

OCTOBER 2023

# Thinking



# Celestial

*Letting the Lord's perspective  
transcend mortal wisdom.*



FROM EMILY AND RIO

# Welcome Letter

And so, we begin. Again. This is semester No. 9. Can you believe it's true?

As I've been thinking about this beginning, the start of new learning, I have been reminded of a favorite movie.

When I watch a movie, it is my tradition to choose a favorite character.

Perhaps that is true of you.

If we were gathered as an Inklings group right now in someone's living room, I would ask if you had a favorite character from the Lion King. I imagine us eating a really great dessert, gathered in a circle, laughing at the question and talking about the last time we watched that movie, and why.

If you were to ask my favorite character, I would tell you I have a clear favorite from the Lion King. I wouldn't even have to think twice about it.

It's Rafiki. The wise sage who acts as a companion to Simba as he journeys through the wilderness. Rafiki's role is to show Simba the long view. To remind him that the choices he makes in life really matter. To change his heart.

There is a scene in the movie that enters my thoughts on a regular basis. In a dark time, a time when Simba is questioning and searching for direction, Rafiki comes. My favorite part of the conversation begins with his soft invitation.

"Shhhh," Rafiki says as he points to the water at the end of the path, "Look down there." Interested, Simba walks to the edge of the water and peers into the depths. Disappointed he replies, "That's not my father, that's just my reflection."

“No,” Rafiki replies looking into Simba’s eyes, and then he says two words. The two words I love to repeat to myself when my own life is dark, when I am questioning and looking for direction, “Look harder.” Then he gently taps the surface of the water with his finger. As the reflection in the water shimmers to reveal a hint of his father, Rafiki whispers, “He lives in you.”

When President Russell M. Nelson invited us to think celestially, it reminded me of this soul-searching invitation.

Look Harder.  
Take the long view.  
Change your perspective.

For the next six months, that is our quest.

As we consider Perspective.  
As we consider Devotion.  
As we consider Relationship.

Look Harder.  
Think celestial.  
It will lead us to discover the rich blessings Heavenly Father has in store for each of us.

Adopt the practice, President Nelson encouraged.

Should we?

We are so looking forward to spending the next six months with you, becoming spiritually minded together. This will be a semester of learning how to let the Lord’s perspective transcend mortal wisdom.

We are taking the long view.

Consider this your tapping of the water.  
Watch the ripples begin.  
Dear friend, He lives in you.

Come discover this with us,

*Emily + Rio*

FROM THE PROPHET

# A Blessing

To assist you to qualify for the rich blessings  
Heavenly Father has for you, I invite you to adopt  
the practice of "*thinking celestial*"!

As you think *celestial*

*Expect* to encounter opposition

Your heart will *change*

You will *avoid* anything that will rob you of agency

It will help you *obey* the law of chastity

You will *view* trials in a new light

Your faith will *increase*

Your *service* and *worship* in the  
temple will help you.



HOW IT WORKS

# Study Overview

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## *Sundays*

All of the readings will be posted to the Inklings APP and the Inklings Instagram account on Sundays. These readings will include the scripture verses and general conference talks that we will be studying that week.

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## *Mondays*

An affirmation will be posted to Instagram and the Inklings APP on Mondays for you to ponder, maybe recite to yourself throughout the week.

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## *Thursdays*

A live institute class will be held on Instagram at 8:30 am MST on Thursdays. Following the live session, the class will be saved to the feed, uploaded to the APP, and published on the Inklings podcast.



# Sprinkles

We are not a bakery, but we do love cupcakes at Inklings, and here is why:

Sometimes you have time to sit down and enjoy a whole cupcake. But most times, you are the one running the entire party. On those days, you might only have time to swipe your finger across the top to get a little frosting and a lot of sprinkles. Here's the amazing thing... you still experienced sweetness, even if you didn't have time for the entire cupcake.

The same is true around here. Some weeks you might have time to dive into the entire institute class on Thursday mornings. But most weeks there is a good chance you are running the party in your world. So, if you only have time for a quick glance at the Sunday Instagram post, with a word a phrase and a quote, and you don't listen to the class that week, or even if you miss an entire week altogether, that's ok. It's to be expected. We don't play catch up here. You just get all the sweetness you can, whenever you can. We believe in sprinkles.

In fact, we keep a list of sprinklings. Small bits of goodness from each week's lesson. So, if you miss a week you can go back and find those "sprinklings" on our Thursday Instagram posts.

And if you are taking a break from social media, you can find all of this on our APP—the videos, the workbooks, the pdfs and even the sprinklings.

There's a podcast there as well.

