

## General Women Session

**Hymn: (Hymn) - Hymn (#)**

**Conducting: Jean B. Bingham - Relief Society General President**

**Hymn: (Hymn) - Come Ye Children of the Lord - 58**

**Invocation: Menmet Lopez**

**Hymn: (Hymn) - This Is the Christ**

**Talk: Joy D. Jones - Primary General President**

For Him

- We are grateful to be led by our Heavenly Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and our Prophet, President Nelson
- Rejection is never comfortable.
- Serving in the church can be challenging if we are called to do something that we do not initially find appealing.
- Knowing the who and the why in serving others helps us understand that the highest manifestation of love is devotion to God.
- We serve Christ when we serve others without reservation. Serving God through serving others.
- The highest manifestation of love is devotion to God
- We are worshipping and loving Him by loving his children
- Rather than building resentment, we can build a more perfect relationship with our Heavenly Father. Our love for and devotion to Him preempts the need for recognition or appreciation and allows His love to flow to and through us
- When we focus on all that God has done for us, our service flows from a heart of gratitude.
- Sometimes we may initially serve from a sense of duty or obligation, but even that service can lead us to draw on something higher within us
- Can performing even a menial task become an opportunity to demonstrate our love and devotion to Him? I believe it can and will
- When we deliberately choose to put God at the center of our lives, we can focus on doing His will and glorifying Him.
- When serving our God becomes our main priority in life, we lose ourselves, and in due course, we find ourselves
- In service, we lose ourselves and in due course, we find ourselves...just as the Savior taught
- Knowing the who and the why in serving others helps us understand that the highest manifestation of love is devotion to God

**Talk: Michelle Lynn Craig - First Counselor in the Young Women General Presidency**

## Divine Discontent

- I know I can prepare my feet to walk on the covenant path by responding to the invitations of the Holy Ghost. For the Lord through His prophet is calling each of us to live and care in a higher and holier way
- Discontent can be either divinen or destructive
- Each of us, if we are honest, feels a gap between where and who we are, and where and who we want to become. We yearn for greater personal capacity. These feelings are God-given and create an urgency to act.
- We can prepare to walk the covenant path by RESPONDING to the calls to action of the Holy Ghost
- I have learned that when I wallow in thoughts of everything I am not, I do not progress and I find it much more difficult to feel and follow the Spirit.
- Act in Faith. Turn to the Scriptures. Turn to God for Help
- Divine discontent motivates us to follow the example of the Savior, who "went about doing good."8 As we walk the path of discipleship, we receive spiritual nudges to reach out to others.
- Never suppress a generous thought.
- Whether they are direct promptings or just impulses to help, a good deed is never wasted; for "charity never faileth" - and is never the wrong response
- Peace comes in knowing that being more does not necessarily equate to doing more
- Don't hold back in self pity, reach out to Christ
- What you have to offer is more than enough, even with your human frailties and weaknesses, if you rely on the grace of God. The truth is that each of us is one generation away from deity, a child of God
- When prompted, we can leave dishes in the sink or an inbox full of challenges demanding attention in order to read to a child, visit with a friend, babysit a neighbor's children or serve in the temple
- You're content with a cottage. He's building a palace.

**Talk: Cristina B. Franco - Second Counselor in the Primary General Presidency**

## The Joy of Unselfish Service

- Sometimes as we serve we get to sit in different seats. Some are quite comfy. Others are not. But we should serve to the best our abilities regardless
- Don't ask what's in it for me- ask what can I give. How can I serve today
- We live in a selfish world where people constantly ask, 'what's in it for me?' instead of asking, 'whom can I help today?'
- Perhaps she gave less than others, more quietly than others, differently than others. In the eyes of some, what she gave was insignificant, but in the eyes of the Savior, she gave her all
- Are we sacrificing of our time and talents so the rising generation can learn to love the Lord and keep His commandments? Are we living the two great commandments—to love God and to love His children? Often that love is manifest as service
- Are we giving our all to the Lord without reservations? Are we sacrificing of our time and talents so the rising generation can learn to love the Lord and keep His commandments?
- We are happier and more fulfilled by what we give not what we get in unselfish service
- Make the sacrifices necessary to lose yourself in the service of others

