=eng">https://www.lds.org/ensign/1995/01/with-hand-and-heart?lang=eng</a>)
  - Matt 8:2-3
     "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.
     And Jesus put *forth his hand*, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed"

# Examples of the Savior's ministry

- Luke 18:35-43
   Blind man who cried "Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me
- Mark 1:31
- Mark 5:23
- Luke 8:49–50, 52, 54–55

# Ministering as the Savior Did

#### **New Members**

Moroni 6:4

"And after they had been received unto baptism, and were wrought upon and cleansed by the power of the Holy Ghost, *they were numbered* among the people of the church of Christ; and their names were taken, that they might *be remembered* and *nourished by the good word of God*, to keep them in the right way, to *keep them continually watchful unto prayer*, relying alone upon the merits of Christ, who was the author and the finisher of their faith."

### **Home Teaching**

D&C 20:47

"And visit the house of each member, and exhort them to pray vocally and in secret and attend to all family duties."

### Hands that hang down and the feeble knees

D&C 81:5

"Wherefore, be faithful; stand in the office which I have appointed unto you; succor the weak, lift up the hands which hang down, and strengthen the feeble knees."

Hebrews 12:12-13

"Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;

# Ministering to Others

- Church video: "Minister to Others"
  - "This is the real purpose of ministering: To help others become true followers of the Savior Jesus Christ"

# Ministering is a work of Love

• Moroni 7:48

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love, which he hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of his Son, Jesus Christ; "

Moroni referring to Charity

• 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."