We’re All In this Together

- Helping Each Other Win the Race
Who is “my neighbor?”

Elder L. Tom Perry shares the following:
to find us. For example, where was the repentance of the lost sheep or the lost coin? In both of those parables, the lost items were simply found. The work of salvation in behalf of my soul is a team effort between God and me.

In seeking to console the parents of rebellious sons and daughters, Elder Orson F. Whitney said: "You parents of the wilful and the wayward! Don't give them up. Don't cast them off. They are not utterly lost. The Shepherd will find his sheep. They were his before they were yours—long before he entrusted them to your care; and you cannot begin to love them as he loves them. They have but strayed in ignorance from the Path of Right, and God is merciful to ignorance. Only the fulness of knowledge brings the fulness of accountability. Our Heavenly Father is far more merciful, infinitely more charitable, than even the best of his servants, and the Everlasting Gospel is mightier in power to save than our narrow finite minds can comprehend."

Further, we must be the kind of people with whom a wanderer would feel comfortable should he or she choose to return. If one who has descended to the depths should find it within him or her to come back to the path, those who are waiting must also be welcoming. Philip Yancey has noted that "the more unsavory the characters, the more at ease they seemed to feel around Jesus. People like these found Jesus appealing: a Samaritan social outcast, a military officer of the tyrant Herod, a quisling tax collector, a recent hostess to seven demons.

"In contrast, Jesus got a chilly response from more respectable types. Pious Pharisees thought him uncouth and worldly, a rich young ruler walked away shaking his head, and even the open-minded Nicodemus sought a meeting under the cover of darkness. . . .

"Somehow we have created a community of respectability in the church," Yancey warned. "The down-and-out, who flocked to Jesus when he lived on earth, no longer feel welcome. How did Jesus, the only perfect person in history, manage to attract the notoriously imperfect? And what keeps us from following in his steps today?"

In short, we need to allow people to change, to be better, to improve, no matter what we may remember about them. That requires an open and loving countenance, a non-judgmental manner, an absence of self-righteousness. Elder Jeffrey R. Holland wrote: "I once knew a boy who had no father and precious few of the other blessings of life. The young men in his community found it easy to tease and taunt and bully him. And in the process of it all he made some mistakes, though I cannot believe his mistakes were more serious than those of his Latter-day Saint friends who
By this shall all [men] know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. (John 13:35)

Behold, this I have given unto you as a parable, and it is even as I am. I say unto you, be one; and if ye are not one ye are not mine. (D&C 38:27)
What does it mean to “BE ONE?”

• WE’RE #1!
• WE WON!
• WE’RE ONE!
Unity amongst dissension...
A certain man traveling the road from Jerusalem
Fell among thieves, they were evil men
They robbed and they beat him and left him for dead
Two walked past, but the third helped the stranger
Jesus asked, which one was neighbor?
They answered Him, and then said the Savior:
“Do likewise my friend.”
“Do likewise my friend”--so simple a call from the Greatest of all.

“Do likewise my friend, and you shall live”

“Do likewise my friend.”

These two laws, above all the others:

Love you God, and love one another

Lose your life, and you shall discover it--

Live how He lived!
DO LIKEWISE MY FRIEND

- “Do likewise my friend”--so simple a call from the Greatest of all.
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- “Do likewise my friend, and you shall live”
- “Do likewise my friend! (3 times).”