To learn more visit [www.goodnewsbrandco.com/collections/inklins](http://www.goodnewsbrandco.com/collections/inklins)



WE ARE THOSE WOMEN

# Inklings Anthem

In all generations of time there have been women with Esther courage, Deborah prophecy, Abish conviction.

## *Our time is no different.*

All around us there are women who are righteous, articulate, distinct and different. Women of strength, conversion, conviction, leadership, and wisdom.

You are one of those women.

God needs you. He needs your voice. He knows you are a woman with spiritual power to change the world. Heroic. Able to carry on, despite difficult circumstance.

## *The hope of Israel.*

Here now, because He knew your capacity for negotiating these latter days.

He sees you. Your desire to develop a bedrock understanding of the doctrine of Christ. How you are learning to access the power of God.

How you call upon the powers of heaven to protect and strengthen. He knows your longing to become a converted covenant-keeping woman.

He knows how the Spirit will magnify your influence in an unprecedented way.

His prophet calls to each of us:

Rise to your full stature.  
Fulfill the measure of your creation.  
Prepare the world for the  
Second Coming of the Lord.

Not overnight.

## *Every day better.*

We are learning that leaning into the inklings will help us discover the hint of something more. Stalwart strength gathered over time.

## *There is a place for you here.*

When others are walking away, we are a community who is choosing to stay, to run the race set before us. You will not run this last leg alone.

You belong here among the fulfillers of prophecy. Esther, Deborah, Abish.

## *We are those women.* *This is our time.*

# Study Schedule

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## *Perspective*

OCT–NOV

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OCT 8	Russell M. Nelson	Think Celestial!	11
OCT 15	Tamara W. Runia	Seeing God's Family through the Overview Lens	17
OCT 22	Gary E. Stevenson	Promptings of the Spirit	23
OCT 29	Ulisses Soares	Brothers and Sisters in Christ	29
NOV 5	Dallin H. Oaks	Kingdoms of Glory	35
NOV 12	D. Todd Christofferson	The Sealing Power	41
NOV 19	Joaquin E. Costa	The Power of Jesus Christ in Our Lives Every Day	47
NOV 26	Gary B. Sabin	Hallmarks of Happiness	53

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## *Devotion*

DEC–JAN

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DEC 3	Robert M. Daines	Sir, We Would Like to See Jesus	59
DEC 10	Carlos A. Godoy	For the Sake of Your Posterity	65
DEC 17	Neil L. Andersen	Tithing: Opening the Windows of Heaven	71
DEC 24	Elder Joni L. Koch	Humble to Accept and Follow	77
DEC 31	Dieter F. Uchtdorf	The Prodigal and the Road That Leads Home	83
JAN 7	John C. Pingree Jr.	Eternal Truth	89
JAN 14	Dale G. Renlund	Jesus Christ Is the Treasure	97
JAN 21	J. Kimo Esplin	The Savior's Healing Power upon the Isles of the Sea	103
JAN 28	Yoon Hwan Choi	Do You Want to Be Happy?	109



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*Relationship*FEB-MAR

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FEB 4	Alan T. Phillips	God Knows and Loves You	113
FEB 11	Emily Belle Freeman	Walking in Covenant Relationship with Christ	119
FEB 18	Ian S. Ardern	Love Thy Neighbour	125
FEB 25	David A. Bednar	In the Path of Their Duty	131
MAR 3	Jan E. Newman	Preserving the Voice of the Covenant People . . .	137
MAR 10	Henry B. Eyring	Our Constant Companion	143
MAR 17	Gerrit W. Gong	Love Is Spoken Here	149
MAR 24	Amy A. Wright	Abide the Day in Christ	155

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*Remaining Talks*

Ronald A. Rasband	How Great Will Be Your Joy	163
M. Russell Ballard	Praise to the Man	167
Adilson de Paula Parrella	Bearing Witness of Jesus Christ in Word . . .	169
Quetin L. Cook	Be Peaceable Followers of Christ	171
W. Christopher Waddell	More Than A Hero	175
Valeri V. Cordón	Divine Parenting Lessons	179
Christophe G. Giraud-Carrier	We are His Children	183

WEEK

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TALK

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SCRIPTURE(S)

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WORD

AFFIRMATION

PHRASE

*Things to include as I continue my living discussion with our Heavenly Father...*

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*How I will put Jesus Christ first and depend on His Atonement...*

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*The spiritual work I am doing to increase my capacity to receive personal revelation...*

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*Where I am seeing the Lord manifest His divine power in peaceful and unmistakable ways...*

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# Sprinkles

WEEK 1

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WEEK 2

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WEEK 3

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WEEK 4

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