

**John Perrin Funeral Service**  
**Thoughts about John**  
**22 December 2015**

**Introduction**

- There are a couple things that brought me within John's sphere
- Scott and John's friendship
- Church callings
- Share some memories of John
- Share some thoughts about my faith.

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Basketball (10, 11 yrs old)**

- Choose team based on friends and kids that would work hard
- Josh Richardson was assistant coach
- John
  - Not the most skilled offensively
    - However very intelligent and willing to do exactly what we would teach him.
  - Very tenacious on defense however
    - Skinny, wiry
    - Sic him on someone
  - Very coachable and would try very hard whatever asked

**Scouts**

- Just after Scott and John turned 12
- Most vivid memories of John
  - Very fun time, because of a very fun and energetic group
  - John and Joe Perrin, Scott Baird, Phil Monson, Richard Manwaring, Jason Manwaring, Eric Gale, Kenny Merrill, Tim Wade, Patrick Oliverson, Adam Oliverson and Matt Barnes
  - Many of those boys keep in touch still and some are here today
  - Dave Taylor, Kurt Mathews and Ralph Wade
  - Camo kids
    - Loved to play capture the flag and kick the can
  - The fearsome foursome
    - John, Scott, Phil and Richard
  - Tent together was a recipe for an all night talk fest
  - 7 merit badges at scout camp when he was 12

- Tied with the most any boy has every done
- Set a goal and was very driven to achieve that goal
- Monkey bridge – John first across because he had the right combination of coordination and ability with knots
- Favorite pictures
  - Scott and John on horseback at camp Baldwin
  - John with me fishing at Jörn Lake
  - Flames on Scott and John's stove flaring 3 feet from the burgers
    - Tim, Adam, Patrick watching
- Scout memories are pictures on paper and in my mind painted beautiful with my love for John, Scott and the other boys
- Camping with Roger, John and Scott every year
  - John and Scott would hike ahead of us
- John over at our house, him and Scott off to do something
- John was smart
- John was tenacious in achievement
- John was kind and thoughtful

### **Pondered this scripture in John's passing**

- Nancy gave me this reference
- Matthew 18:11-12  
For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.
- As I pondered this simple, yet profound verse several thoughts have come to me that I would like to share

### **We are all lost**

- We are all lost in some way or in some degree or another and need saved
  - I don't think there is any of us that could say
  - "I'm 100% not lost", I don't need any saving
- They are different ways in which we "are lost" and need rescued
- We all have different challenges
- We all have different weakness and strengths
- We all need in some way to change and become like the Savior to return to our Heavenly Father

### **Not Exclusionary**

- He is the Savior of us all
- We can't say he didn't come to save me or you
- We can't say He only came to save me or you
- It is not exclusionary
- He is the Savior of us all

### **Grateful for His Mercy**

- I am grateful to quote the Prophet Joseph Smith that "Our Heavenly Father is more ... boundless in His mercies and blessings than we are ready to believe or receive" (Joseph Smith TPJS)
- I am grateful beyond measure that our Heavenly Father "Seeth not as a man Seeth" but rather He "looketh upon the heart"(1 Samuel 16:7)
- I am grateful for his grace and mercy

### **We all have a purpose**

- In the Saviors reaching out to rescue that which is lost He employs us
- Part of our purpose here is to reach out and lift others
- A significant part or role we play in this is within our own families
- Pam will tell you part of her role was to be a mother to John
- There is no doubt in my mind that this mother of great faith and strength was chosen for John
- Pam will also tell you that part of John's role was to teach his family certain things, both as a son and as a brother
- There is great meaning and comfort in that understanding

## **Only Christ**

- At this time of year we celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ
- One of the reasons we celebrate His birth is because He fulfills an essential role only He could fill as the Son of God
- He does for us what we can not do for ourselves
- Only He can bring us new life
- He took "upon him death that he may loose the bands of death which bind his people" (Alma 7:12).
- He died and and was resurrected so that John, you and I and all would live again
- He can heal us of our hurts, sorrows and pains
- He suffered "pains and afflictions and temptations of every kind" so he would know how to succor us (Alma 7:11)
- Only He can lift us up
- He descended below all so that he might be able lift us up
- He truly can give us "beauty for ashes and the oil of joy for mourning" (Isaiah 61:3)

I am grateful for my friendship and association with the Perrin Family  
I am grateful to know John.

I testify of the infinite power of the Atonement of Christ  
I know He died for us and was resurrected