

31. See 3 Nephi 11–26.
32. See Joseph Smith—History 1:17.
33. See Doctrine and Covenants 88:104.
34. “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus.”
35. Mosiah 3:17.
36. Elder Dallin H. Oaks once commented: “When I was a boy, I spent most of my evenings reading books. One of my favorites was *Hurlbut’s Story of the Bible . . .*, [a] book [of] 168 stories from the Bible. I loved these stories and read them many times” (in Conference Report, Oct. 1992, 51; or *Ensign*, Nov. 1992, 37).
37. Stella Oaks, “Thy Will Be Done,” in Leon R. Hartshorn, comp., *Remarkable Stories from the Lives of Latter-day Saint Women*, 2 vols. (1973–75), 2:184.
38. Alma 36:17–18.
39. In our world today we need more than ever Enos’s words about his father to be our children’s words about us: “The words which I had often heard my father speak concerning eternal life . . . sunk deep into my heart. And my soul hungered; and I [knelt] down before my Maker” (Enos 1:3–4).
40. President Monson promised the youth: “When firmly planted, your testimony of the gospel, of the Savior, and of our Heavenly Father will influence all that you do throughout your life. . . . Your testimony, when constantly nourished, will keep you safe” (“May You Have Courage,” 126).
41. Helaman 5:12.
42. Mosiah 16:8.
43. Doctrine and Covenants 21:5.
44. See Alma 26:12.

President Eyring

As we conclude the conference, we express appreciation to the Tabernacle Choir, the choir from the Orem Institute of Religion, and the priesthood choir from Brigham Young University and their conductors and organists for the beautiful and inspiring music. We also extend thanks to all who have participated in any way in these proceedings.

Our concluding speaker at this session will be our beloved prophet, President Thomas S. Monson. Following President Monson’s remarks, the choir will sing our closing hymn, “Abide with Me; ’Tis Eventide.” After the music, the benediction will be offered by Bishop Richard C. Edgley of the Presiding Bishopric. This conference will then be adjourned for six months.

President Thomas S. Monson

Trust in the Lord

This has been a wonderful closing session. I’ve seldom heard such fine sermons taught in so few words as we’ve experienced today. We’re all here because we love the Lord. We want to serve Him. Our Heavenly Father is mindful of us. Of that I testify. I acknowledge His hand in all things.

One brief scripture:

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”¹

That has been the story of my life.

An inspiring conference

My dear brothers and sisters, we come now to the conclusion of a most uplifting and inspiring conference. After listening to the counsel and testimonies of those who have spoken to us, I believe we have been richly blessed and are all more determined to live the principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ. It has been good for us to be here. We express our gratitude to each one who has spoken to us, as well as to those who have offered prayers.

The music has been magnificent. I am reminded of the scripture found in the Doctrine and Covenants: “For my soul

delighteth in the song of the heart; yea, the song of the righteous is a prayer unto me, and it shall be answered with a blessing upon their heads.”²

Remember that the messages we have heard during this conference will be printed in the May issues of the *Ensign* and *Liahona* magazines. I urge you to study the messages, to ponder their teachings, and then to apply them in your life.

I know you join with me in expressing gratitude to those brethren and sisters who have been released during this conference. They have served well and have made significant contributions to the work of the Lord. Their dedication has been complete. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

Now, we have also sustained, by uplifted hands, brethren and sisters who have been called to new positions during this conference. We want them to know that we look forward to working with them in the cause of the Master.

The lighthouse of the Lord

My brothers and sisters, today, as we look at the world around us, we are faced with problems which are serious and of great concern to us. The world seems to have slipped from the moorings of safety and drifted from the harbor of peace.

Permissiveness, immorality, pornography, dishonesty, and a host of other ills cause many to be tossed about on a sea of sin and crushed on the jagged reefs of lost opportunities, forfeited blessings, and shattered dreams.

My counsel for all of us is to look to the lighthouse of the Lord. There is no fog so dense, no night so dark, no gale so strong, no mariner so lost but what its beacon light can rescue. It beckons through the storms of life. The lighthouse of the Lord sends forth signals readily recognized and never failing.

I love the words found in Psalms:

“The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; . . .

“I will call upon the Lord . . . so [I shall] be saved from mine enemies.”³

The Lord loves us, my brothers and sisters, and will bless us as we call upon Him.

Expressions of gratitude and love

How grateful we are for the restored gospel of Jesus Christ and for all the good it brings into our lives. The Lord has poured out His blessings upon us as a people. I bear my testimony to you that this work is true, that our Savior lives, and that He guides and directs His Church here upon the earth.

Now, as we come to the final moments of this conference, my heart is full and my feelings tender. I express my love and gratitude to you. Thank you for your prayers in my behalf and in behalf of all of the General Authorities of the Church. The Lord hears your prayers and blesses us and directs us in the affairs of His kingdom here upon the earth. For this we are deeply grateful.

As we leave this conference, I invoke the blessings of heaven upon each of you. As you return to your homes around the world, I pray our Heavenly Father will bless you and your families. May the messages and spirit of this conference find expression in all that you do—in your homes, in your work, in your meetings, and in all your comings and goings.

I love you. I pray for you. May God bless you. May His promised peace be with you now and always, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

NOTES

1. Proverbs 3:5–6.
2. Doctrine and Covenants 25:12.
3. Psalm 18:2–3.