It is more important what you feel than what you know Outline – Mike Baird

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"Did not our heart burn within us..."

• Luke 24:32

"And they said one to another, *Did not our heart burn within us*, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?"

- As Christ expounded the scriptures they were touched by the Holy Ghost
- Acts 2:37

"Now when they heard this, *they were pricked in their heart*, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

- Their (non-members) hearts were touched by the Holy Ghost as they listened to an Apostle
- Enos 1:3-4

"Behold, I went to hunt beasts in the forests; and the words which I had often heard my father speak concerning eternal life, and the joy of the saints, *sunk deep into my heart*.

And my soul hungered; and I kneeled down before my Maker, and I cried unto him in mighty prayer and supplication for mine own soul; and all the day long did I cry unto him; yea, and when the night came I did still raise my voice high that it reached the heavens."

• His (a "member") heart was touched by the Holy Ghost as he contemplated the words of his father (Jacob, a prophet)

Harold B Lee

• Harold B. Lee:

"When we understand more than we know with our minds, when we understand with our hearts, then we know that the Spirit of the Lord is working upon us. "_(Harold B. Lee, Stand Ye in Holy Places, pg 92])

Gene R Cook – Experience with Harold B Lee

 "In 1972 I attended the priesthood session of general conference in the Tabernacle. It was a great priesthood meeting, a unique experience. In that particular meeting President Lee taught very effectively and with great power that we ought to be obedient to the laws of the land, that we ought to pay our income tax. He talked specifically about adultery and gave some other instructions, stating things so clearly that nobody could misunderstand. It was a powerful meeting. As I sat in the audience listening by the Spirit, I had a tremendous surge of feeling and a witness that a prophet of the Lord was speaking. I pondered on these things that night as I went home. The next morning before the Tabernacle Choir broadcast, I parked my car and started toward the walkway through the tunnel under the Tabernacle. Because I was really thinking about what had been said the night before, I was walking with my eyes toward the ground—and almost bumped into President Lee on the walkway. He was walking alone which was unusual. He said 'Come and join me and let's walk over together.'

As we started walking I tried to express to him some of the feelings I had had the night before. I had a hard time expressing myself. I was rather emotional and couldn't quite get the words out. Finally he stopped me and said ' Gene you don't need to say anymore. I know what you are trying to say and I understand it.' Then he said, 'May I share something with you?... There were a lot of things said last night that perhaps have not been stated as clear policy before. I worked over those things to be sure they were correct and right and that the presidency was in agreement. But I wasn't worried much about those things, other than that they be said correctly. What I was worried about was that I wanted every last priesthood holder to *feel* in his heart the great witness and outpouring of the Spirit of the Lord. *Remember Gene, its more important what you feel than what you know.*' " (Teaching by the Spirit, Gene R Cook, Pg 59-60)

Applications

- Teaching nonmembers
 - It is how they feel that cause them to be baptized, not their understanding of the doctrine of the church
- Speaking in church
 - A "good talk" is one that we remember how we felt long after we have forgotten the details.
- Teaching in SS, YM, YW
- Home Teaching
- Visiting inactive members
 - It is feeling the Spirit while we are there and the desire to feel it more in their lives that will reactivate them
 - This is why the Family History Program can be so useful (Spirit of Elijah)

Personal Experience Home Teaching

• Mike Baird:

"While home teaching at an inactive members home I gave a short lesson on the fundamentality of the Atonement in the doctrines of the Church and bore testimony that Christ is the Son of God and that he atoned for our sins and was resurrected. I felt the Spirit and knew that this brother and sister were feeling the Spirit as well. As the husband gave the closing prayer he asked that the spirit that he felt could remain with them. Afterwards in the car I taught my son, who was my companion, the principle that it is 'more important what you feel than what you know.' This couple will remember how they felt while I was teaching and testifying, long after they have forgotten the details of what I taught. I taught him it will be the desire to feel those feelings again that will make us welcome again and cause them to come to church." (Personal Experience, Feb 28, 2005 home teaching at the Bunns)