- Love is made sacred through sacrifice

### **Hymn: Now Let Us Rejoice**

### **Talk: President Henry B. Eyring - Second Counselor in the First Presidency**

#### Women and Gospel Learning in the Home

- The mother is primarily responsible for the care of her Children. In these sacred responsibilities, the father and mother, as equal companions, are obliged to help each Other
- The Lord is pouring out His will upon the heads of His people
- The Lord has made clear that the daughters of Heavenly Father will play a primary role in that miraculous acceleration
- The Lord gave the sisters charge to be the principal gospel educators in the family in these words, 'Mothers are primarily responsible for the nurture of their children.' This includes the nurture of gospel truth and knowledge
- If you do not Doubt, God will deliver you
- While I do not know all the Lord's reasons for giving primary responsibility for nurturing in the family to faithful sisters, I believe it has to do with your capacity to love
- Whatever your personal circumstance, you are part—a key part—of the family of God and of your own family, whether in the future, in this world, or in the spirit world
- Your practical challenges is to know who to nurture, and how, and when
- It takes great love to feel the needs of someone else more than your own. That is the pure love of Christ for the person you nurture
- It will take faith to endure
- If you pray with real intent a face or a name will come to mind. That can happen tonight. If you pray to know what to do or what to say, you will feel an answer. Each time you obey, your power to nurture will grow
- Parents that have unresponsive children or grandchildren: Never stop loving

### **Talk: President Dallin H. Oaks - First Counselor in the First Presidency**

#### Parents and Children

- The average age of our Church members' marriages has increased by more than two years, and the number of births to Church members is falling
- The kingdom of God is not and cannot be complete without daughters of God.
- Today we need women who know how to make important things happen by their faith and are courageous defenders in a sin sick world
- Latter-day Saint women understand that being a mother is their highest priority and their ultimate joy
- My dear young sisters, because of your knowledge of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, you are unique
- Why do you cope best with the difficulties of growing up? Young women, it is because you understand our Heavenly Father's great plan of happiness
- It will bless your lives if you limit your use of and dependence on cell phones
- It is not pleasing to the Lord to be mean or cruel to others

- Stand out; be different from the world. You and I know that you are to be a light to the world. Therefore, the Lord needs you to look like, sound like, act like, and dress like a true disciple of Jesus Christ
- Small acts of unkindness can have devastating consequences

**Talk: President Russell M. Nelson**

Sisters' Participating in the Gathering of Israel

- Your supernal abilities separate you from the rest of the world
- Through the years, whenever I have been asked why I chose to become a medical doctor, my answer has always been the same: 'Because I could not choose to be a mother'
- No one can do what a righteous woman can do. No one can duplicate the influence of a mother
- When I speak of Mothers, I am not only talking about women who have given birth or are raising children, EVERY DAUGHTER OF GOD is a Mother by Divine Destiny
- Tonight I urge you, with all the hope of my heart, to pray to understand your spiritual gifts, to cultivate, use and expand them even more than you ever have
- Women see things differently than men do, and oh, how we need your perspective
- No one else can do what a righteous woman can do. No one can duplicate the influence of a mother
- The supreme standard for ministering is that of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Generally, women are, and always have been, closer to that standard than men
- I invite you to participate in a 10-day fast from social media and from any other media that bring negative and impure thoughts to your mind
- I invite you to read the Book of Mormon between now and the end of the year. As impossible as that may seem, if you will accept this invitation with full purpose of heart, the Lord will help you find a way to achieve it
- Tonight I urge you, with all the hope of my heart, to pray to understand your spiritual gifts, to cultivate, use and expand them even more than you ever have
- I'm extending a prophetic plea to you the women of the Church, to shape the future by helping to gather scattered Israel
- Establish a pattern of regular temple attendance. This may require a little more sacrifice in your life
- If you do not live near a temple, study about temples from the scriptures and what the prophets have taught about them
- Participate fully in Relief Society and study the Relief Society purpose statement and declaration
- We need you. We need your strength, conversion, conviction, ability to lead, your wisdom and your voices. We simply cannot gather Israel without you

**Hymn: (Hymn) - Hymn (#)**

**Benediction: Jennifer Free**

**THOUGHTS:**

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188<sup>th</sup> Semiannual General Conference \* October 6 - 7, 2018

**Saturday AM \* Saturday PM \* General Women \* Sunday AM \* Sunday PM**

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**TO-DOs:**

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